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SOUTHERN WORKER

The Paper of the Common People of the South

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Gulf Maritime Workers Strike

Walkout Spreads Despite Terror

By PAT BARR

NEW ORLEANS — 5,000 seamen, longshoremen and other maritime workers in Gulf ports have already joined the national walkout of maritime workers. On nearly every waterfront from Florida to Texas, seamen and longshoremen are picketing the docks. 50% of the Gulf's shipping has been paralyzed, as this is written, in one of the most militant maritime strikes seen in the South.

Night and day, the fires of their picket camps gleam on the waterfront. As hundreds of men are arrested for "vagrancy", "loitering", and under the Alabama anti-picketing law, even greater numbers are registering for strike duty, joining the picket lines.

The strike on the Gulf was called to support the general maritime strike of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific Coast. And it is already turning into a double barreled shot against phoney contracts with shipowners signed by the reactionary officials of the I.W.O. over the condemnation of the union's membership.

The men on the Gulf want union hiring halls too. They want their unions to be strong, progressive, fighting organizations that have gained so much for the maritime workers on the West Coast. They want better wages, the same as those paid on the West Coast. They want improved working conditions. If the strike on the Atlantic and Gulf ports becomes 80% effective, and it looks as though it will, the 100,000 maritime workers of the country will demand national wage agreements.



The first union labor farm produce in Louisiana was delivered on November 15th to striking seamen and longshoremen in New Orleans as a strike relief donation. 60 bushels of sweet potatoes and a few gallons of cane syrup went to the back matter; Clyde Johnson, organizer of the Farmers' Union; Charles J. Vignola, in the above picture are Robert Moore, Chairman of the seamen's Union, Vice-President of I.W.O. Local 1225; Wm. Donald, editor of the FEDERATIONIST; strikers and members of the Farmers' Union.

The men on the Gulf want rank and file controlled maritime unions. In the elections now going on in branches of the I.W.O., old line officials are not only resorting to the tactics of beat squads, but are cooperating with shipowners, chambers of commerce, and the police to drive progressive union men out of town, and especially to break the spirit of the strikers.

The unity that was forged in the great maritime struggle of 1924 on the West Coast is another thing that the maritime men in the Gulf are fighting for. The ranks of the longshoremen in several ports are split. The chances of progressive unions which joined the Maritime Federation of the Gulf were jerked by J. P. Ryan, president of the

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Southern Worker

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OF THE SOUTH

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Of the U. S. in the South

Editor **JIM MALLORY**

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It Can't Happen Here?

But it's happening! The grand jury of Jefferson County, in spite of overwhelming evidence in the case, refused to indict three men identified by Joseph Gelders as the thugs who kidnapped and unmercifully beat him into unconsciousness, because he with other Alabama liberals and progressives sought the release of Jack Barton.

The jury was afraid that the Gelders case would be another Scottsboro case. By their flagrant miscarriage of justice, the courts of Jefferson County will again draw upon themselves all the criticism, protest and mass action throughout the country that millions of workers, farmers, liberals and those who demand the enforcement of the Bill of Rights can call forth.

Outlaw Company Unions

F.C.I. is attempting to put over another one on the steel workers of Birmingham through its company unions. Its new contract which freezes the standards of the workers and grant only an average 10% wage increase have been presented to the representatives of company unions. It was reported that representatives of company unions have refused to sign these contracts.

As long as company unions continue to exist, the steel barons will continue to use them as a means of beating down the workers. An immediate Federal investigation of the whole so-called "employee representation plan" in the steel industry has been requested of Secretary of Labor Perkins by the Pittsburgh District Council of the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation employee representatives. She passed the buck to the

National Labor Relations Board. It does not matter which federal body does the investigating AS LONG AS THE TRUE FACTS ARE MADE PUBLIC.

Terror on The Gulf

Over 250 maritime workers were arrested in Gulf ports from Mobile to Galveston in the first week of the maritime strike on the Gulf and on the East Coast. Fifty workers in Mobile were arrested under the notorious Alabama anti-picketing ordinance, 140 in New Orleans for 'loitering' and 'vagrancy,' 38 in Galveston, and many others in the other seaports.

