

THE SOUTHERN WORKER

The Paper of the Common People of the South

NOVEMBER 3, 1934

Price 2 Cents in the South, Elsewhere 3 Cents

Vote Communist On November 3

Gelders Kidnapped, Beaten; Protested Barton Arrest

The Scars And Stripes Forever!



Reprinted from Birmingham AGE-HERALD

Expect Senate Investigation of Case Soon

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Walter J. Hanna, Captain of Company L, of the Alabama National Guard, and Dist. Williams, Second Lieutenant in the same Company, were picked out of a police line-up here last night by Joseph S. Gelders and identified as two of the four men who kidnaped, robbed and fogged him here on Sept. 23.

WASHINGTON—Robert Wohlfarth, chief of the Lafayette Senate Committee declared that "serious consideration" is being given appeals to investigate the kidnaping and fogging of Joseph Gelders in Birmingham.

"Our tear gas sales map shows that Birmingham is a dark spot," Wohlfarth declared. "And the testimony at the Committee hearings brought out that similar treatment to that given Gelders was meted out to Blaine Owen some time ago."

Joseph Gelders, tall, lean, native son of Alabama, believed in the right of American citizens to protest against injustice when

Continued on Page 7

Election Issue Is Fascism

C. P. On Ballot in Ala., Ky.

On November 3, one of the most important, hectic, exciting and colorful election campaigns in the history of the United States will wind up when millions of Americans go to the polls to make known their choice for president of the country.

With millions of dollars to spend on advertising and publicity, President Roosevelt and Landon have whirled across the country from coast to coast, trying

VOTE COMMUNIST!

The Communist Party, which calls for the abolition of the poll tax in Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, the Carolinians and in all other states where it is used to keep workers from voting, IS ON THE BALLOT IN KENTUCKY AND ALABAMA. Vote the ticket of the party that is fighting for your right to vote. A vote for Earl Browder and James W. Ford, Communist candidates for president and vice president of the United States, is a vote against Landon, Hoover and the Liberty League. Write in the names of Browder and Ford if they aren't on the ballot in your state.

to seek to establish the party which they believe will save the United States.

The real issue before the American people is the choice between Earl Browder, Communist candidate

Continued on Page 3

Steel Men Join Union Fast, CIO Leader Reports

BIRMINGHAM—Starting from scratch, the Steel Workers Organization Committee has already organized 1,500 Birmingham steel workers into seven locals of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers during the last three months, according to William Mick, regional director of the drive.

Some locals chartered with police men are in practically every industrial plant in the Birmingham area, seven locals of the Amalgamated have been chartered in plants of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Co., and the Chicago Bridge

Continued on Page 2

Evict Families In Talladega

TALLADEGA—In about 1934 by the owners of the Talladega Cotton Factory and several other plants in possession of the United States Workers Union of America, the workers were evicted from their homes and the families of the workers were evicted from their homes. It is now the policy of the United States Workers Union to evict the families of the workers from their homes.

Symbol Of Reaction

AN EDITORIAL

THE issue of the 1934 election campaign are Progress vs. Reaction, Democracy vs. Fascism. This is the great truth which the Communist Party has learned and has presented to the people throughout the election campaign.

The local industry and business of Talladega, South A. Gelders represent the Reaction which the Communist Party says the people must speak with a united voice. In the kidnapping of Professor Gelders and the beating and fogging of him in Birmingham, the Communist Party says the reaction which the Communist Party says the people must speak with a united voice. In the kidnapping of Professor Gelders and the beating and fogging of him in Birmingham, the Communist Party says the people must speak with a united voice.

Continued on Page 2

Labor Spies Activity

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Federal Bureau of Investigation has reported that it has uncovered a spy ring in the steel industry. The ring is believed to have been organized by a Communist agent in the steel industry. The ring is believed to have been organized by a Communist agent in the steel industry.

Trade Union Topics

By NED TRUE

Bill Raney Passes On
THIS month saw the passing of one of Alabama's most beloved trade union leaders, William Raney, International Representative of the United Mine Workers, who died at the Mayo Clinic at Rochester, Minn.

Bill Raney came to the Alabama coal fields three years ago from Indiana where he started in as a coal digger and as a union leader. He was in the thick of progressive battles there and was active in the fight to free Tom Mooney. At one time, Brother Raney was candidate on the Socialist ticket for the state legislature. He was sent to Alabama by the executive committee of the U. M. W. to assist in organizing the miners of District 20.

"One difference between a Yankee comes South to be a T. C. I. official and a Yankee who comes South to be a union organizer is that the official speaks at Rotary Club luncheons and becomes one of the boys while the union organizer is a carpet-bagger and a foreigner." So wrote Beth McHenry in the NEW MASSES recently.

To the T. C. I. officials and folks who live in the fine houses on Shades Mountain, Bill Raney was a carpet-bagger. But to the coal miners and the steel workers of Alabama, he was a beloved friend and a trusted leader.

Bill Raney was a progressive who saw that the white and Negro workers of the South must close ranks and organize together. He had no patience with those who wanted to treat the Negro union member like an outcast in his own union. He was for industrial unionism and he saw the necessity of independent political action by the working-class. In other words, he was definitely for a Farago-Labor Party.

If Bill Raney was a carpet-bagger, we can only say that we southern workers wish we had more carpet-baggers down here.

We join with all these friends and associates of Brother Raney in offering our sympathy to District 20 of the U. M. W. and to his immediate family.

White Legions Being Revived

THERE seems to be some evidence that the White Legion is being revived in Birmingham. It is reported that this admitted fascist organization is enforced by several influential judg-

es and politicians here. Of course, the backers of the White Legion claim that it is only anti-Communist and not anti-labor. But the facts give the lie to this claim.

In the BIRMINGHAM NEWS of April 15, 1933, during the laundry strike, there appeared the following concerning the scab activities of Bob Gullodge, leader of the White Legion:

"The White Legion was drawn into the laundry strike Thursday with the aid of Huey King, president of Local 112, laundry workers, following an alleged dispute with R. J. Gullodge."

King and two union men went to Gullodge's office and accused him of running advertisements in local newspapers seeking to hire white women to replace Negro laundry workers. Mrs. B. R. Walls, who said she answered an advertisement in company with Mrs. Inez Maglock, testified Gullodge told her that there were too many Negro women employed in Birmingham laundries and that he wanted to replace them with white women. Mrs. Walls said Gullodge told her he represented the White Legion.

Labor should be put on guard against the revival of this strike-breaking, anti-labor organization. The Detroit automobile union men who were murdered by the Black Legion there would tell us this if they were alive today.

Fear Greeks Bringing Gifts

A big lumber man got the legislature to enact his pet industry into law. Under this act, the state will issue bonds to buy industrial sites, build factories, and turn them over to any Yankee manufacturer that will operate them.

Of course the people will have to retire these bonds, so what this means is that the common people are making a present of factories to manufacturers.

The industries that are expected to take advantage of this generous offer are the textile mills and garment factories. It is in these industries that wages are lowest, hours longest and speed-up the most grueling.

These manufacturers have been coming South for several years now looking for the cheap docile labor and non-union conditions.

Starvation wages will not bring prosperity to Mississippi.

Steel Men Join Union Fast, CIO Leader Reports

(Continued from Page One)

McWane Pipe Shop, Birmingham Tank Co., Birmingham Vag Co., and Barrett Roofing Co.

Negro and white workers are being organized side by side in the same locale, union organizers pointed out. There will be no "Jim-crow" locals in steel. In many of the newly formed locals of the Amalgamated, Negroes have been elected to office.

Describing working conditions in the steel mills, Mr. Mitch who is president of the Alabama State Federation of Labor as well as president of District 20, United Mine Workers of America, declared that the southern wage differential operates as viciously in steel as in other industries in the South.

