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MINERS TO STRIKE JUNE 16 Locals Guard Against Sell-Out

Croppers' Strike Wins Big Gains Despite Terror

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—\$1 a day, the main demand of the strike of cotton croppers, called by the Share Croppers Union, has been won on a number of large plantations in Talapoosa, Lowndes and Montgomery counties, in the heart of the Alabama Black Belt.

Facing lynch terror, organized by deputy and landlord gangs, and direct strike-breaking by government agents, more than 1,000 white and Negro croppers refused to work at the 30c and 35c rates offered by the landlords for back-breaking toil from sun-up to sun-down. When terror methods failed, many landlords in the Black Belt raised their rates to 50c and 75c, while some were forced to give one meal also.

In Montgomery county J. B. Bethea, Jr., U. S. Dept. of Labor government agent, attempted to recruit scabs against the strikers, while deputies scoured the county day and night, raiding and arresting croppers in an attempt to force them to accept starvation wages. Three croppers who were arrested, were released, however after the sheriff was flooded with protests and demands for their freedom.

Many Strikers Flogged

In Dallas County Sheriff Reynolds and Chief of Police Dickenson of Selma, both large landlords, have led a reign of terror during which two white workers and at least 15 Negro workers and croppers, one a woman, have been flogged, then turned over to landlord lynch mobs who horsewhipped and flogged them. Nevertheless

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Jailed 17 Times For Selling Anti-Long Book



Frank Burdett, New Orleans worker who was arrested 17 times for selling "The Real Huey Long," by Sender Garlin. An extract from Garlin's pamphlet appears below.

By Sender Garlin

Under Long's regime wages in Louisiana have declined, hours have been lengthened and the conditions of the workers and sharecroppers—Negro and white—have grown steadily worse. Behind his sweet words about "sharing the wealth" is concealed a ruthless

and tried under section 56 of the Georgia code, for "attempting to incite insurrection." He was arrested, and searched without a warrant, in June, 1932.



Angelo Herndon, the appropriation of \$4,000 additional relief. Upholds Lily-White Jury System. Herndon was tried by a Lily-white jury, from which Negroes had been

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Vicious Herndon Sentence Upheld By Supreme Court

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Behind a mass of technicalities, the United States Supreme Court held Monday, May 20th, that Angelo Herndon, courageous 31-year-old working class hero, must serve a 20 year sentence on the brutal Georgia chain gang.

Answering the Supreme Court decree, the International Labor Defense has instructed its attorneys to take immediate steps for a rehearing in that court. This will supplement a renewed mass campaign.

In a 6-3 decision the Court held that it had no jurisdiction and therefore could not consider the merits of the case.

Searched Without Warrant. The original trial of Herndon took place in January, 1933 in Atlanta, Georgia. He was indicted

anti-Long program. Long, became Governor of Louisiana in 1928. Since that time he has been its undisputed dictator and shares the major responsibility for the conditions of the toiling masses in Louisiana.

Under his administration workers on construction jobs were paid as low as ten cents an hour for common labor. The bridges and highways of which Long boasts are monuments of labor peonage.

On jobs like the new state capitol and the seawall at Lake Ponchartrain some union men were employed, but this was not the fault of Huey Long. Both the George A. Fuller Co. of New York, which constructed the capitol, and the Raymond Concrete Pile Co., were tied up by national union contracts, and the utilization of non-union labor on skilled work on these projects would have resulted in national union complications.

Labor men in Louisiana, who are attached to the powerful Long machine, are unestrained in their private denunciation of the ruthless exploitation on the state projects. Others like A. F. Harvey, president of the New Orleans Central Trades and Labor Council, skirt the issue and prefer to talk about the absence of the union label on bread and milk in New Orleans.

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MILITANTS SET UP DEMANDS FOR \$5 A DAY BASIC SCALE AND UNION RECOGNITION

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—At least 20,000 miners in this district will respond to the strike call of the United Mine Workers of America on June 16. The conditions of the miners in this area have become unbearable.

NRA Overthrow Signal For Pay Slashing Drive

That the Supreme Court decision declaring the N. R. A. unconstitutional was the signal for a new attack on the working class has been proved by the fact that within the first six days after the N. R. A. was voided, employees in 45 major industries employing more than a million workers have slashed wages and increased hours.

The fact that the Supreme Court decision was unanimous shows also how united was the decision of the capitalist class that the time has now come to resort to new methods in attacking the living standards of the toilers.

NRA Had Outlived Usefulness

Although the ruling class is trying to spread the belief that there is a conflict between Roosevelt and the Supreme Court, the fact that the Supreme Court waited until just before the N. R. A. was supposed to expire anyway, shows how completely Roosevelt and the Supreme Court agreed that the time had come for the N. R. A. in which few workers had any illu

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Miners in the Birmingham locals of the U. M. W. of A. are showing their determination to fight to a finish and are on guard against the maneuvers of Wm. Mitch, U. M. W. of A. head in the District, who has made repeated concessions to the coal operators.

Strike orders have been sent to six thousand local unions of the United Mine Workers of America by national officials of the union. The strike is ordered for midnight, June 16, when the present contract expires, unless countermanding orders go out. This walkout would affect approximately 400,000 soft coal miners.

The present agreement, concluded under N. R. A. was negotiated more than a year ago and is unsatisfactory to the miners. The present agreement calls for the thirty-five hour week, the basic



scale of \$5 a day in the North, and \$3.80 in the South, and includes open shop provisions which enable the coal operators to fire and blacklist the most militant miners. The miners point out that during the existence of this agreement their

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Civil Rights, Labor Party Endorsed At Conference

CHATTANOOGA, TENN.—Despite frantic efforts on the part of city and county officers, together with American Legion gangsters, to smash constitutional guarantees and prevent the All-Southern Conference for Trade Union and Civil Rights from meeting, a session was held attended by 59 delegates from all over the South, at Monteagle, Tenn., after being driven from three halls in Chattanooga.

More than 50 additional delegates, it is estimated, including a score of trade unionists, were prevented from attending by the squads of police and terrorists patrolling the roads.

Vote For Labor Party

While vigilante gangs scoured the countryside to find the conference, the delegates, representing tens of thousands of trade union workers

unemployed, farm, Negro, religious, political and liberal organizations met and adopted a program of unity against terror and lynching, for the right to organize, strike and picket, and for the formation of a mass anti-capitalist Labor Party, based on the trade unions and the masses of toilers, which will fight for these rights.

Speakers from Florida, Arkansas, North Carolina, Virginia, Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee, told of strike and other experiences, a Socialist Party leader called for the building of a broader united front, and a delegate from the Communist Party pledged continued struggle for the conference program and untiring efforts to broaden the united front.