The shipowners of New Orleans and other coastal cities have taken the law into their own hands against the maritime workers who struck in support of their West Coast brothers, for higher wages, and union hiring halls.

If labor's right to fight for better living conditions is to be protected, the ALABAMA ANTI-PICKETING LAW MUST GO! Wholesale arrests and the intimidation of striking maritime workers must be stopped. Civil liberties of workers, guaranteed to them by the U. S. Constitution must be upheld.

FROM THE EDITOR.

Somebody had a brainstorm and the result is this new format for the SOUTHERN WORKER. I'm not apologetic when I admit that the idea wasn't mine, though I did have something to do with it, just the job of getting it out if nothing else.

The idea of putting the SOUTHERN WORKER out this form instead of that of a newspaper has been circulating in the brains of our readers and some of the people who work on the paper for quite some time, it seems. Finally they let me in on it. What with the SUN-DAY WORKER gaining in popularity from week to week, and the DAILY WORKER having an inside place on the track in the bargain, we had to get up on our toes, too.

Anyway we've really just started experimenting. Seeing as how this paper isn't run to suit a select group of owners, but is published to meet the needs, demands, likes and dislikes of its readers, we want you, the readers to be the judges of whether this is what the SOUTHERN WORKER should be like. Write in and tell us what you think of it to Box 572, Birmingham, Ala.



1936 Showed The Way — Forward! For A National
Farmer-Labor Party!



JOHN L.
LEWIS,
Leader of the
C I O and
WILLIAM
GREEN,
President of the
A. F. of L.

Ask A F of L to Lift C I O Suspensions

BULLETIN

TAMPA, Fla.—The most serious attempt to smash the unity of the American Labor Movement was made here when the American Federation of Labor at its 86th convention voted to boycott men's clothing made by the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, one of the CIO unions which has just announced a nation-wide drive to organize the unorganized in its industry.

TAMPA, Fla.—With resolution after resolution asking for unity within the trade movement on the basis of organizing the mass production industries put forward at the 86th convention of the American Federation of Labor in session here, President William Green became more and more nervous about the tremendous opposition to the suspension of the 16 CIO unions by international unions, central leaders and labor councils and state bodies of the Federation.

As the SOUTHERN WORKER goes to press, it became obvious that the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. would not attempt to have the unions affiliated with the CIO expelled from the A. F. of L. but would demand approval of the suspension and the right to expel them when the "Executive Council sees fit."

In a special statement to the press, Green declared: "In my opinion the wise and best course is to refrain from taking drastic action. It is my opinion that the standing committee appointed by the council should continue to function . . . willing and ready to meet with the committee from the Committee for Industrial Organization if that organization decides to appoint a committee to meet and confer.

"In pursuance of this policy the convention can confer on the Executive Council full authority to deal with the situation in such a way and in such a manner as circumstances and conditions may warrant."

Eight of the ten resolutions handed in upon the CIO question voiced the opinion of the state, city and federal labor unions that unity should best be

The American Scene

November—1936!

ON THE WATERFRONT AND SHIPS: 700,000 men on the West, Gulf and the Atlantic Coasts stand shoulder to shoulder in solid defense of their unions and union wages.

IN THE STEEL MILLS: The Union drive goes forward 82,000 steel workers already in the Amalgamated.

IN THE TEXTILE MILLS AND SHOPS: The United Textile Workers Union announces another great drive for higher wages and increased membership with the SOUTH as a concentration area.

IN THE GARMENT SHOPS: The International Ladies Garment Workers Union has set aside \$500,000 for a nation-wide drive. It will be a war to the last ditch against the sweatshops. Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union has begun a far reaching campaign to organize the unorganized.

PITTSBURGH—Pittsburgh steel workers grabbed the candy and threw the pill back at the steel barons. They took a 10% wage increase but refused to sign an agreement which would have frozen their standard of living and forfeited their right to collective bargaining. Company union memberships in Gary, Duquesne, as well as Pittsburgh have refused to sign the contracts.