Common labor in Pittsburgh is paid one dollar a day more than in Birmingham. Mill hands in Birmingham make \$2.50 a day while they make \$3.50 a day in Pittsburgh. Machinists, welders and other skilled workers in Pittsburgh usually get from \$1.25 an hour up. In Birmingham, skilled steel workers' hourly wages start at \$3.50 an hour and if they're lucky they make 4.75 an hour.

Segregated and discriminated against on the job because some work is considered "unfit for a white to do," Negro workers are rarely allowed to hold down skilled jobs and in many cases are worked on the piece work system where the speedup is the worst.

Fifty Cases Appealed

Despite the fact that nearly 50 union members have been fired from steel plants for union membership and in the face of intimidation by the steel companies' armed guards, workers are rapidly joining up, declared local officials of the Committee for Industrial Organization which initiated and is directing the drive.

Action has already been taken on the cases of the dismissed workers by appealing to the Regional Labor Board for a decision on them. Hearings on the cases have been held up pending a ruling on the Wagner Labor Relations Act by the U. S. Supreme Court.

Build a Strong Unified Labor Movement!

Oust Families Of Workers In Talledega

(Continued from Page One)

these days, they got the whole hog.

Eviction notices were served on almost all the families of the men who were indicted for "conspiracy to prevent the mills from operating" and the families of the union workers charged with murder. Chief Deputy Bryant of Talladega and Joe Hayes, a cafe owner, were killed when the union men prevented the mill from being operated by scabs.

Governor Bibb Graves, who had a hand in the job since it was he who ordered the mills to be reopened instead of keeping out of places where he wasn't needed, must have gotten conscious stricken because he gave the evicted families a break by putting them on relief. Or at least he thought he was giving them a break. Of course the governor, never having been on relief himself, can't be expected to realize the difference between having somebody in the family bring in regular weekly wages, and having the family live on the tiny amount that the relief authorities give out.

Meanwhile Alabama labor is rallying behind a campaign to free the men. At a recent meeting it voted to raise a fund of from \$15,000 to \$20,000 for the defense of men arrested because of union activities. W. O. Hare, secretary of the State Fed. of Labor, said C. P. Thieme, president of the Birmingham Trades Council, declared that special efforts would be made to raise the funds for Homer L. Welch, U. T. W. organizer, and his co-defendants.

The case has not yet been brought to trial. As the Southern Worker goes to press, it was learned that Welch will be arraigned the last week in October, according to Judge R. B. Carr of the Seventh Circuit. No date has yet been set for the trial of the other workers.

perintendent of the Calloway Coal Company, C. L. Barlow, a partner in the Burton Manufacturing Co., L. J. Howe, an official of the Nashua Textile Mills and Mrs. S. Morris who is the wife of one of the richest men in the county."

The Farmers Union was the first to hear of the dismissal. They immediately got in touch with the Miners union to see what could be done to help the teachers out.

"The teachers are affiliated with our Central Labor Union here in Jasper. When they found out that they could get support," Ted continued, "their delegates asked the C. L. U. to back them openly, and it certainly did."

Ted smiled as he told how often meetings had been called by the Central Labor Union and the school strike voted, the children and parents picketed schools at Carbon Hill, Parrish, Centre and other communities. "It was a real fight to see these youngsters get out there and picket."

"After Governor Bibb Graves sent down his personal committee of Robert Hayes, state commissioner of labor, A. J. Miller, state commissioner of education, and S. Garrett of the Attorney General's office as peace-makers, the

3 Strikes called By Chattanooga Building Trades

By TED WELLMAN

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — Three strikes are being conducted against the Mark K. Wilson Construction Co. here by the Building Trades Council for recognition of the Council and the Hod Carriers and Common Laborers Union in particular.

Following Wilson's absolute refusal to recognize the Common Laborers Union, and especially after Wilson mailed three different letters to building trades workers in an effort to propagandize them against the union, the Building Trades Council called strikes successively on the Hixson, Saddy and Red Banks P. W. A. school construction jobs.

Wilson's three letters declared that "common laborers have no basis for organization," that the Common Laborers Union was not a union, but a "mob" organized by "Joe Dobbs and his henchmen."

Support Laborers

In spite of pleas to the skilled workers to repudiate the common laborers which Wilson made in his letters, the skilled workers, through their delegates to the Building Trades Council which includes the Common Laborers Union, immediately walked off the struck jobs and joined the mass picket lines.

Wilson has made many efforts against the strikers, among them a demand to hire private guards. County officials refused to grant this. When a "vigilante" group which asked to be deputized was formed, Sheriff Burns in refusing to accede to their demands, declared that his men "are not supposed to be strikebreakers."

With the jobs still completely closed down, the spirit of the strikers is high at the present prospect of being victorious over the biggest and most notorious open shop contractor in Chattanooga and forcing him to recognize their union and union wage scales.

Board of Education still wouldn't budge. They wouldn't say that they would allow teachers to join any organization of their own choosing. That was what we really were out to make them do."

"The teachers have to have the right to organize, if they are not allowed to, it will be our work."

Although the strike was called off at Governor Graves' request when he promised the committee representing the strikers that a thorough investigation of the situation would be made, members of trade unions in Walker County feel that they have learned and gained a lot from the strike.

"No, we didn't get the dismissed teachers their jobs back yet and we haven't forced the Board of Education to recognize their right to organize," explained Ted. "But we did learn what it means for all the crafts to work together as a team. I can bet you that that won't be forgotten by the Board of Education and the county. The people will elect the chairman instead of having him appointed."

Union Parents want Children Taught By Union Teachers in Walker County

By Pat Barr

JASPER — "I'm a union man and I don't want to have my kids taught by those things called the union movement." Ted Hawkins agreed to say so he told the members of the local Teachers' Association of Walker County, teachers, clerks, janitors, and general workers of the county, Alabama, to get their children out of the school.

The school strike in which Ted's kids and approximately 100 other children and approximately 100 other parents of union

12 years.

"I'm not saying that all teachers who aren't union members would be against the union, but one thing sure, if they are in the union they won't be against it."

Walker County

"We've got a county here that is pretty thoroughly organized and we are proud of it. Some say that it was the U. S. government that took care of us when we were out of school in all the years. We felt that we ought to help them out."

The school strike in which Ted's kids and approximately 100 other children and approximately 100 other parents of union

parents were kept out of school for two weeks didn't happen over night.

"The thing that really set it off," said Ted, "was when we found out just before the school term opened that three members of the newly formed local of the American Federation of Classroom Teachers, affiliated with the A. F. of L. had been dropped from the rolls by the county Board of Education because they joined the union. Of course that made us angry when the school was shut down because that the Board of Education was against it. You see the members of the school board are J. H. Niles, who's re-

Main Issue America To Decide on Nov. 3, Progress vs. Fascism

(Continued from Page One)

date for president, declared in a radio address: "Is the choice between democracy and fascism. We (Communists) believe that the American people are prepared to accept a definitely progressive program based upon protection and extension of democratic rights. Unfortunately this majority is not yet organized for political action. It has been trying unsuccessfully to get the progressive platform adopted by one or other of the old parties. Today these people are turning toward the formation of a new party which in most places takes the form of a Farmer-Labor Party."

To wide-spread demands for employment, farm relief, social insurance, the right to organize, defense of civil liberties, in the face of the threat of war and high taxation, Landon and Roosevelt have answered in their hundreds of election speeches, but vaguely.

Under Roosevelt, cost of food has gone up 40%, and clothing 20%, according to a recent disclosure by Labor Research Association. But that's not enough for Landon, who came out for repeal of the corporation tax passed by the present administration — a tax on the rich — for a "widely distributed tax" — a tax on the poor instead.

While Roosevelt proudly declares that he has put most of America back to work, W.P.A. projects and public relief appropriations are being cut more drastically than at any other time since Roosevelt was elected. Landon has declared that he would abolish federal relief altogether.