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T. C. I. Thugs Even Prevent Miners from Planting Corn

By a Mine Worker Correspondent

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The conditions of the miners in the District are very bad. The workers have to work in water. The foreman tells the workers that if they don't want to work in water they should go get a pump and pump the water out. There is a crew of men which is supposed to do this work.

The foreman will not give the workers timber, and when the main boss comes along and sees that you haven't any timber he will lay you off.

Cleaning up for a new place to which the track is laid. The work has to be done three to four hours in the tracks where they are supposed to be.

Rocks in some places are just hanging and it is very dangerous after a shot is made. These are only some of the things that the workers are faced with.

There are two unions in the mine, A. F. of L. and the company union. The bosses try to make everybody join the company union. Most of the workers are in the A. F. of L. and we call the company union men "popsides," which means stool pigeons.

Around the camp the terror is sharp but when the time comes to plant a few things they will tell you what to plant and what not to plant. You can't plant corn or any thing higher than a man. There are plenty of T. C. I. thugs walking through the camp all the time.

The mine only works two or three days a week, and sometimes none at all. Around Hamilton-Slope they use the stagger system, which lets some work this week and then they don't work until the week after next.

So we young workers and old workers will fight until this system is done away with.

Masses Demand Re-Hearing For Angelo Herndon

(Continued from page 1)

illegally excluded. This issue was raised by Ben J. Davis, Jr. and John H. Geer, his two defense attorneys.

Stayed in Cell with Dead Man Herndon remained in jail over 2 1/2 years during which time he was brutally tortured. He was forced to remain in a cell with a dead body. Mal-treatment by prison officials caused serious undermining of his health.

Herndon is now free on \$15,000 bail raised by the International Labor Defense through its members, friends, and sympathizers.

In order to clear the way for Herndon to the Georgia chain-gang, the Supreme Court not only set a precedent, but upheld the brutal insurrection law passed in 1854 to keep the Negro people in chattel slavery.

But even more: the Herndon decision is a blow against the right of Negroes to sit on juries, to organize with their working-class allies, to be free from the fettering chains of barbarous slavery and lynch terror.

Rush telegrams to the United States Supreme Court, Washington, D. C., demanding a rehearing of the Herndon case!

For the unconditional and immediate release of Angelo Herndon!

For the repeal of the Georgia insurrection slave law!

Rush protests to Governor Eugene Talmadge, Atlanta, Georgia, demanding Herndon's immediate freedom!

WORKERS UNITE ON MAY DAY



LAREDO, TEXAS—Workers from the Mexican side join Texas workers on the International Bridge for a united demonstration on May 1.

Member of B'ham Trades Council Hits Clique Rule

By a Member of the Birmingham Trades Council

Hundreds of us who have come back from the Alabama Federation of Labor in Gadsden are dissatisfied. The workers know that they can't make any further progress until there is a change in the old, reactionary leadership. Many delegates went there prepared for a house cleaning, but through maneuvering around, the old officers who were in charge kept the scandal down and didn't allow these things to come to the floor.

Jack Ellison went up there and was given a royal welcome by Bob Moore, who a short time before had tried to have Ellison kicked out as representative of labor in the fight against prohibition, and called Ellison a racketeer before the anti-prohibition group and abused him.

This prating of Ellison by Moore was a part of the maneuvers to the old clique to get them back to where they were and keep down the scandal. Several Birmingham locals have requested the Trades Councils to remove Ellison because of his racketeer activities.

When Carter retracted his week ago the fascist gang descended upon the homes of the released workers and burned the house and all their belongings to the ground.

charges against Hare and apologized for the cartoon he started to shake hands with Hare. When Hare refused to shake hands with him the whole convention booted Hare.

Governor Graves kept up there and helped railroad Moore into office, and while these guys are playing around for political graft and spoils, the workers are going to be left holding the bag.

Workers in Tarrant Exploited by Troops

By a PWA Worker

TARRANT, Ala.—In talking to a welfare worker a few days ago I was informed that The National Guard is hiring men to work for them on Sundays and are paying them \$1.00 a day. They get workers who work for the PWA through the week on this same project for \$2.40 a day. The job is holding a target above the barricade and let it down to check on the shooting.

These workers undoubtedly can't see what they are doing. The National Guardsmen tell them they haven't got much money. These men not only are cutting their own wages but are giving the National Guard practice so they can shoot down them and their fellow workers for organizing or striking.

15,000 Florida Workers Form Jobless League

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—Fifty Negro and white delegates from sixteen unemployed organizations in the principal cities of Florida, including Tampa, Miami, Jacksonville and Orlando, and representing 15,000 workers, formed the Florida Council of Unemployed Leagues at a State-wide conference held here recently, and elected a delegation to go to the Legislature at Tallahassee to present demands for the unemployed of Florida.

Twenty-five delegates, from different parts of the State, will demand from the Legislature the immediate appropriation of an unemployment relief fund and urge that the Legislature memorialize Congress at Washington for the enactment of the Workers' Bill for Unemployment, Old Age and Social Insurance, H. R. 2827.

Result of National Congress The conference was the result of the work of the Florida joint action committee set up immediately upon the return of the Florida unemployed delegation to the National Congress for Genuine Unemployment and Social Insurance in Washington in January of this year.

The Florida Council of Unemployed Leagues was born in a united front of all kinds of organizations in the State including the Communist Party, whose representative upon being seated, extended the greetings of the Party to the delegates.

Among the organizations represented were the Unemployed of Orlando, whose council was broken up in August, 1934, by the K. K. K. and its leader imprisoned at the time. The delegates reported that their revived organization cannot be daunted even though only a

Fight To Free Framed N. Car. Strikers

By WALT PICKARD

President of Local 1777, United Textile Workers

Four union men in Shelby, N. C., are facing prison terms as a result of their strike activity. They are Odel Huey, A. F. Ashe, A. G. Graham and J. H. Stephenson.

The arrests grew out of the strike in the Eton Mill in Shelby this spring. The mill was organized 100 per cent, and for the first four days not a wheel turned, for local 1901 is the strongest and most militant union in North Carolina, with a dues-paying membership of 1,800.

Union Attacked

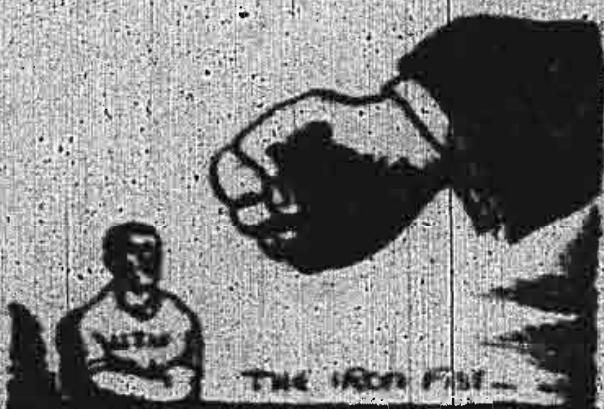
The strike came about when the company began "laying off" some of the most active union workers. The first to be fired was Estelle Scruggs, one of the oldest quillier hands in the mill. Then followed attempts to lay off other union workers. But the members of Local 1901 were awake. The shop committee went at once to the superintendent, and it was agreed that the "lay offs" should cease.