NEW YORK—Thousands of trade unionists massed in Madison Square Garden on November 11, in one of the greatest anti-war demonstrations held in New York. Senator Nye of the Nominations Committee and vice-president Luigi Antonini of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union warned that company unions increased their membership by 600% in the last war, and that universal conscription is certain in the next war with court martials for workers who don't approve of mass murder.

DETROIT—Father Coughlin publicly admitted that his pro-fascist National Union for Social Justice had been "thoroughly discredited" as a result of the landslide vote for Roosevelt. The radio priest who recently declared, "I take the road to fascism," will dissolve his organization. He had no other choice.

PITTSBURGH—The number of unions represented in the Committee for Industrial Organization was increased to 15 when committee voted to accept the applications for membership of the United Radio and Electrical Workers of America and the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America. This brings the total number of union workers officially supporting the CIO through their international organizations to 1,599,000.

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American Seaman Tells of Conditions Aboard Soviet Ship

By LARRY CLIFFORD

When the Soviet steamship Chelyuskinets made Mobile as a port of call recently the local papers carried a story on the coincidence that steamers from four nations were berthed in Mobile at the same time. With the news story was a picture of seven of the twelve women members of the crew of the Chelyuskinets and this, so said the story, "stole the show" from the other steamers.

I am a seaman, and no doubt this makes me see news value differently from a capitalist newspaper report. To me, the presence of women in the crew was not the most newsworthy item about the Soviet ship. It was rather the superior living and working conditions that these women and men members of the crew enjoy. That was the news story.

When I came aboard it was too late for chow. An American seaman standing at the head of the gangway, picking his teeth, rubbed his stomach as I nodded hello. "Swell feed!" he said. He was "on the beach" and he fed himself aboard the ships in the harbor during the time he waited for his turn to ship. Answering my question, he replied: "They sure feed on here." Coming from a seaman this was indeed rare praise and it needed only a glance at the healthy looking members of the crew standing amidships to know that he was not lying.

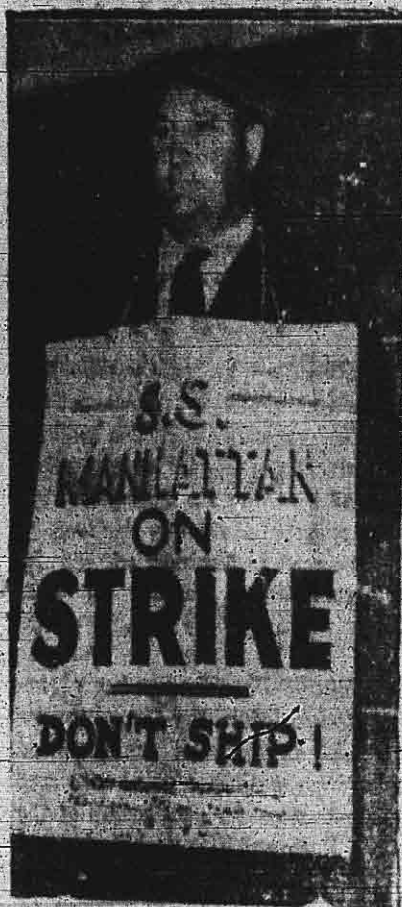
Just off the messroom of the Chelyuskinets was to be found an alcove with writing desks and a piano, unheard of bits of furniture on capitalist ships. Everything was shipshape, the linoleum on the deck glistened from the sun that broke through the curtained ports. The brass on the ports had been painted over. Soviet crews do not have to waste time and energy polishing and repolishing brass, an operation that does no good except to give a marine superintendent something to grinch over. The linoleum on the deck of the messroom and living quarters was a pleasant con-

capitalist ships.

The crew of the Chelyuskinets does not have to buck heavy seas and strong winds going from their quarters to take over the watch. They are all quartered amidships with protected alleyways leading to the bridge and engine room.

The quarters, too, are a pleasant contrast to even the more advanced of the capitalist ships. Instead of the six to 'umteen bunks stacked one on top of the other in the fo'c's'le of capitalist ships, two Soviet seamen are assigned to each cabin. The cabins are roomy, with plenty of light and the two bunks are on the same level. As both occupants of the cabin are on the same watch, it is not necessary to wake the whole crew whenever watches are changed.