Roosevelt's NRA gave workers the right to organize and bargain collectively but the Supreme Court threw that out. Hearst-backed Landon's record in Kansas speaks for itself. When thousands of Kansas miners, lungs filled with silica dust, exploited, finally struck, Landon said, "Forward March" and his troops went into the mines. Under cover of his troops, a company union was formed.

Attacking Landon's "tariff equivalent" farm program which Roosevelt said would cost the country \$2,000,000, the president speaking in Nebraska, offered a plan of crop insurance and soil conservation whose exact cost and benefit he did not state.

About the poll taxes in southern states and the wage differential between the North and South, the printed speeches of Republican and Democratic candidates have carried nothing.

When speaking in an eastern city recently, Roosevelt who asked Congress to pass the largest peacetime military budget in the history of the country, declared himself willing to do his utmost to keep the country out of war. Landon, backed by the Liberty League, declared that the only way to keep the country out of war was to fight Germany and Japan.

Communists' Clear Program

As the battle between the reactionary forces who back Landon and the more progressive groups who follow Roosevelt sharpens, preliminary straw votes held throughout the United States indicate that the Communists will rally an unprecedentedly large vote behind its candidates Earl Browder and James Ford who demand for the common people of America:

1. Put America back to work—provide jobs and a living wage. Abolish the Southern Wage Differential.
2. Provide unemployment, insurance, old age pensions and social security for all.
3. Save the young generation.
4. Free the farmers from debt, unbearable tax burdens and foreclosures. Guarantee the land to those who till the soil.
5. The rich hold the wealth of the country—make the rich pay.
6. Defend and extend democratic and civil liberties. Curb the power of the Supreme Court. Abolish the poll tax.
7. Full rights for the Negro people.
8. Keep America out of war by keeping war out of the world.

Audience Gives Lemke, Smith Cold Shoulder

BIRMINGHAM—William Lemke, Union Party candidate for president, and Gerald K. Smith, who would step into Huey Long's shoes as Number 1 American fascist menace, were coolly received by a crowd of about 1,000 people when they spoke in Birmingham.

Lemke based his speech upon an attack on Roosevelt's monetary policy, and came out for a "managed currency." This would not be inflation, he said, because he would set up governmental machinery to control the change in value of the dollar. He did not explain, however, that when he made the value of the dollar less, the worker could buy less with it and that in any language this is called inflation.

Though he said he was for labor unions, Lemke did not say what kind of union, company or bond & file unions. He appealed for the farmers' vote with the promise of higher prices and the reduction of mortgages.

Gerald K. Smith, the "rabble rouser" spoke for an hour and a half against the Communist Party, the Soviet Union, and President Roosevelt. Smith began by saying that the "Kingfish" Huey Long before him and he himself had received an average of two letters a day from Communists threatening his life, though the Communist Party does not believe in or engage in acts of individual violence.

Smith repeated the old Hearst stories of famine in the Soviet Union and declared that the Soviet Union was attempting to start a war with Germany and Japan.

Vote This Emblem



EARL BROWDER
For President

EARL BROWDER was born May 20, 1891, in Wichita, Kansas, of early Virginia pioneer stock, his grandfather having fought in the War of 1812. At fifteen he was already an active trade unionist and a member of the Socialist Party. In 1917 he was sentenced to Leavenworth prison for opposing America's entry into the imperialist World War. Since 1919, when he joined the Communist Party, he has played an increasingly important role in the struggles of the American people to win a better life, working closely with William Z. Foster from 1921 to 1926 in the campaign for a Labor Party and for amalgamation of the craft unions of the A. F. of L. In 1930 he became General Secretary of the Communist Party and has served in that capacity ever since.



JAMES W. FORD
For Vice-President

JAMES W. FORD was born December 22, 1893, in Pratt City, Alabama, starting life as a railroad worker at the age of thirteen. He attended Fisk University, and in 1917 entered the U. S. Army. Entering the labor movement after the World War, he played an active part in building the trade unions, joining the Communist Party soon after. An outstanding leader of the Negro masses and an active fighter for the rights and interests of the common people, he was nominated for Vice-President of the United States on the Communist Party ticket in 1932 and in more recent months played a leading role in the National Negro Congress.

Probe Terror In Gadsden

GADSDEN—Two investigations of the terroristic expulsion of union organizers from this city were conducted here and in Washington, according to Judge Alva V. Lee and Robert Welforth of the LaFollette Senate Committee investigating violations of civil liberties.

Five city officials were named and investigated in the Gadsden case.

H. S. Craggille, Goodyear personnel manager; E. L. Gray, president of the Gadsden local of the United Rubber Workers; Zella Morgan, secretary of the local and E. C. Ledlow, a member of the union.

Gray was one of seven organizers of the union who were beaten up in broad daylight in the downtown section of the town and then summarily ordered to leave the town.

Judge Lee, in his charge to the Elwell Circuit Court Grand Jury declared, "Gentlemen of the jury, it has come to the attention of the court that an attempt was made to murder a member of the union."

Yes, Communists Run James Ford, Republicans Told

HALEYVILLE, Ala.—"Yes the Communists are running James Ford for Vice-President! And our party's platform is the only one which guarantees the Negro people their full rights and opportunities."

Republicans at an open forum political mass meeting of 500 persons in the court house here almost stampeded the gathering, jumping to their feet, yelling and milling around, when Belle Barton, twenty-year-old farm woman, representing the Communist Party, thus answered a Republican's question.

Mrs. Barton's speech brought the Communist Party and the Young Communist League to a public meeting in northern Alabama, heart of the Jim-Crow belt, for the first time. She is the wife of Jack Barton, Communist organizer, now serving a chain-gang sentence in Bessemer, Ala., United States Steel town, for possessing Communist literature.

William C. Irby, who is on the ballot as a Union Party candidate for the United States Senate, publicly repudiated the Coughlin-Hearst set-up and called for the formation of a Farmer-Labor Party based on the labor unions and farmers' organizations. Irby, speaking as a representative of the Farmers Educational and Co-operative Union of America, attacked the Republicans on social security legislation and declared that "Landon and Knox are the main enemies of the people."

A red-baiting speech in which he ranted for an hour and forty minutes about "reds, socialists, radicals, foreign support," was made by C. O. Vardaman, Alabama chairman of the National Federation of Young Republicans. He used up more than his allotted time, encroaching on the time of other speakers, and then refused to answer questions put by Jane Speed, representative of the National Campaign Committee of the Communist party.

Blacks, Whites Sold in Strike

SHREVEPORT, La.—The striking railroad brotherhood on the Louisiana and Arkansas, who went out September 19, to enforce their agreements, are in full solidarity with the Association of Covered Railway Trainmen and Locomotive Firemen, who struck at the same time.

Spiking company rumors that the white workers were discriminating against the Negro railroaders, four high officials of the transportation trades declared:

"The duly elected and authorized committee of the railroad association, composed of 95% of such employees, have never been able to meet Mr. Couch (the L. & A. president) in an effort to adjust their legitimate claims. We believe that their union is justly entitled to the same treatment as the white workers."

Negro Free, "Shot it Out" With Sheriff

ANNISTON, Ala. — They had no reason to suspect Art Bush, Calhoun County Negro, but the sheriff and his posse were out gunning for someone suspected of having "molested" the baby of Mrs. U. L. Williamson, a farmwife. Bush seemed as likely a suspect to them as any.

But Art Bush had no desire to be taken to the county jail, accused of kidnapping a white child and perhaps being "taken for a ride" afterwards. The posse, determined to get its man, fired on Art Bush's house in an effort to make him come out. Art Bush put up a fight to defend his home, white posse or no white posse and he shot Pat Hicks, a member of the posse.

Tried for first degree murder of Hicks by a jury composed entirely of white farmers, Art Bush was freed and entirely vindicated of his right to defend his home.

Protest Against High Cost of Milk.