But the bosses were bent on destroying the union. Thirty union members were fired. A membership meeting was at once called, a

strike vote taken and for four days the plant was as tight as a drum.

Scabs Brought In

On the fourth day the mill opened with a skeleton crew imported from South Carolina and from Lowell, N. C. At Lowell the National Weaving Company shut down



its own mill and told its workers to go to Shelby.

The union threw a mass picket line around the mill and called upon the national leaders of the United Textile Workers for aid, but the letters were not even acknowledged.

Unable to break the strike, the company began evicting workers. One rainy day 47 families were evicted in one batch.

Four Are Seized

About a month ago the company's hired thugs arrested Huey, Ashe, Graham and Stephenson. Two of the men—Ashe and Graham—were

Communists Urge Miners to Unite for Living Wage

(Continued from Page 1)

cost of living has gone up 25 per cent while wages remained the same and speed-up provisions were enforced.

A statement on the impending strike by the Communist Party said, in part: "Unity of all miners, organized and unorganized, is necessary in order to strengthen the strike preparations and win the strike. This strike can only be won if it is one of the fiercest tests of the fight of labor against the new offensive of the bosses. Rank and file committees should be set up in all the localities to take leadership in all strike preparations and activities. These committees should fight for the following demands:

1. For the six hour day and a day week with a minimum wage of \$4.00 in cash for unskilled labor and \$5.00 for unskilled labor to meet the rising cost of living. For a 25 per cent increase in pay for all other skilled work to meet the rising cost of living.
2. For the right of Negroes to any job with equal pay for equal work and for the abolition of the wage differential.
3. For absolute recognition of the U. M. W. of A. and the union mine committees. For the closed shop. Against the company union.
4. No deduction for back rent, debts, etc., without an agreement of union mine committees. No washer loss. No check off to the district. All dues paid in the local.
5. For the full right to organize, strike and picket. Against the sedition bill and anti-picket law.
6. For ONE contract for ALL captive and commercial red, grey and coal mines in Alabama to cover the above demands. No acceptance of any contract without a majority vote of the U. M. W. A. membership. No reliance on arbitration boards.
7. Rank and file control and leadership of the union.
8. District and international officials to receive average miners' wages—no more.
9. Full equal rights for Negroes in the union.
10. Each local to set up youth sections and an unemployed and women's auxiliary.
11. For lower dues and initiatives in order to UNIONIZE the coal fields 100 per cent.
12. For sufficient cash relief from the government and operators for unemployed and striking miners, and for a mass campaign to compel Congress to pass the Workers Unemployment, Old Age and Social Insurance Hills, H. R. 2728.

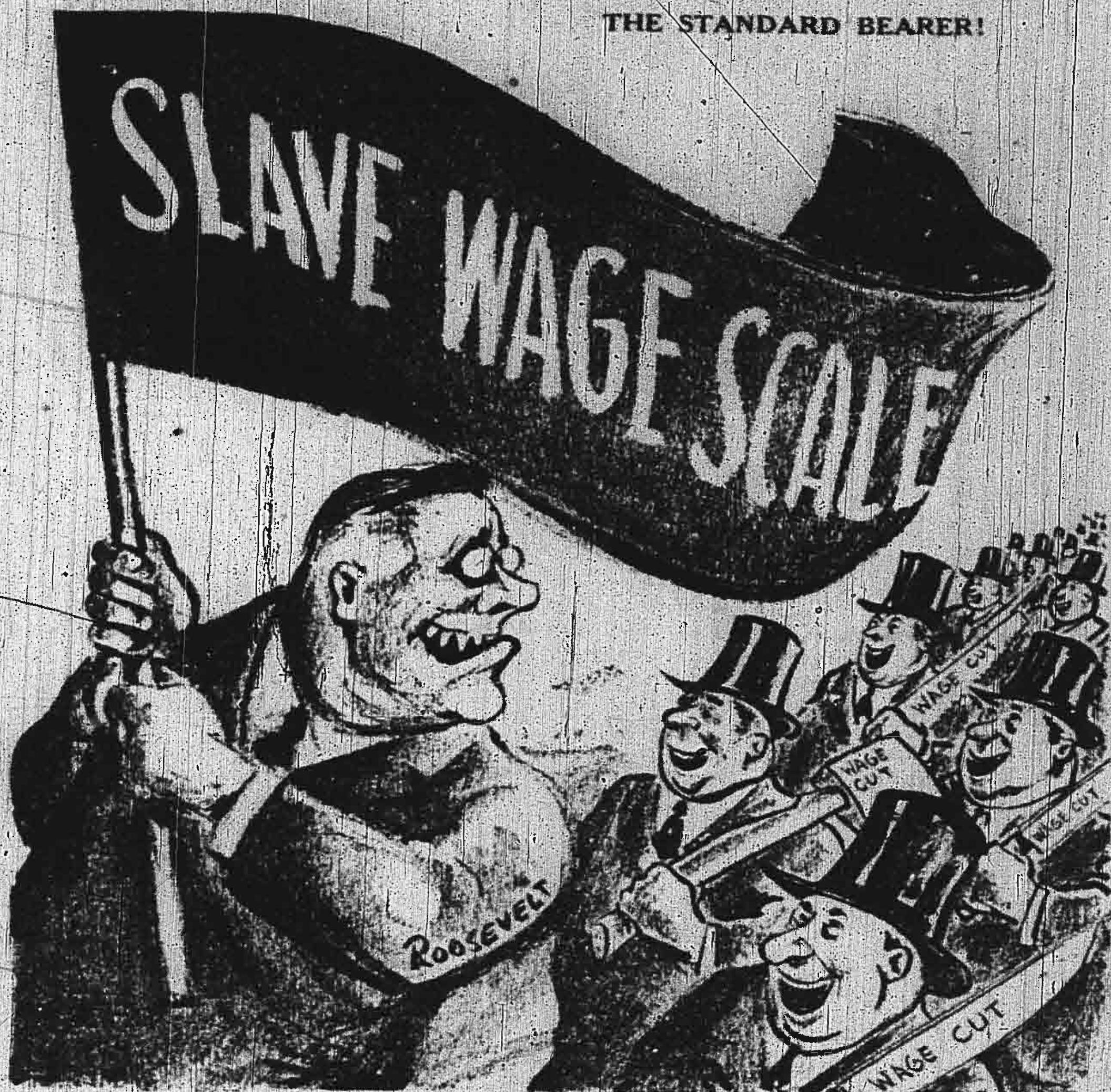
Workers, unite your ranks in support of the miners! Their fight is your fight, their victory yours! Help them win their fight for a living wage, for the right to live like human beings. Miners, be on guard against betrayal by your leaders! Take the strike into your own hands! On to victory!