The bathrooms of the Chelyuskinets are a sailor's dream. After years of bathing in a bucket with water that has to be hauled from amidships, a sight of these showers is enough to tempt a seaman to become a stowaway on the Chelyuskinets.



Seamen picketing the docks in New York City. More than 150 ships have been struck in East Coast and Gulf ports.

Maritime Strike Spreads in Gulf

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

International Longshoremen's Association.

In both New Orleans and Mobile, where the longshoremen are in two different organizations, the rank and file of the membership has gone out to unify their ranks on the picket line, for 100% unity to oppose the bosses, to win better working conditions.

In spite of the daily arrests on the waterfront, in the face of raids upon boarding houses, saloons, and all places frequented by waterfront workers, in spite of prohibition of picketing in Mobile, New Orleans, and Galveston, and in the face of police raids upon strike headquarters, the marine workers of the South are out to win.

"They've put more than 250 seamen and longshoremen in the can, including the leaders of the strike in almost every port," a seaman in the New Orleans strike headquarters on Chartres Street declared. "But they can't stop the ships from coming out."

And all their anti-picketing ordinances, and arrests, their virtual suspension of civil liberties in every seaport of the Gulf can't prevent the already organized maritime workers from organizing the unorganized in their industry. In New Orleans, the first meeting of the Mississippi River bargemen was held to start a union. It will be the teamsters next, in Mobile and in other ports.

The maritime workers of the Gulf have awakened as never before. They're out to win their strike, for a new and greater unity of the workers in their industry, under the banner of industrial unionism, for fighting, cohesive National Maritime Federation.

Legion Begins Drive on Communists

ATLANTA, Ga. — The American Legion's new post, 150, at Gate City has announced its intention to make a new drive on radicals and Communists in Georgia and America. The new post is composed mostly of policemen and firemen.

The intention of this post is to urge Georgia and other states to outlaw the Communist Party in future elections.

Labor Delegation Flays Governor's Strike Committee

BIRMINGHAM Ala. — Overriding charges by a delegation of labor leaders who declared that the fact-finding committee appointed by Governor Graves to study the "incentive wage plan" of the T. C. I. was inoperative, the governor called upon the red ore miners to "have patience and give the board a chance to work things out."

"The committee has not accomplished a single objective and was practically inoperative," declared a leader of the delegation which visited the governor.

Following the conference, William Mitch, president of the State Federation of Labor said that the delegation was particularly protesting the reign of terror instituted by T. C. I. to prevent workers from describing actual conditions.

Nothing has been done to force the employers to live up to the agreement that union red ore miners had been discriminated against in re-employment of workers at the Tennessee Company's mines after a strike last summer.

The strike was called when T. C. I. announced that wages in the future would be based on tonnage and hours. The miners agreed to return to work while a strike board studied both claims.

Unions Organize Defense Group

BIRMINGHAM: (UNSA) — Defense of labor organizers against terroristic acts is the aim of a new committee for the protection of constitutional rights, set up by union labor in the Birmingham district.

William Mitch, miner's leader, who is regional director of the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee and President of the State Federation of Labor was named chairman. He announced that an immediate protest on the Gelders case was filed with the state, county and city authorities "as a safeguard of the constitutional right of every man in free America."

"Yellow Dog" Contract Rejected By Company Union Steel Men

STEEL



BIRMINGHAM—Birmingham's steel workers have swung into line with the thousands of steel workers throughout the country who refused to accept the "yellow dog contracts" offered by the steel barons, according to leaders of the CIO and the Steel Workers Organizing Committee here.

While the information was unofficial, organizers of the S.W.O.C. declared that the information was obtained from an official representative of the Tennessee Coal, Iron, & Railroad Company's company union who is working with the S.W.O.C.

The contract offered by T.C.I. and other steel companies in the Birmingham area, not only freezes the living standards of Birmingham's 25,000 steel workers, but does not even grant the much publicized 10% wage increase to all its workers.

According to the wage agreement submitted to the company union:

"Basic common labor now fixed at 23.5 cents per hour shall be increased to 25 cents an hour."

"Basic occupational labor rates now fixed at 27 cents per hour shall be increased to 41 cents per hour."