Price Rise Makes Birmingham's Milk Most Expensive in Country

BIRMINGHAM — Milk delivered to Birmingham doorsteps after October 15, becomes the most expensive in the country. Only three other large cities charge as much as 15 cents a quart for delivered milk and 14 cents for milk bought in stores — Atlanta, Miami, and Charleston, S. C. This compares with 11 cents a quart delivered in Pittsburgh, 9 cents in Cleveland, 10 cents in Milwaukee, 13 1/2 in New York, and 10 cents in Knoxville.

The increase of one cent was set recently by the Alabama State Milk Control Board. When dairy farmers of Jefferson County because of a raise in the price of feed appealed to the Board to raise milk prices two to four cents per quart. Large milk distributors refused to allow the farmers any increase on the wholesale milk price, but were willing to have the public bear the burden of a tax for the dairy farmer's end of the deal.

Consumers' Protest
While the Milk Control Board was considering the matter, pressure brought to bear by Parent-Teachers Associations, the Birmingham Consumers' Council, and small retailers influenced the Milk Board to grant no more than one cent increase per quart. The Board also refused to raise the price of milk sold in schools. Bustomilk, called "the poor man's milk", will not be raised either.

The Milk Control Board ruling gives the 77 milk producers and dairy farmers in Jefferson County five cents per quart for their milk instead of the former four cents they were receiving. This increase will be paid by the public. The National Dairy Products Corporation, largest milk distributor, will get their usual profit on every quart and the health of the children of Birmingham will be sacrificed.

No Help Given Rural Schools

TALLAPOOSA COUNTY, Ala. — Negro school teachers in Tallapoosa County have come to the conclusion that the only way to obtain better school facilities is through organization and struggle.

The last week in October found the rural Negro schools opening with the same miserable overcrowded buildings, over-worked and under-paid teachers, and grossly inadequate equipment.

Buildings are mostly of one small room. The two room buildings rarely have two teachers. Few school houses are tiled.

Try To Segregate Negroes In Busses

BIRMINGHAM — It might set a precedent in Birmingham to allow Negroes to ride in the electric buses without having partitions which separated them from the whites, so City Attorney W. J. Wynn hurried to the rescue and proposed an ordinance calling for immediate segregation of Negroes riding on buses operated by the Birmingham Electric Company. The City Commissioner Council has proposed a vote on it.



Earl Browder meets the Scottsboro Boys. The Communist candidate for President of the United States is shown with the famous prisoners in the courtyard of Jefferson County jail in Birmingham, Alabama.

Gird for Battle Against 3% Tax Graves Wants

BIRMINGHAM — Anticipating the calling of a special session of the State Legislature by Governor Bob Graves in November to levy a 3% sales tax, the Consumers Anti-Sales Tax Association of Alabama is tightening its campaign with state-wide mass meetings to plan another defeat of the proposed tax.

Although Graves promised that under no conditions would such a tax be levied, the administration now claims that several million dollars of additional revenue is needed to maintain the public school system.

The consumers' association declared that the administration is unwilling to consolidate and simplify government functions, especially in the school system where administrative costs are excessively high in proportion to actual cost of instruction. They insist that revenue from the sales tax would go to political job holders and not to the school teachers.

La. Sales Tax Up 2%, Consumers Protest Bitterly

NEW ORLEANS, La. — Merchants of the state of Louisiana are joining with consumers in an increasing and bitter protest of the recently imposed 2% "luxury" tax. The movement is led by the people of New Orleans who are forced to pay an additional 2% tax making a total of 4%. The merchants claim that sales are decreasing as a result.

One woman leader of a consumers group advocated a "Louisiana Token Party" copying the tactics of our forefathers in the "Boston Tea Party" who dumped English tea into the Boston harbor in protest against oppressive English taxation, before the United States secured its independence. Tokens used to pay the sales tax were to be seized by the people and dumped deep into the Mississippi.

Labor unions and church groups are joining with merchants and consumers' leagues in a campaign to have the tax repealed.

Find New Method For Discrimination

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — A precedent for the South was set in Murfreesboro recently when Circuit Judge A. P. Steel ordered white attorneys to select an all-Negro jury in the case of a Negro charged with murdering another Negro.

Judge Steel declared that he was influenced by the Scottsboro Case in which the U. S. Supreme Court ordered new trials because of lack of Negro representation on the jury. However Judge Steel's real attitude was expressed when he told reporters that "Our Negroes are all well-segregated and y... under control."

Case Affected By Scottsboro

CHARLOTTE, N. C. — Effects of the Scottsboro Decision, in which the U. S. Supreme Court ordered a new trial of the Scottsboro defendants because Negroes were excluded from Alabama juries, were seen in a recent case in Charlotte, N. C. A. A. Tarlton, attorney for Tommie Walls, Negro accused of burglary, asked that the indictment be quashed because Negroes were excluded from the grand jury which brought the indictment in.

Inquiry made by the judge showed that it was the custom in Charlotte to write the names of Negroes in red in the jury lists, while names of whites are written in black. If a "red name" was drawn for service, it was immediately discarded. Judge J. Will Stone, superior court judge, immediately threw out the case. Other cases involving Negroes were likewise dismissed.

Up She Goes!

We're not talking about your chirpy headed kid riding a swing, or the baby bouncing in your lap but about something that affects them and your wife and you'll very vitally.

MILK, one of the most necessary foods for children's health and that of adults too, has become more expensive in Birmingham than anywhere else in the country. The Alabama State Milk Board has just raised its price one cent. And if they can get away with a raise in the price of milk, Governor Graves seems to think that the state can get away with a raise in the price of all foodstuffs and other commodities. From all appearances it looks as though the Governor will convene a special session of legislature to pass a 3% sales tax off on the common people of the state.

The cost of living has already been raised over 25% by federal manipulation of crop prices. No raise in the wages of workers has offset this, and in the South wages are actually lowered by the SOUTHERN WAGE DIFFERENTIAL. Will the working people of Alabama realize the harm which upon their dependents of living? Send your protest to Governor Graves and the Milk Board. Get your friends active in your resistance against the sales tax, for they will sacrifice children.

Don't let the Sales Tax Be Paid Over to Alabama

Farm Conference Demands Relief

Cotton Row

By Jerry Coleman

Brother William C. Irby made a serious error in judgment when he introduced the Coughlin-Smith presidential candidate, William Lemke to a mass meeting in Birmingham. Brother Irby is very popular in Alabama and has the respect of thousands of union men and women. He has been a strong supporter of the Farmer-Labor movement. When Brother Irby throws his support to Lemke he is also throwing his support to Father Coughlin and Rev. Gerald K. Smith, the most active organizer for American Fascist interests.

Father Coughlin has shouted from the hill tops, "I take the road to fascism." He also declared he would carry the guns against a Farmer-Labor government. The right Rev. Gerald Smith, who is trying to wear Huey Long's shoes, spatters and foams as he rages about organizing one million young people into a fascist army.

Lemke Cat's Paw

Both of these fascists support Hitler and Mussolini in their program of destroying trade unions, farmers' organizations, civil rights and the living standard of the people. Lemke is the cat's paw for these men.

Some farmers are inclined to support Lemke because he introduced the Farm Mortgage Refinancing Bill in Congress jointly with Senator Frazier. The bill calls for inflation, which means higher prices for consumers. Lemke will not support taxation of the enormous profits of corporations.

Another angle of it is this. The Union Party, blessed by Father Coughlin, does not have the mass support of the workers and farmers. Wall Street was its mid-wife. It has one and only one purpose, to take the farm vote away from Roosevelt, because Wall Street knows Landon could never do it. By thus splitting the vote, Wall Street thought it could slip Landon into office.

It all boils down to Brother Irby supporting a stooge of Wall Street. Brother Irby owes it to his friends in Alabama, to the South, and to the Farmer-Labor movement to publicly repudiate his support of Lemke. Instead Brother Irby should lead the attack on Landon, Lemke, Coughlin, Smith and the other tools of Wall Street who are paving the road to fascism in our own United States.