ILD to Fight Negro Rape Frame-Up

CINCINNATI, Ohio.—The American Civil Liberties Union and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (N. A. A. C. P.) have been asked by the International Labor Defense to join in the defense of John Montky, Covington, Ky. Negro youth, recently sentenced to be hanged in a crude "rape" frame-up.

ROOSEVELT PROGRAM PROVIDES SLAVE WAGES IN THE SOUTH

THE STANDARD BEARER!



Southern Toilers Subjected to \$4.50 Weekly Pay Scale by New Drive of Bosses

As we predicted in the last issue of the Southern Worker, the wages that will be paid under Roosevelt's new work program will range from \$19 to \$94 a month, with a vicious differential against all Southern workers. As revealed by the official figures given below, President Roosevelt has declared that Southern workers must be satisfied to live on as little as \$4.50 a week.

Southern workers! Show your determination to refuse to submit to these slave wages! Organize into Work Relief Locals on the job and strike for higher wages. Affiliate these Locals to the A. F. of L. wherever possible. Fight for a living wage on all relief jobs!

Roosevelt's slave wage-scale follows:
COUNTRIES IN WHICH THE 1929 POPULATION OF THE LARGEST MUNICIPALITY WAS:

Region	Unskilled Work				
	Over 100,000	50,000 to 100,000	25,000 to 50,000	1,000 to 25,000	Under 1,000
I	75	52	48	34	30
II	45	42	40	35	32
III	35	33	29	24	21
IV	30	27	25	22	19
Intermediate Work					
I	65	60	55	50	45
II	55	51	50	44	38
III	52	48	43	36	30
IV	49	45	38	34	27
Skilled Work					
I	85	75	70	65	60
II	74	66	60	52	44
III	68	65	58	48	38
IV	64	58	50	42	35
Professional and Technical Work					
I	94	83	77	69	61
II	79	73	66	57	48
III	75	68	62	53	43
IV	75	64	55	46	39

Regions include the following States:

- I—Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.
- II—Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, West Virginia.
- III—Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, Virginia.
- IV—Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee.

Cropper Wants To Build Union In Mississippi

By a Share-Cropper
Glen Allan, Miss.

I am a Negro share cropper. Last year I made seven bales of cotton, but the boss took it all. I made 200 bushels of corn. The boss will not let me sell any of the corn to help myself and family. I work for him by the day. He takes the little earnings for the poor and leaves us nothing to buy clothing with. Write and tell me how we should set up a union here. The boss took some of the money the government gave the share croppers. Was he supposed to take any?

The boss only allows me and my family of five \$10.00 a month to live on, and the high cost of living is causing us to suffer. They say we have twelve acres in cotton when we have twenty. The boss class are doing many unjust acts to the toilers in this section. I think that a union here at this place will be easy to get because the poor white workers and Negroes are having a hard time.

May I report the conditions in this section monthly? Please write and tell me how I can become a member of the Communist party. And look for my order for the 25 issues of the June issue of the Southern Worker.

Pay Cuts Follow Case Of Framed N. C. Union Men Set For Appeal

(Continued from Page 1)

The general meaning of the Supreme Court decision was admitted even by General Hugh Johnson, original strike-breaker-in-chief of the N. R. A., who said, the day after the decision: "I have no doubt that within 24 hours we shall see a process of predatory price-slashing, lengthening of hours, loss of wages and lowering of wages."

Child Labor Increased
Many firms, especially in the South, revised their wage scales downward and their hours upward the morning following the decision. In many instances, children are being used to replace adult workers. Stretch-out, doubling up and all other forms of speed-up are being put into practice openly everywhere. Textile plants in particular are planning sharp wage cuts and increases in working hours. Several plants have already announced a change of four to six looms and are forcing their skilled workers to operate on a weekly wage as low as \$7. Further cuts up to 25 per cent are being prepared. In many Southern lumber mills wages have been reduced from the 24 cents an hour minimum to 8 cents and, in some cases, even 6 cents an hour.

Communists Urge Unity
The Communist Party, the only party to expose the N.R.A. from the beginning, today once more sounds the call to the working masses to prepare to fight the new drive which the capitalist class has launched against all workers. The Communist Party calls on all work-

ers. Democrats, Republicans, Socialists and Communists, men and women, Negro and white, to unite our ranks for immediate united action in defense of our bread and butter, of our welfare and that of our families.

Organize committees of action in the shops which will fight every attack on our living standards! Build a mass, fighting anti-capital-

ists Labor Party based on the trade union and other working class organizations! Build the united front of labor to beat back the attacks of the bosses!

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Communist Party Appeals to S.P. for United Front

In a ringing appeal to the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party, the Central Committee of the Communist Party once more urged the Socialists to unite their ranks with the Communists in the common fight against the attack of the Roosevelt government against the workers' living standards, and in

the fight against imperialist war and fascism.

Pointing to the tremendous value to the working class of the united front, and showing how much the working class has gained wherever, as in France, Socialists and Communists have united their ranks, the appeal ends with following statement:

"We again raise the whole issue of the united front before you with all earnestness. We place no conditions to preliminary discussions with your spokesmen on these problems. We are ready to discuss the united front from the most elementary issues of civil rights and economic demands up to the problems of a mass Labor Party. We are ready to explore the situation with you, to establish how far such a united front can go in its initial stages, and work out the ways and means as well as the program for such united action. We urge that you encourage all the lower units and committees of your Party to initiate, as we are doing, similar action on a local scale.

Hoping for quick and favorable action, we are,

Yours for working class unity,
CENTRAL COMMITTEE,
Communist Party, U. S. A."



WHITE AND NEGRO TOILERS RESIST TERROR THROUGHOUT SOUTH

I. L. D. Gains Removal From Death Cell For Patterson

MONTGOMERY, ALA.—A successful effort to move Haywood Patterson from the death cell in Kilby prison, has been made by the I. L. D. Labor Defense, while steps are being taken to force the Alabama courts to set bail for these infamous Negro youths.

At the same time, Black Belt representatives led the fight against a proposed amendment to the state constitution which would allow people to vote by paying only three years' back poll tax on the grounds that following the Scottsboro decision, many Negroes would be able to vote if this were passed.

Speaker Walker brazenly stated: "The Black Belt (landlords) long ago learned the gentle art of closing the polls and counting the votes before the Negroes voted."

A hearing on a habeas corpus petition to free Olin Montgomery and Willis Roberson, is now set for the first of July, while the I. L. D. is pressing for special trials in juvenile court for the two youngest boys.