"The rates of other occupations shall be increased 5.5 cents per hour, which together with the increase in common labor and occupational labor rates, will make a TOTAL OVER-ALL INCREASE OF TEN (10) PERCENT OF ITS PRESENT TOTAL."

U.S. Steel, of which T.C.I. is a subsidiary, increased its profits 225% from 1933 to 1935!

Totally ignoring the fact that there was only a 10% increase in workers' earnings during the period in which the average increase in the steel corporation's profits was 225%, and even the cost of living itself rose 20%, T.C.I. offered a "wage stabilization plan" based upon the index to the cost of living of July 15, 1935.

This agreement which would give the company the right to increase OR LOWER wages as the cost of living goes up or down in comparison with the cost of living on July 15, 1935, would bind workers to agree to stop fighting for higher standards of living.

Women "Persuade" Scab Railroaders

SHREVEPORT, La. — Wives and daughters of 700 striking railroad workers on the Louisiana and Arkansas Railroad have joined their menfolk in attempting to pull scab crews off the line's locomotives.

About ten women boarded an engine at the south end of the Minden yards one evening and "persuaded" two scabs, Engineer E. H. Cole and Fireman E. H. Waters to leave the train. The scabs left the yard minus their clothing.

Called on September 19, the strike of the 700 members of the Railway Brotherhoods for higher wages, has been marked by an extraordinary militant action.

While C. P. Crouch, general manager of the road has refused to even discuss arbitration, it was reported that Governor Leche of Louisiana would call out the National Guard to "protect" the company's property and strikebreakers.

Share Croppers Unanimously Vote Unity with Farmers Union

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—The Executive Council of the Share Croppers Union voted unanimously for unity with the Alabama Farmers' Union at its November 15th meeting. After hearing the committee report on discussion with A.F.U. leaders at the Farmers' Union convention and after discussing the resolution adopted in the July convention of the S.C.U., it was decided that the union should act as once—

The farm wage workers in the Share Croppers Union will join the American Federation of Labor in accordance with the convention resolution. In communities where the large majority of the farms are operated by wage labor, A.F. of L. unions will be organized. In communities where tenants and wage workers are about equally divided, both a Farmers' Union and an A. F. of L. local will be set up. In communities where there are only two or three wage workers, they will be organized in the Farmers' Union. At all times the closest cooperation between Farmers' Union locals and A. F. of L. farm wage workers will be practiced.

The Executive Council decided that the Share Croppers Union would continue its present organization and activity until the work of combining with the Farmers' Union and the A. F. of L. is complete.

Eight proposals for immediate action were worked out and adopted by the Council. They are:

1. A state-wide petition campaign for abolition of the poll tax in Alabama. All labor, farmer, church and other groups will be called upon to support this campaign.

2. A campaign to win drought relief and better conditions on W.P.A. jobs was decided on. All locals of the union will be asked to send letters to Washington stating the needs of the farmers and demanding relief. W.P.A. workers will be organized more strongly to fight for higher wages, transportation to work, and better conditions on the job.

3. To organize 50 locals of the Farmers' Union by January 1.

4. To conduct a school for union organizers.

5. To examine school conditions in rural areas and prepare for a school strike in some sections.

6. To begin a drive for sharecrop contracts immediately.

7. To get 1,000 subscriptions for SOUTHERN FARM LEADER by January 1.

8. To begin organization of farm wage workers into their own union after the next Executive Council meeting where the A. F. of L. convention will be discussed.

Organize Farmer-Labor Cooperative Plan

ST. LANDRY, La.—The Farmers' Union in St. Landry parish is organizing rapidly on the Farmer-Labor Cooperative plan, and already an agreement has been reached parish is organizing rapidly on the Farmer-Labor Cooperative plan, and already an agreement has been reached with the New Orleans Central Trades Council. By next season the farmers plan to be well enough organized to name the price of sweet potatoes themselves and sell direct to the merchants who support the union label.

Agreement with the Baton Rouge, Alexandria, Fort Arthur and other Central Labor bodies will be secured in preparation for the next season when the Farmers' Union hopes to tie up the sweet potato crop as a 100% union label crop.