The Alabama Farmers' Union has answered the Sharecroppers Union's appeal for a united front. Committees from the two unions are preparing to meet and discuss proposals. If the two unions decide to combine into one, that will be the best thing for the Alabama farmer. In any event, if the two unions work together it will mean that a much more powerful, united group will be leading the struggle for the best interests of all Alabama farmers.



W. C. Irby, Farm Leader

SCHOOLS IN MISS. TO BE CUT SHORT

JACKSON, Miss.—Half of the counties in Mississippi will not be able to complete the first four months of the school term this year because the Mississippi Supreme Court just ruled that no County can use any part of the money for the state school equalization fund for the operating of schools during this period.

Oxford Farmer reports Another Gyp by C. of C.

OXFORD, Miss.—A farmer here reports another gyp by the Chamber of Commerce working through the County Agent. Farmers were advised by the County Agent to plant large acreages to watermelons with the promise of very good markets. Many unsuspecting farmers planted and replanted with expensive seed and fertilizer.

Harvest found the melon growers arguing with the truck drivers that they take half of the whole load to pay for transportation.

The farmers held meetings and forced the County Board of Supervisors to fire the Agent. But the Agent had served them so well that the Chamber of Commerce spoke to the Federal Agent and had him restored at their expense. This is probably a more respectable arrangement; if the County Agent is in their service he should be on their payroll.

Get Your Friends into the Union

Cancellation Back Debts, Mortgage Moratorium, Work asked by Delegates

By CLYDE JOHNSON

Secretary of Share Cropper's Union

SIoux CITY, Iowa.—More than 200 delegates representing 200,000 farmers in nine drought-stricken states met here September 29-30 and adopted major resolutions calling for cancellation of back debts, a moratorium on mortgages, immediate relief through WPA at 50¢ an hour, 150 hours a week for both North and South, and provision for crop loans in time for spring planting.

Two white and two colored members of the Oklahoma Tenant Farmers' Union, six Negro members of the Louisiana Farmers' Union, two white and three colored delegates from the Alabama Share Croppers Union, and one white delegate from the Alabama Farmers' Union made up the Southern delegation to the conference. This conference marked the first time representative groups of farmers from the South and the North-West got together to discuss their

problems. The Northern farmers were astounded to learn of conditions in the South.

Support South's Demands

Resolutions calling for abolition of the Alabama Poll Tax, enforcement of the Negro franchise in Oklahoma, stopping landlord control of relief in the South and other resolutions relating to special share-cropper problems were passed unanimously by the conference as an expression of solidarity.

A Continuation Committee having 3 members from each state represented was elected to carry on the work of the conference. Harry Correll, P. O. Box 540, Minneapolis, Minn., was elected secretary of the Committee. All delegates pledged to get their organizations active in the fight to win aid for the drought-stricken farmers.

John Bosch, president of the Farm Holiday Association, and an active organizer of the conference, made a special plea for unity with the Southern farm organizations and for more cooperation between farmers from different parts of the country.

PEONAGE IN ARKANSAS

by Ellis



The present system of sharecropping "combines the worst features of 16th century feudalism and 19th century capitalism," declared a report on labor conditions in Arkansas issued by the Congress of the State by the Southern Tenant Farmers Union. The report called for the abolition of the sharecropping system because it forces workers to work for the landowner. The report also called for the abolition of the sharecropping system because it forces workers to work for the landowner.

Arrest Planter For Kidnapping

LAUREL, Miss.—Charged with kidnapping four young Negro boys and forcing them to pick his cotton at the point of a gun, Leroy Rogers, white plantation owner was arrested and put in jail.

Rogers came to their shack, forced the four boys out with a gun and marched them to his farm. The boys were Leo McCoy, 16; Manning James, 12; Robert McCormick, 14 and Sears Ward, 14. Sheriff Charles Thompson of Jones County found the boys working in Rogers' fields after their parents complained that they had not returned home.

The boys declared that Rogers had locked them up in a room and each night took them out to the fields in the morning at the point of a gun.

Accustomed to having plenty of cheap labor, Rogers along with other planters, owners found a

Ghost of Murdered Worker Haunts Steel Bosses' Feast

By Rob F. Hall

It was a marvelous banquet. The T.C.I. threw for the Big Business Men of U. S. Steel, Chairman Myron C. Taylor, chairman of the board of U. S. Steel, T.C.I.'s papa and the biggest corporation in the world, was in town. So was W. A. Irwin, U. S. Steel's president. The terrace of the Pantages Hotel was filled to overflowing with 500 of Birmingham's biggest Big Business Men and as everybody knows, 500 Big Business Men take up considerably more room than 500 ordinary folks.

The gentlemen from Wall Street announced that Mr. Morgan's company (Mr. Morgan is the real papa of T.C.I.'s papa) planned to spend 29 million dollars in the Birmingham area. There is to be a tin plate mill, two batteries of coke ovens, a hot-rolling mill, a rolling mill and a new strip mill.

In Birmingham there was much rejoicing. It began on the front page of the newspapers, overflowed into the back pages and then dropped over into the editorial page. Even little Orphan Annie was affected. While she did not refer directly to Chairman Taylor's announcement, she did have a word of sympathetic appreciation for business men who do the put it "get rich because they work all day and worry all night."

There was also a photograph of Birmingham Business Men. The AGE-HERALD captured the moment and the most important being Mr. Donald

Comer of the Avondale textile mills. He had his arm happily about the well-combed neck of the president of the Birmingham Division of Iron Company, and both of them were carrying on like University freshmen when the Crimson Tide runs a long one around Sewanee's left end.

The spirit of rejoicing frothed and bubbled into the advertising too. You could almost hear their teeth click as the merchants came to attention and cried out smartly, "Rob F. Hall U. S. Steel!" Then they subsided to the fact that they had heard that the ghost of the murdered worker was haunting the feast.

Likes E. Lawson's Articles On Health

Birmingham, Ala.
Editor, the Southern Worker

I have been reading Elizabeth Lawson's articles in your paper every month and I must say she's got it down pat. You know, when I went up North and it might be sick to hear people talking about the Southern people like they were just dirty and backward heathens. You don't have to be very smart to figure it out that the low wages that cause sickness and death.

I think we ought to talk all the time about the Income Differential because that is what it really is—this lower wages for the South business. I have a wife and two kids. My kids need a different kind of food.

JUDGING from the pictures—After all we might as well admit frankly that your correspondent did not attend the banquet in person. This was partly due to a severe cold in the head and partly to the fact that T.C.I. neglected to send the Southern Worker an invitation. So as we know is what we read—between the lines—in the papers. Well, judging from the pictures, the biggest of the Big Business men, Mr. Myron C. Taylor, is not the rejoicing kind. He maintained a grim and sober face throughout the festivities. Even the spectacle of Textile Magnet, Comer imitating Ed. Wynn did not cause him to smile.

It is possible that we are doing Old Stone Face an injustice. That "tough guy" expression of Mr. Taylor's may very well be an occupational disease, like silicosis that affects miners, or the lead poisoning that gets painters. With steel barons, it's the Petrified Heart.

Or it may have been that Chairman of the Board Myron C. Taylor was grim-faced because he saw the shadow of the ghost that attended the banquet. Ghosts have a way of popping up at banquets; it is an immemorial custom, introduced some say by the Ghost of Banquo who almost spoiled a festive meal for a murderer named Macbeth many, many years ago. It is more than likely that Mr. Taylor did see this ghost because he had a special message for Mr. Taylor.

This ghost was that of an ore miner named Sam Childs who was murdered by a T.C.I. gunman named Alexander on July 4, 1935. Sam was a member of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union and a Negro. These were evidently good and sufficient reasons for his murder, or at least Mr. Alexander thought so, and nothing was ever said about it.

Mr. Taylor did not recognize the ghost, I am certain, because Mr. Taylor's duties have never brought him into direct contact with the ore miners and their unions who made all the money for him. Mr. Taylor is a capitalist and his duty is to keep the money flowing and the workers silent.