A letter signed by 105 prominent people has gone to Gov. Graves protesting the attempt to reinstate the boys. U. S. Congressmen, labor agitators, well-known writers, editors, professors and others were among the signers. Hundreds of demands for freedom continue to pour in from workers and organizations.

Release Of Two Won After Trial On Downs Law

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.—A victory against the steel trust detectives in the employ of the ruling class of this city was won when Blaine Owen, Communist leader and Robert Wood, district secretary of the International Labor Defense, won a verdict of "Not Guilty" after their trial under the "Downs" statute law.

Both Woods and Owen were kidnaped before the trial by thugs and beaten in attempts to prevent them from attending the trial, where the police apparently feared exposure. Milton McDuff even failed to appear in court to face exposure of his illegal activities in behalf of the union smashing program of the steel companies.

Robert Woods was kidnaped May 1, by four men who displayed police badges, threw him into their car, drove him out of town, beat him and threw him in a creek. Owen was grabbed by four thugs



Blaine Owen, after he was kidnaped by thugs, stripped of his clothing, and brutally beaten for his working class activities.

on the corner of Twenty-third St. and Third Ave., after a police squad car had put the spotlight on him to point him out, beaten, questioned and threatened for an hour before he was left on the mountain, his clothes torn off him.

"LONG MAY OUR LAND BE BRIGHT, WITH FREEDOM'S HOLY LIGHT—"



Unions, Legion Members Fight Sedition Bill

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Led by landlord legislators from the Black Belt and coal and steel-controlled lobbies, a so-called "American Legion" anti-sedition bill, proposed as a substitute for the Street bill already passed by the House, was passed in the Alabama Senate by 1 vote, 16 to 15.

The bill, which provides a year on the chain gang and \$1,000 fine for anyone convicted of opposing the government, is clearly aimed at breaking unions and strike struggles, and suppressing any criticism of the policies of the mine owners, industrialists, landlords and bankers, or of the officials they put in office.

Labor Opposes Bill

Labor leaders have almost unanimously gone on record against it, and many local and American Legion Posts have passed special resolutions opposing it. Two prominent members of the Legion themselves denounced the bill from the Senate floor, while Gordon Gilbert, past commander of the Legion, has come out sharply against it.

Backing the bill behind the scenes are Haddon Burr, attorney for the T. C. I. and Republic Steel Company, coal operators, and police and lynch leaders of the Black Belt, who hope to rush it through to use it immediately against the struggles of the sharecroppers for a living wage, and against the impending miners' strike.

Forums Planned By CP in Louisiana

NEW ORLEANS, La.—A series of public forums on topics of vital interest to the workers and farmers of Louisiana is now being planned by the Communist Party of District 21.

The first of the series will be a talk on "The Question of a Labor Party" by W. G. Hinkley, district organizer.

The following week the subject will be "What the Wagner Labor Disputes Bill Really Means to Workers," the place of the meeting to be announced later. Other subjects will deal with the right of the Negroes to vote, Long and his "Share-the-Wealth" program, etc.

Execution Stay Is Won In Ark. Rape Frame-Up

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Having obtained a stay of execution just one week before the date set for the execution of James Caruthers and Bubbles Clayton, Negro youths held in the death cell at Tucker Farm, the Caruthers-Clayton Defense Committee here has taken steps to bring these cases before the Arkansas Supreme Court. Attorney John R. Thompson, employed by the Defense Committee, will present the appeal.

Caruthers and Clayton, 18 and 19 years old, respectively, were arrested in Blytheville on a charge of "rape," one month after the rape was supposed to have been committed. Investigation by the Little Rock branch of the International Labor Defense showed that there is every reason to believe the "rape" was a frame-up. On the

eve of the I. L. D., a Caruthers-Clayton Defense Committee was organized. The Defense Committee certifies the case against the youths as the climax of a reign of terror that has gripped eastern Arkansas for several months. The avowed object of this reign of terror, conducted by landlords and their agents, was to smash the Southern Tenant Farmers Union.

Following the "rape" cry that was raised in Blytheville, twenty-nine Negroes were rounded up. Caruthers and Clayton were arrested only a month after the accusation. The woman in the case—known to be of loose habits—said at the time of the supposed "rape" that she would be able to identify her assailants positively. However, she failed to accuse Caruthers and Clayton, although they were daily to be seen on the streets of Blytheville, a very small town.

All-Southern Meet Builds United Front

(Continued from page 1)

Mooney's Brother Speaks

John Mooney, brother of Tim, famous labor leader imprisoned for 17 years on framed charges, greeted the conference and received the pledge of the delegates to carry on the fight for Mooney's release.

Eugene Sutherland, militant Louisville minister and president of the Younger Churchmen of the South, was elected chairman and John Geer, young Negro I. L. D. attorney from Atlanta, vice chairman, while a committee of seven workers and prominent liberals was elected to carry on the work of the conference and to prepare for a larger meeting.

The Chattanooga Trades Council joined other groups and individuals in officially condemning the fascist acts of American Legion leaders and police, and county officials in attacking the conference.

Croppers Win Gains In Face Of Terror

(Continued from page 1)

wages for croppers have had to be raised to 75c and 1 meal in many cases in order to save the crop.

William Gulleton, desk sergeant at the Selma city jail, Dallas county Deputy Casey A. C. Bates, Selma storekeeper, Blanton, operator of a dry cleaning plant, a clerk in the Probate court, and others, have been recognized in these gangs, and it is expected they will face murder charges unless John Foster, Negro worker who was taken "for a ride" from the jail, by them, is found unharmed. He has been missing for more than 3 weeks as the Southern Worker goes to press.

With white croppers joining the strike almost 100 per cent in Tallapoosa and parts of Montgomery and Lowndes county, milkers have won wage increases from \$2.50 to \$3.50 a week and many wage hands from \$12 to \$26.50 per month. The strike is spreading to include wood cutters, oat cutters, dairy workers, etc.

RECORD PROVES SENATOR LONG IS ANTI-LABOR

(Continued from Page 1)

"Conditions on state work are absolutely rotten," Jack Ruth, president of the New Orleans Building Trades Council, told me.

Long Is Enemy Of Strikers

Huey P. Long was Governor of Louisiana during the stormy strike of the New Orleans street-car men. Strikers were slugged and murdered by armed deputies of the Public Service, controlled by the Electric Bond and Share, the leading J. P. Morgan holding company. A labor delegation which called upon Governor Long to demand that the state take over the Public Service was told that he didn't care to get "messed up" in the situation. At another point in the strike, he expressed willingness to call out the militia if requested by the Mayor of New Orleans.

The Mayor, fearing the wrath of the strikers as well as the highly

sympathetic population, never made the request.

Huey Long maintained the same attitude in the various strikes of the longshoremen and never lifted a finger in their behalf.

Long prevented the passage of the state equivalent of Section 7a of the N.R.A., which presumably gives labor the right to organize, bargain collectively and strike. Anti-Long men in the State Legislature told me that Huey's apologists ingeniously explained that the state did not want to be barred from paying more than code wages!

His legislature defeated the eight hour bill for women, principally through the activity of Senator Jules Fisher, a Long henchman, who employs hundreds of women and girls at starvation wages in the shrimp industry.

His legislature defeated the Child Labor Amendment when it

came up for approval.

His legislature sidetracked the full-crew bill on the railroads, calculated to cut down hours of labor on the roads and reduce accidents by guaranteeing a full crew.

He prevented the passage of a prevailing wage clause although he demagogically pretends to fight for it in the United States Senate!

His Legislature not once considered the urgent problem of unemployment relief in the state of Louisiana.

During Huey Long's entire regime, not a single measure of a social character was passed in the State of Louisiana.

This is how Huey Long runs things for the benefit of labor and "the little man" in his own kingdom. He will follow these and similar anti-labor policies if he succeeds in his bid for national fame.



While millions in the U. S. go homeless or live in shacks, new apartment houses like the above are rising everywhere in the Soviet Union, the only workers' republic.

Croppers Resolved To Fight Landlord Oppression, A. A. A.

By a Sharecropper Correspondent

HOPE HULL, Ala.—We small farmers and tenants can't get on with the misery we are forced to live under.

We only get \$1.50 for a hundred pounds of milk or eleven cents a gallon.

The workers in the cotton fields are getting thirty to forty cents a day for thirteen hours of work.

There is a fairly large dairy in the section. They pay the workers ten dollars per week for milking. We get to market from 2 a. m. till 4 p. m. then we go to the field and work till 8 p. m.

The boss has 1700 acres of land. He has a big stock man. He has many other things like hogs etc.

We are going to stick with the cropper workers. We have already formed committees to lead the strike. We have a county committee of five men. They will lead the strike.

There are some members of the Communist Party that will help us in the strike. They are the best leaders. They helped us build a union. We made real headway. We have 800 members.

Because of the A.A.A. we will not plow many acres. Many haven't started to work yet. We just got into the turf on April 15, which means we are a month late. The landlords get double rent. We pay them and the government pays them.

We got blood in our eyes to get something to live on.

There was a cold blooded murder in our section some time ago. There were no arrests made. The bosses are making every plan to stop us but they can't.

ATLANTA TEXTILE WORKER WANTS PAPER SPREAD

By a Textile Worker Correspondent

We get a copy of your paper every once in a while, and while we are afraid to be seen reading it, we read it in the house with the doors locked. I wish everyone had a number of them every week. But they are sort of afraid of the things you stand for yet. But little by little they are waking up.

The speed-up is hell. It is killing us. I don't know what on earth we're going to do. It is just like a nightmare. We hate it but you know we can't do nothing by ourselves. They got us hog-tied so we are helpless. Your paper could help us. The Southern Worker HAS GOT to reach everybody.

I am enclosing the names of some Atlanta workers who are union members. They have been tricked by the union heads. They are in a quandy helpless and unable to do a thing. They have been BLACKLISTED for union activities since last September.

I am enclosing a dollar to help cover postage. I cannot send more. But please send each of them the Southern Worker for as long as is humanly possible.

Kick Out Fakers, Says Wife Of Union Miner

By a Member of the U. M. W. A. Women's Auxiliary

We have been organized over five months, and have over 400 members in our Auxiliary, all very active in the local. We have fought every inch of the way. It is high time for us women who are organized and unorganized to make a drive to strengthen the fight for food by thinking some for ourselves.

We must see that this is our union and not Smith's. We know that as long as Smith acts among the women like a boss handling slaves, we don't need him. What does he mean by telling the women to sit down when they raise questions, and saying, "You better not raise this no more in this hall." He even got high enough to talk about dropping women out the window. Oh boy! That'll be his last union meeting when he tries that.

Tries to Gag Us

If we women put up with his talking to one woman like that now, he will talk to any member of the local in the future the same way or worse. Our obligation says, "You have perfect freedom of thought whether it be expressed by tongue or pen," but Smith is trying to take this right away from us, when he tells us, "Sit down. Don't say that again."

We women are the ones who built this organization to a strong one and made our treasury what it is, and we are entitled to run our own meeting without Smith.

Regardless of what Mrs. Jones says about Wheeler we know when he is wrong too. We've seen him as never before when he said to the whole chapter, "I don't care what your little two by four men tell you women. I didn't hinder them from being supervisors, nor did I tell them to be dumb." We women must see it as is. Our husbands don't want the job of supervising over a bunch of women and it is not because they are dumb. There are hundreds of men that are qualified to be supervisors and would not try to mislead the women nor rob them.

Smith told a lie to get to the convention. He told the men that the women had elected him to go. Then came to our local saying that he had to be elected because no woman could go. He had not said a word about that to the head officials.

Wants to Tear up Auxiliary

It is clear that he has from the



CHILDREN STARVE -AS RELIEF IS CUT

By a Worker Correspondent

SHERMAN, Texas—Here and in surrounding counties we have no union to speak of—what I mean by that is, they don't get any results.

There are white people who live on 5 cents per head per day right here in Sherman, whole families of them. People may say it can't be done, but it is being done and has been done for months. There is a man in my family and we have lived on less than 5 cents per head per day, that's why I know what I am talking about.

It's not only my family. It's plenty of others, both colored and white. The last cut for my family was made a few days ago. They cut us down to \$13.30 a month for 7. Now we live in a shack. The rent is \$5.00 a month and water is from \$1.00 up per month and our fuel runs about \$3.00 per month. That leaves us \$3.00 for food for 7 in the family, not to speak of medicine and clothing.

All the children are in school except a baby 8 months old. Now what are people going to do—sit still and starve? We can't do that. We can't see our little ones starve when we can prevent it. But how?

Yesterday they cut the relief off entirely. It seems that there isn't but one way out, and that's for the working people to come together, unite and put up a fight the bosses won't forget, and can't beat.

Steel Workers Fight Attempts To Split Union

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Rising sentiment among Alabama steel workers for unity with the miners in their strike called for June 18, and for a real drive to build the Amalgamated Assn. of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, has been expressed in rank and file groups.

Following the attempt of Mike Tighe, reactionary A. A. president, to split the steel union, and halt the organizational drive decided upon at last year's convention, but never carried out, southern steel workers are expected to rally to the National Emergency Committee of the A. A., representing the majority of the membership and all of the U. S. Steel lodges in good standing, which were expelled by Tighe for demanding a policy of struggle against the steel trust.