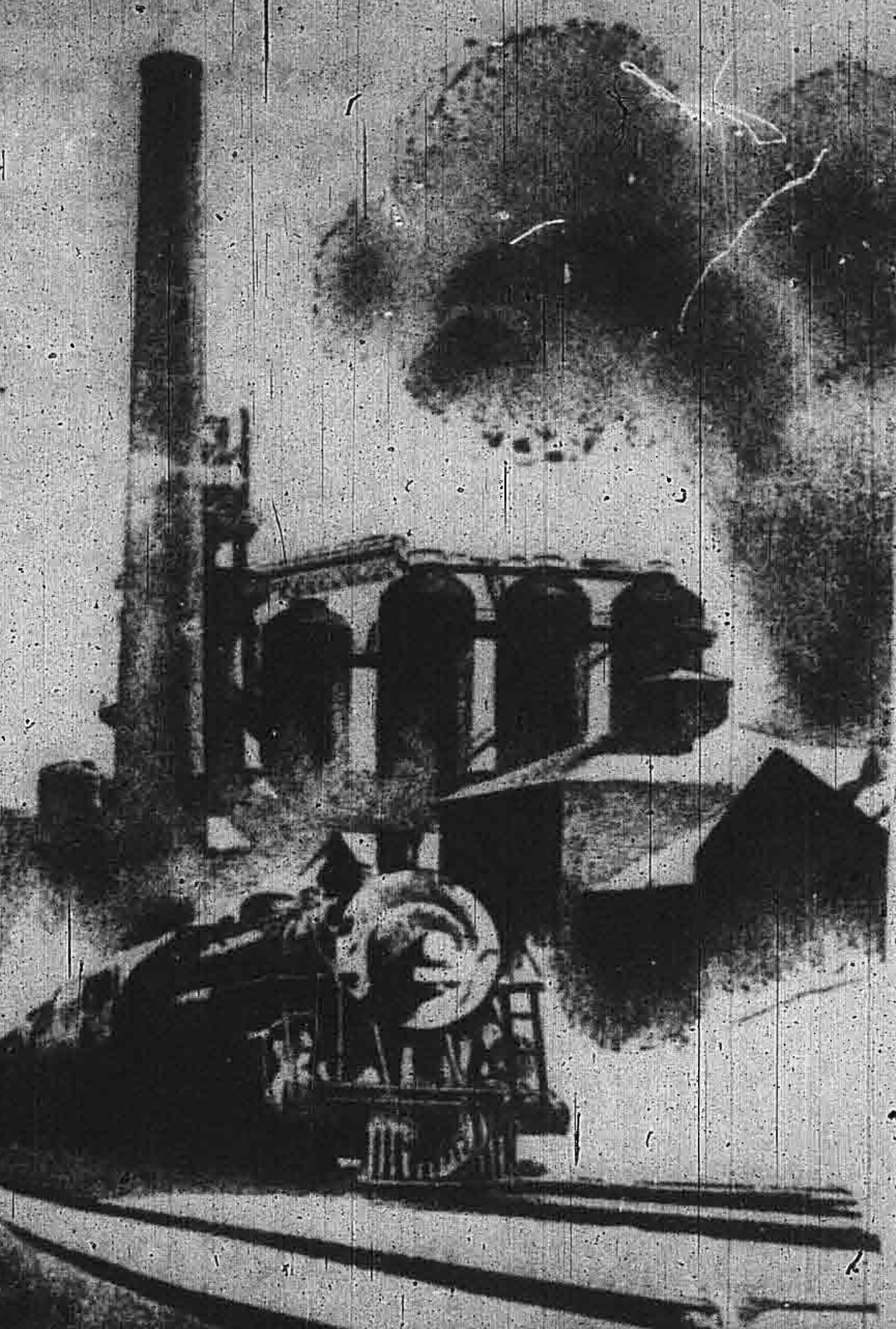
Letters from People of the South

PEOPLE WANT TO LEARN MORE OF COMMUNISM

Atlanta, Ga.
Editor, the Southern Worker

There is a lack of people who really want to know what communism is. I met a doctor who is a member of the N.A.A.C.P. He knows all about communism. I gave him the pamphlet, "The Ghost in the Machine." He said that he had given me a show and said, "I have looked for some of your literature. There are too many people who want to know something about you all."

I gave a young boy out of the election platform pamphlet. He gave it to another young fellow. This fellow wanted to see it, so I have sold these three pamphlets.



seemed strangely out of place in this happy gathering. The ghost may have worn a little American flag in his button hole because it was Independence Day that Sam Childs was killed. Of course I have no way of knowing definitely, because ghosts do not photograph very well, and no newspaper picture included the ghost.

Now do I know exactly what the ghost said, because the reporter neglected such details in their otherwise lengthy accounts of the great event. From my collection of knowledge of ghosts however, I can surmise that the ghost said the following:

"I speak not only for Sam Childs," the ghost might have said, "but for all the workers who have been killed or whipped or beaten by your company gunmen, Mr. Taylor."

"I speak for the workers who mined the ore deep in the bowels of Red Mountain, for the workers who crushed and smelted it; for the workers who made it into steel, cast it into ingots and rolled it into plates."

"I speak for the workers of the Birmingham area, Mr. Taylor, because it's a strike on the side of the workers here today because the workers want to know

what wages you will pay, Mr. Taylor, in your new Birmingham mills. Will you pledge your company to pay no less in these mills than the wages you pay in your Northern mills? Southern steel workers welcome new jobs and bigger payrolls, Mr. Taylor, but they have no welcome for Northern industries which come South looking for cheap labor and non-union conditions.

"Will your new mills hire company gunmen, steel pigeons and spies as your old mills do? Will your new mills also stock up on machine guns and tear gas to use against the workers?"

"Will your new mills also discriminate against the unions and fire every union man your spies turn up? Will you and your thugs and your bought politicians continue their efforts to stamp out democracy and deprive us of the right to organize?"

"Will your new mills give Negroes the right to any job with equal pay for equal work, or will they carry on the same old campaigns to stir up hatred between Negro and white so that you can crush us both?"

WITH this 29 million dollars, are you buying merely land, buildings and materials, or are you also buying the soul of our city? Your corporation's money has already burned like a cancer into the heart of honest government and corrupted it in every steel center. These 500 of Birmingham's biggest Big Business Men may sell our birthright carelessly, but a mess of pottage, but the common people of Birmingham and Alabama are not so easy. They shall be vigilant, Mr. Taylor, vigilant and watchful in the defense of their freedom.

At this point someone handed Mr. Taylor a congratulatory telegram from Governor Graves and the ghost, ignored and unknown, slipped silently back to the shallow grave on Red Mountain.

It is doubtful whether Mr. Taylor will report the conversation at the next meeting of the board.

VOTE COMMUNIST!

Red Baiting Carried On In Miss. Schools

Jones County, Miss.
Editor, the Southern Worker

Such propaganda has gone on in the schools against a certain Mr. Browder running for the U.S. Presidency. The other day a teacher wanted to test out what effect the writings had left on the minds of the children in the fifth grade of grammar school. She suggested that the children vote for their favorite candidate for president. Her Browder was by a majority of 2 to 1.

I understand that besides the little show "Red" and that photograph records which are being a great hit among the Negroes here in the Black Belt. My own little girl listened to one of these records and said that "That teacher told us a lie when she said Browder was nothing and never would amount to anything."

J. B. R.

Workers Alliance Ready For Action

Editor, the Southern Worker

Workers Alliance is ready for action. We have been organized in many places. We are ready to fight for the workers. We are ready to fight for the workers. We are ready to fight for the workers.

We are ready to fight for the workers. We are ready to fight for the workers. We are ready to fight for the workers.

T. R. E.

Workers Alliance Ready For Action

Editor, the Southern Worker

Workers Alliance is ready for action. We have been organized in many places. We are ready to fight for the workers. We are ready to fight for the workers. We are ready to fight for the workers.

We are ready to fight for the workers. We are ready to fight for the workers. We are ready to fight for the workers.

Don Ward
State Organizer

VOTE COMMUNIST!

Defend Madrid; Need Munitions; Appeal For Aid

By Ted Wellman

The defense of the Spanish Republic has reached its most critical stage as workers of Madrid prepared to withstand the attack of "Butcher" Franco's hired fascist troops. Without sufficient arms, the people of Madrid are defending themselves against armed hordes, bought and paid for by Hitler and Mussolini.

As the battle for a free Spain rages, urgent pleas for assistance in ending the embargoes on arms have been sent to anti-fascist workers in every country in the world.

Fact a Mockery

German and Italian fascist governments have made a bloody mockery of the non-intervention pact signed by 27 countries. While the democratic countries, France, England, and America in particular have refused to sell munitions to the Peoples Front Government in Spain, elected by an overwhelming majority of the Spanish people last February, Germany and Italy with the aid of Portugal have sent large shipments of arms and airplanes to General Franco's forces.

Unable to keep silence any longer, the Soviet Union, in a strongly worded series of documents demanded that "certain countries" cease supplying arms to the rebels at once or the Soviet Union will have to declare its hands free to render similar aid to the government.

Soviet Workers Send Aid

Workers of the Soviet Union have given their support to the Spanish Peoples Republic already. About \$20,000,000 in cash, tons of food and clothing, together with the moral support of the Soviet toilers have aided the Spanish workers very much.

It remained for the Blum cabinet in France to defy the demands of the French people that airplanes and arms be sold to Spain. The French masses, led by the Communist Party of France, held tremendous mass meetings and even short general strikes to force Blum to help their embattled Spanish brothers.

The Soviet Union, menaced on the east and west by war hungry



Spanish Peoples' Militia Woman

Germany and Japan, is hampered by France's refusal to break through the arms blockade. With the support of France, the Soviet Union could supply much needed arms and make brighter the prospects for eventual victory of democracy in Spain.

Senate Group To Investigate Gelders Case

(Continued from Page One)

they see it. With Rev. Graham Lucy and Mrs. Jess King, Gelders went down to Bessemer to discuss with Mayor Jap Bryant the case of Jack Barton who was unjustly sentenced to 350 days in jail for possessing several copies of the COMMUNIST.

On September 24, two days after after Gelders went down to try and see Mayor Bryant, Birmingham and the whole state of Alabama awoke to read a blood curdling description of what some people think about the United States' Constitutional guarantee of free speech, free press and free assembly.

Joe Gelders, southern representative of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, former professor of physics at the University of Alabama, respected by all who knew him as a sincere fighter for civil liberties, was picked up by three men on a Birmingham street near his home, carried nearly 50 miles away from the city, beaten into unconsciousness and left for dead in a ditch beside a road.

Struck over the head on a Birmingham street by three men using blackjacks, Gelders was thrown into the bottom of a car. After being slapped and beaten all the time the car was being driven, Gelders was then pulled out on a lonely road and flogged. The floggers used a four foot leather strap about two inches wide. Gelders who was by that time clad only in trunks and socks, said he counted 15 or 20 lashes before he lost consciousness.

"They tore my clothing off piece by piece," he went on with the story, "and scattered it along the highway. In taunting derision they read and tore pamphlets about the Scottsboro Boys that they took out of my pockets."

Protests Draw Action

Outraged by this latest violation of civil liberties in Alabama, people of all shades of political opinion immediately telephoned, telegraphed and wrote to Governor Bibb Graves demanding the arrest of the criminals who flogged Gelders. Editorials calling for the apprehension of the men who made the attack were published by almost every Alabama newspaper and many others throughout the country.

Governor Graves, after speaking to Gelders on the telephone, threw state forces behind the hunt for the floggers. He personally posted a reward of \$200 for the capture of each of the men.

Committee Undecided

To show that in spite of the threats of death which Gelders had received, and in spite of his brutal beatings, the work of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners would not let up one bit, it has decided to nominate Gelders and a delegate to be elected to Mayor Bryant of Bessemer to intercede in behalf of Jack Barton.

Among the other organizations

Disease in South Result of Low Living Standard

By ELIZABETH LAWSON

(This is the third and last of a series of articles by Elizabeth Lawson, on health and disease in the Southern states. Previous articles discussed pellagra and hookworm. — Editor)

Malaria, the third of the typically southern diseases, was first believed to be caused by bad air. It is characterized by chills and fever, and produces severe anemia. The germs of malaria are carried by the female of a breed of mosquitos that inhabits the tropics and subtropics and the bite of such a mosquito is the only possible way of contracting the disease. The breeding places of the mosquitoes are the swampy lands characteristic of the backward system of agriculture of the South. Innumerable cotton plantations are completely

sprounded by swamps. Better economic conditions in agriculture lead to the clearing and draining of more land and a decrease in the incidence of malaria; but southern agriculture is not progressing — it is retrogressing. The remedy for malaria is to drain the swamps and screen the houses. The task is by no means impossible. During the digging of the Panama Canal, the entire Canal Zone, once a notorious malaria center, was completely freed of mosquitoes. Again, during the World War, the sites of the southern military camp were carefully drained. The demands of commerce and of imperialist warfare heeded, but a plea for the bitter needs of millions of southern whites and Negroes falls on deaf ears.

The tragedy of hookworm, malaria, and pellagra is just this: their cause is known, their cure and prevention are theoretically

very simple. The victims of the diseases require no long courses of treatment; many severe cases have been cured in a week's time. But most of the South's sick people never get the needed treatment, and cure will not prevent re-infection. Even a small amount of meat and fresh vegetables will prevent pellagra; sanitary privies and shoes will prevent hookworm; draining swamps and screening houses will prevent malaria. There is no guess-work about it; the results of these preventive measures are one hundred per cent certain.

Science has found the cause of the ills of the South; the South's great, growing, militant labor movement, aided by the workers of the whole country, must wrench from the mill-owner and plantation overlord the conditions that will make it possible to give the southern masses the benefit of this science.

Activities Of Labor Spies Told LaFollette Committee

(Continued from Page One)

by William Mitch, Alabama District Director of the Committee on Industrial Organization, to Clinton S. Golden, another labor official, at the Senate Committee's hearing in Washington.

Humphill used to run an elevator in the building in Birmingham where the C. I. O. has an office, he told the LaFollette Committee. He got the job through the detective agency known as the Railway Audit and Inspection Company in order to be able to talk to labor leaders and then supply the detective agency with all the information he obtained.

Before the LaFollette Committee adjourned its hearings, it heard enough evidence to substantiate a picture of the lengths which

large corporations like T. C. I., U. S. Steel, Remington Rand, and hundreds of others will go to, to prevent their mills from being organized.

Birmingham seems to have had its full share of labor spies and red hatters. In fact so high a monkey-wrench as E. D. Liffay, assistant to the president of T. C. I., admitted he had a big hand in anti-Communist activities around Birmingham, according to testimony in a letter written by E. S. Cantor of the American Business League. Liffay was declared that "Liffay had said that he arranged to have Blaine Green, Communist organizer taken by a side-



Joseph Gelders in Clinton Hospital, where he was taken after being kidnapped from Birmingham and left for dead in a ditch.

that have joined forces with the Union. The C.I.O. telegraphed National Committee and state Governor Graves that it had been justice the... should be... case interest... orders to have... was the Ameri...

The Southern Worker

The Voice of the Common People of the South
Organic Link to the Communist Party of the U.S.
in the South.

424 MALLORY DRIVE Address, Box 972,
Birmingham, Alabama.

SUBSCRIPTION

25 ISSUES (Through First Class Mail) 50¢
12 ISSUES 25¢
SINGLE COPIES 2¢

Outside the South, 25 Issues, \$1.00; Single Copies,
2¢. Sample Orders for 10 or more, 1 cent per
Copy. Send no checks, Send stamps or Money

Orders Payable to JIM MALLORY.