Workers in the Carnegie steel

plants in Pennsylvania have already resolved on strike action in unity with the miners, June 16, an action which is being discussed in



rank and file groups in Alabama, who have drawn up the following demands:

1. The 6 hour day and 5 day week with a MINIMUM daily wage of \$4 for common labor and a minimum 25 per cent increase in all

Miners Called To Block Sell-Out, T. C. I. Robbery

By a T. C. I. Miner

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—We miners in the T. C. I. are just like being in a vise. We are hit at on every side. Ever since we've been back to work we have caught "hell" on back debts such as rent, notes on our property, clothes, food and hospital bills, and



UNEMPLOYED AID STRIKING GIRLS

By a Worker Correspondent

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.—The girls in the cigar factories that went on strike March 6, are still on strike. The strikers were having such a hard time winning their just demands and freeing themselves from the robbery, forced labor conditions of having to roll four cigars for clothing for every one the boss changed was a bad one, they refused to return without gains. They had to contend with the police terror, the sheriff and his gang of deputies. To help the girls to win the strike, the Unemployment Council branch elected a delegation headed by J. Murphy of about 300, with banners. The unemployed formed some three or four blocks from the plant and marched to the picket lines, where they joined with the strikers.

beginning looked upon us as dumb bolls, and now he is letting us know that he's looking at our hands the same way. He has the aim of tearing up the woman's auxiliary. This shows that he knows just as much about unionism as a hog knows about a side saddle. Smith never raises a question of what we should do to get better living conditions. We want higher wages, shorter hours, and more relief, etc. We should know what to do to support our husbands in the coming struggle to get a new contract signed and the recognition of their union. We have listened to bluff long enough. Let's get down to business from now on. It must be done to keep our union growing and strong.

if we just make enough time to pay these back bills, each estimate the company will take it all. We coal loaders, all they don't take from us for back debts, they take for dead work such as moving rock, pushing cars from one hundred to two hundred feet, setting timbers without pay, and the damnable thing is the washage dockage.

One worker loaded twenty-eight tons of coal at 82 cents a ton and was cut \$2.61 for that washage dockage. This is just one example of how the bosses take our money without a pistol. There could be hundreds of other examples, but I think it is clear how the bosses exploit us openly.

More than that, in April, 1935 we were cut down from five days to two and three days a week. There are hundreds of miners who live six and eight miles from the mine and have to get to and from work the best way they can. The T. C. I. is so poor that they can't furnish no convenience for the miners to get to work. These miners are forced to walk or catch a ride the best they can, and have to pay the one who carries them, out of the small wages they get. The miners have made a correct beginning by building the union.

Mr. Mitch is supposed to be the miners' leader, but he did not appear as a leader, that was interested in the union, especially on April 1. He stayed in Washington until the last minute, made no preparations for getting a contract, such as planning relief or protesting against the National Guards or the attacks of the coal operators. By doing this he helped the company against us. Now he is making every effort to put us in a still weaker position on the 16th of June.

The union men should know what demands are going to be put in their contract because it was profit to the company out of the miners' pockets, to have that washage dockage in that other contract. We can get a better contract for the 16th of June only by fighting for local leadership and local demands in our place of work.

Every union member must fight to know what points will be in the contract before it is voted on. We know the bosses are fighting labor with every weapon, so we are appealing to all workers to join in fight in the support of organized labor.

We call upon all workers, regardless of creed or color, to con- gress against the hunger-lynch policies the bosses, to fight against these plans of the bosses by supporting the miners and steel workers in their coming struggles.

SEAMEN GYPED ON NEW ORLEANS WATERFRONT

By a Marine Worker Correspondent

NEW ORLEANS, La.—The Lykes Brothers have signed the agreement with the U. S. U., yet they do not live up to it in employing extra seamen to clean up the various ships that arrive in port.

The men are hired through the United States Shipping Board and are paid only at the rate of \$50 a month.

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Why Was N.R.A. Scrapped?

Many workers throughout the South are asking, if the N.R.A. was really against the interests of the working class, why did the ruling-class Supreme Court put an end to it?

The answer is that the N.R.A. WAS against the interests of the working class and that the reason the capitalists have decided to end it is that it has outlived its usefulness to them. The great masses of toilers are now disillusioned with the N.R.A. and with its strike-breaking Labor Boards, which always returned decisions favorable to the bosses. The bosses, therefore, are seeking new methods of attacking the living standards of the workers.

It is clear that the Supreme Court didn't have to wait two years before finding out that the N.R.A. was unconstitutional. The Supreme Court waited to try out one of the many cases testing the constitutionality of the N.R.A. UNTIL THE CAPITALIST CLASS WAS SATISFIED THAT THE TIME HAD COME TO SCRAP THE N.R.A. BECAUSE THE WORKERS HAD STOPPED BELIEVING IN IT.

In its decision the Supreme Court put an end to even a pretense of establishing minimum wage and maximum standards.

What did the N.R.A. actually do for the working class? According to official figures, while the wages of workers were increased by 8 per cent, the cost of living went up 16 per cent, resulting in a loss of 8 per cent in the real wages of the worker. The Negro masses, under the New Deal, suffered even worse attacks through increased discrimination.

What the N.R.A. did for the bosses, however, is a different story. According to official figures issued by Donald Richberg, during the first six months of 1934 the profits of 461 leading corporations were more than 400 per cent greater than in the corresponding period of 1933. Since then, the profits of these companies have increased even more.

The N.R.A. has not been a failure as far as the capitalist class is concerned. In only one respect did the N.R.A. fail the capitalists—today the treacherous Labor boards and Section 7-a stands exposed to millions of workers as strikebreaking instruments in the hands of the employers. And that is the only reason why the N.R.A. is being discarded.

Only the Communist Party exposed the true character of the N.R.A. and fought it from the start. Today, the analysis of the Communist Party and the whole line of its activity stand fully verified.

And just as the Communist Party throughout the past two years called on the workers to fight against the N.R.A., so today it once again sounds the call to the working masses of the country to prepare for immediate determined resistance against the effects of the discarding of the N.R.A.—against suspensions, lengthening of hours, attempts to smash union organization, etc.

And today the Communist Party calls on the workers to unite their forces to build a fighting, anti-capitalist Labor Party that will fight for their immediate demands and will, in the course of the many struggles for improved conditions NOW, point the way to the only real solution of the problems of the workers and poor farmers—namely, the revolutionary overthrow of the capitalist system and the setting up of a workers' and farmers' government.

Wagner Bill A Blow At Labor

Advertised as the new Magna Charta of labor, the Wagner "Labor Relations" bill is backed by the top leaders of the A. F. of L. and by the leading capitalists in Wall Street. Although the bill is supposed to give the workers the right to organize, it really carries the strike-breaking activities of the N.R.A. to a higher degree of efficiency.