VOL. V NOVEMBER, 1936 Number 5

VOTE COMMUNIST! FOR THIS PROGRAM

1. Put America back to work—provide jobs and a living wage. Abolish the Southern Wage Differential.
2. Provide unemployment insurance, old age pensions, and social security for all.
3. Save the young generation.
4. Free the farmers from debt, unbearable tax burdens and foreclosures. Guarantee the land to those who till the soil.
5. The rich hold the wealth of the country—make the rich pay.
6. Defend and extend democratic and civil liberties. Curb the power of the Supreme Court. Abolition of the Poll Tax.
7. Full rights for the Negro people.
8. Keep America out of war by keeping war out of the world.

Symbol of Reaction

(Continued from page one)

Because of this, a gang of thugs kidnapped Gelders, beat him into insensibility and left him naked and bleeding in a ditch by a country road. No one doubts for a minute that the leading industrial interests of the Birmingham area were responsible for this foul crime. Everyone knows that if the truth is ever spread out before the people, it will be shown that this kidnaping was organized by the most "respectable" and most REACTIONARY interests in the state.

The silk-hatted gang that had Gelders fogged doesn't give a rap for the Constitution or for democracy. Most of them are, no doubt, backing Landis, the Liberty League candidate for president. And if they decide, for local reasons, to vote for Roosevelt, you can be sure that they are "praying" for a Republican.

The kidnaping of Gelders is a symbol of the fascist reaction. It is a warning to the people of Alabama to expect from these interests if they are not roughed over the rights of the people.

Who is the man for these reactionaries? The Republican Party, nationally, is their party. But even if Roosevelt is elected, he will not put a stop to the fascist attacks on the rights of the Southern people. Mr. Roosevelt will compromise with the reactionaries here this because he represents the Democratic Party. The Democratic Administration in the South are practically controlled by the reactionaries. It is under Democratic administration that the rights of the workers are crushed, workers shot down, Negroes lynched, and the people kept in a poor condition on starvation wages.

The only man for the reactionaries would be a Republican. The reactionaries would like to see a Republican elected to the White House.

Who is the man for the reactionaries? The Republican Party, nationally, is their party.

But even if Roosevelt is elected, he will not put a stop to the fascist attacks on the rights of the Southern people. Mr. Roosevelt will compromise with the reactionaries here this because he represents the Democratic Party. The Democratic Administration in the South are practically controlled by the reactionaries. It is under Democratic administration that the rights of the workers are crushed, workers shot down, Negroes lynched, and the people kept in a poor condition on starvation wages.

The only man for the reactionaries would be a Republican. The reactionaries would like to see a Republican elected to the White House.

Before It Is Too Late!

With the bloody battle of Madrid, the struggle of the Spanish people to preserve their democratic republic enters its most critical stage.

The Spanish Government has given factual evidence that the fascist forces attempting to gain power in Spain are being financed and armed by fascist Germany, Italy and Portugal. Recent notes from the Soviet Union have brought pressure on the governments of France and other democratic countries to sell arms to the Spanish Republic. And fascists in all democratic countries should stand shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet Union in support of its demands to end the blockade against the Spanish Peoples' heroic defense of their democratic government.

Victory for fascism in Spain would be a disaster for workers all over the world, for all lovers of peace and freedom. Now, before it is too late, we must help our brothers and sisters who are defending democracy in Spain. Workers in the United States are rallying in support of the fund organized by the Communist Party. Committees should be organized by trade unions and liberals in every Southern city to explain the vital need for immediate help to the Spanish Peoples' Republic.

Raise funds to aid the Spanish Workers. Send them to the Daily Worker, 30 East 15th St., New York City.

Demand that the United States sell munitions to a sister republic fighting against the threat of a bloody fascist dictator.

Form a committee in YOUR city or town to support the Spanish Republic.

Can You Vote?

Are you a qualified voter?

In 1928, 18% of the people of Alabama voted. In 1932, only 17% voted. On November 3, 1936, the number may be even smaller. The poll tax and the disfranchisement of the Negro people is suffocating democracy in the Southern states by keeping the common people, Negro and white, away from the polls.

In Georgia, the Talmaidge Administration, represented by John B. Wilson, Secretary of State, has illegally refused to place the Communist Party on the ballot. In Florida, the state Supreme Court has refused to enforce the U. S. Constitution and place the Communist Party on the ballot there. In Mississippi and Louisiana, laws, especially passed to prevent minority parties from getting on the ballot, are in force. In many other Southern states, the reactionary interests have succeeded in preventing the people from casting their ballots for Browder and Ford.

What could be better proof of the truth of what the Communist Party says—that the issues in this Democracy vs. Fascism? Democracy is threatened and millions of people in the South are deprived of their democratic rights even before the election starts. The millions cannot say "I vote for Democracy" because they have no vote!

This should be a warning and a lesson to those who still have the right to vote. They should vote Communist to show the reactionary interests that the people are determined to recover their democratic rights. A vote for Browder and Ford is a vote for the repeal of the poll tax.

In those states where the imitators of Hitler and Mussolini have barred the Communist Party from the ballot, voters should write in the words, "Communist Party." In those states, such as Alabama, where the Party is on the ballot, **VOTE THE BROWDER AND SICKLE!**

You are voting against the Poll Tax.

You are voting for the right to work, for a job for every able bodied man. You are voting for social security for the unemployed, the aged, the sick and disabled.

You are voting for peace and against capitalist wars.

A big vote in the Southern states for the Communist candidates will force the reactionary interests to stop their attacks on the democratic rights of the people. A big vote for Browder and Ford means no more Gelders fogging in Alabama, no more Gaidens and Talmaidge, no more Scottsboro.

The Rolling Claws



"Look, Justice—there's the catch your father wanted himself up from."

Compare Soviet Elections With Those in America

Along the Arctic coast of the Soviet Union the fall herring run began a few days before the date set for local elections. The fishermen went to sea. Some of the election officials held the elections without the fishermen. The newspaper, "Pravda", official organ of the Communist Party in the Soviet Union, vigorously attacked the action of the officials calling it "A Gross violation of Soviet democracy." For, the newspaper went on to say, what right have election commissioners to hold elections when workers cannot come?

This incident gives us a picture of Soviet democracy, the most genuine democracy that has yet existed for the working class of people. Poisoned by the slanders of the capitalist press, it may come as a shock to some people that in the Soviet Union all men and women over 18 years of age have the right to vote for their representatives and be elected, with the exception of the insane and persons deprived of electoral rights by sentence of court.

This right, reaffirmed in the new constitution, was at one time denied to "exploiting elements." With the successful establishment of Socialism, which has wiped out classes, every adult person can vote, including transient residents, migratory workers, soldiers, sailors, or non-citizens who work in a Soviet industry. In the 1934 elections, 31,000,000 persons were eligible to vote, and 85 per cent of them went to the polls. Compare this with our own Southern states where only 14 to 20% of the population vote, because of undemocratic restrictions such as the poll tax and literacy tests.

Soviet Most Democratic

Which of the two systems, then, would provide the most representative government? Not only do a far greater number of people have the right and exercise the right to vote in the Soviet Union, but at the same time that they elect their representatives, the voters also give them instructions for the work they wish done during the next term of office.

Suppose we were a group of workers in a textile mill in Moscow. We would vote in our factory, electing workers from among ourselves, with whom we had worked side by side at the looms. We would tell them that we wanted them to establish another day nursery for the children of the women workers, that we wanted several new streets paved, that we wanted four new apartment houses built, that we wanted another city park laid out, and that we wanted the sewage system extended and improved.

The deputies whom we elect are pledged to carry out these instructions. They report to us periodically, in the factory, on the progress being made.