The bill, like Section 7A before it, legalizes and gives aid to company unions. Senator Wagner himself has said: "Let me emphasize that nothing in the measure discourages employees from uniting on an independent or company union basis."

The Wagner Bill entrenches arbitration, thus denying the workers the right to strike for better conditions and higher wages. It would nullify the present ratification of the labor boards. It would declare strikes illegal or some legal protest, or it would send the workers back to work without any gain while the review board and the courts would spend months and years deciding that the boss was right. The employer would always win, just as he always came out on top under the N.R.A.

The Wagner Bill would strike a blow at union strength, which is provided for the maintenance of the most basic. There is a real danger which is the only way to fight for all the workers in the plant is to have an end of the strike-breaking activities of the N.R.A. and the Wagner Bill.

FIGHT FOR H. R. 2827!



IMPORTANT NEWS IN SHORT

BESSEMER, Ala.—"I am accused of being a Communist. If fighting against capitalism makes me one, I guess all of the men in this local are Communists," said John Davis, Communist candidate for Governor in the last elections, speaking for his re-admission into local No. 6A, of the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers. He was re-admitted.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—A vicious clause "providing for punishment as a vagrant of any able-bodied male person refusing to accept employment at the prevailing rate of wages," was stricken from a bill in the Florida legislature as a result of mass pressure of Florida workers, backing a delegation organized by the Florida Council of Unemployed Leagues to protest these anti-working class provisions. Delegates came from Miami, Tampa, St. Petersburg, Orlando and Jacksonville.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A real bonus bill, sponsored by the American League of Ex-Servicemen, has been introduced in Congress by Rep. Marcantonio. It calls for immediate cash payment in full, at the expense of the rich, by taxing inheritances, gifts and individual and corporation incomes of \$5,000 and over. A nation-wide campaign in support of this bill, instead of fake inflation measures such as the Patman bill, has already started, with veterans and workers' organizations writing their Congressmen, demanding its passage.

ROME, Italy—A renewed attack upon Ethiopia, the last remaining independent Negro nation in the world, has been announced by Mussolini, pressed by a rising wave of discontent at home and the need for new robberies to sustain himself in power. The unity and determination of the Ethiopian people badly defeated an Italian imperialist attack in 1930.

PALMETTO, La.—A Conference to plan and extend the struggle for the right to organize, for union recognition, for the 30 hour week without reduction in pay, against lynching and terror, for jobs and relief and the passage of H.R. 3471, the Farmers' Emergency Relief Bill, has been called for June 19, at the Ell Frank Parking Grounds here. Endorsed by the Farmers and Industrial Unemployment Council local, a committee of workers has called the conference, where delegates from different organizations will work out a united program.

"We can no longer refuse to accept the challenge to our homes, our families and our future," the call states. "Our wives and children must work on starvation wages along with us, and yet we all face starvation."

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A National Negro Congress, endorsed among others by James W. Ford, Negro Communist leader, and Kelly Miller, former Dean of Howard University, will be the next great step for unity in the struggle for Negro rights. It was seen from the discussion at the Conference on Economic Condition of the Negro People held recently in Washington. The Conference had under the auspices of the Joint Committee on National Recovery and the Social Science Dept. of Howard University, which reported the maximum capacity of the Negro people under the "New Deal."

Fight the Guffey Bill

By A. R.

With the ending of the N.R.A. code, coal operators and United Mine Workers of America officials are turning more definitely toward the Guffey-Shnyder coal bill, now on the Senate calendar. Senator Guffey of Pennsylvania announced May 27 that he was redrafting the bill immediately to comply with the Supreme Court's ruling on the N.R.A. so that the coal bill could not be declared unconstitutional.

U. M. W. A. officials are of course working with Senator Guffey on the redraft, since the bill was originally sponsored by the U. M. W. A. A modification of Lewis' previous bills for the same purpose. That changes in the bill will be along the lines of more price-fixing for the benefit of larger operators is shown in a dispatch to the New York Times from Washington, May 27.

"This morning the operators who favored the Guffey Bill conferred and suggested amendments to strengthen the price control and enforcement provisions of the bill."

Would Throw More Out of Work

Since loads of the unions are still being asked to adopt resolutions urging its passage, it is important for rank-and-file miners to know that this bill is not drafted for the benefit of the miners but in the interests of the coal operators. Here are a few of the reasons why:

1. Provisions of the bill, by restricting output and closing down mines to "stabilize the industry, would throw more miners out of work. It would keep permanently out of work the 300,000 miners already frozen out of the industry.

2. It would provide for the operators a chance to sell unprofitable coal properties to the government.

3. The industry would be subject to price control as well as to regulation of output. Larger operators favor price-fixing as it holds up prices at which their coal is sold.

4. Coal operators who were code members, under this act, would not be subject to the anti-trust laws (Section 4). The bill would exempt from the anti-trust laws not only single producers who were code members, but also any such marketing agencies as, for example, the Appalachian Sales, Inc.

A Mine Owners' Bill

5. While on paper the bill recognizes the workers' "right to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing," nevertheless, it does not prohibit company unions. In Section 4, part III, there is the provision that "no employe and no one seeking employment shall be required as a condition of employment to join any company union." But such a phrase is practically meaningless, as was proved under the N. R. A. In a pamphlet, just issued, *Company Unions Today*, (International Pamphlets, 5 cents), Robert Dunn points out that employees do not have to join anything in order to be "included" or "covered" by a company union "plan."

6. The bill aims to protect operators' profits. Section 1 recognizes "the right of owners and producers to fair returns upon their investments." Again in Section 4, part II (b), the bill provides fixing such prices "as will provide a fair return upon the investment."

This concern for the mine owners' profits was expressed by President Lewis at public hearings in Washington in January, 1935, when he described the Guffey Bill as follows:

"It is a program designed to help the operators just as much as the mine workers."

The restriction of output would mean that the 300,000 miners who at present have no jobs would remain permanently jobless. In addition, tens of thousands would be thrown out of work as mines were closed to "stabilize" production. And whenever the markets were glutted with surpluses, all the mines would cut production and work only part time. The example of the textile code shows that this will be utilized by the operators from time to time to maintain their prices and cut available supplies.

Furthermore, the Guffey Bill will lead the miners into the trap of compulsory arbitration and the same old run-around which they have experienced under the various agencies of the former coal code. The strike, the only effective weapon of the miners, will be nullified just as it was nullified in the coal code. The miners will find themselves at the mercy of so-called arbitration boards and capitalist courts, who will always side with the operators.

The Guffey Bill does not outlaw company unions, instead it leaves plenty of leeway for individual and other organizations which will legalize the company unions and help smash wildcat strikes of the U. M. W. A.

The Guffey Bill does not give the miners any right to be heard in the fixing of prices. It is a bill to help the operators and to keep the miners out of the coal industry.