Kids Give Pennies To Go To School

JACKSON, Miss.—Mississippi school children have been donating anything from sales tax tokens to dimes to farm produce to keep schools open. In the meantime the state treasury announces a "surplus" of \$16,000,000.

The law requires that Mississippi schools be open at least four months. Funds ran short. The schools were closing. Teachers were protesting non-payment of salaries. The State Supreme Court denied the right to use funds set aside for school expenses after the required four month period. So between the kids' donations and violating the Supreme Court decision, education in the most backward state in the Union staggers along.

Cotton Row

By JERRY COLEMAN

A delegate to the Sioux City Drouth Conference returned and reported to the locals in his County. At one of the meetings a new member was so pepped up by the report that he said "If it takes work, time, money and even blood, I'm with the union a better my condition." That's the real union spirit.

A white farmer in Tallapoosa County can't send his children to school because they have no shoes or warm clothes. This might sound like one case out of a thousand, but it isn't. This farmer said "most of my white and colored brothers are in the same boat."

In Louisiana Governor Leche is worried about colored farmers organizing. He went to Opelousa, a center of the Farmers' Union, and told the landlords and business men not to let the colored man vote. "What's the matter Governor, are you afraid they don't like you and your gang?"

An Alabama farmer discussing the political situation said, "We're supposed to pay a Poll Tax to vote. The money is supposed to go for schools to educate us. But we can't pay the Poll Tax, so we can't have decent schools, so we can't be educated to know how the bosses are tricking and robbing us, and it goes on like that in a circle. If we get rid of the Poll Tax, then we can vote to make the state give us the schools."

Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi were left out of the emergency drought relief area. One of the thousands of farmers in this state that needs relief said, "It's a shame we have to pay the salaries and expenses of government officials to deny us what we need, and then we have to raise our own money to go up there and make them do their job right."

NOT TO SHARE CROPPERS!

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Federal Land Bank of New Orleans has sold over 3000 farms in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi for nearly \$4,000,000 during the first eight months of this year.

Bankhead Farm Gets New Units

JASPER, Ala.—The Bankhead Farm near here will have 75 units for those new animals called the "subsistence" farmer. The new "subsistence" farmer won't raise much in the line of a cash crop. He will raise things for home use and thus cut down the surplus on the market.

In Europe they call these farmers peasants. They are poor as a snake. They can't get a footing anywhere. These peasants have revolted several times against their conditions.

The old tradition for American farmers is being turned back to the peasant farm period.

This is all part of the Wallace-Tugwell program to take 2 million farmers out of cash crops. Well you can fool a farmer once, but look out for the reckoning day.

Barton is Freed By State Court

Jack Barton, secretary of the Bessemer section of the Communist Party is a free man now after almost four months a prisoner of the Bessemer Police on a charge of possessing seditious literature. His freedom came November 11, when the Alabama Court of Appeals ruled that the city ordinance under which Barton was convicted violated the Constitution of Alabama.

He was convicted in the Bessemer Police court July 12, and sentenced to 180 days in jail and \$100 fine. The fine was later changed to 200 days, making his sentence more than a year. His "crime" was possessing several copies of the July issue of COMMUNIST, a monthly magazine that circulates freely through the mails. His case was appealed first to Judge Gardner Goodwin's court on a writ of habeas corpus but Judge Goodwin upheld the decision which railroaded Barton to jail.

Liberal and progressive organizations throughout the country rallied to the defense of Barton's constitutional rights. The National Committee for Defense of Political Prisoners, the American Civil Liberties Union, the International Labor Defense and the Communist Party formed a united front to

Ala. Farmers Union Convention Votes State Organization Drive

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The high light of the Alabama Farmer's Union Convention here last month was an agreement to unite with the Share Croppers Union in a drive to organize all Alabama working farmers.

Convention speakers included E. E. Kennedy, national secretary of the Farmer's Union, Clyde L. Johnson, secretary-treasurer of the Share Croppers Union, and E. Z. Yeager, vice-president of the Alabama Federation of Labor, among others.

A resolution endorsing many of the demands of the Share Croppers Union was passed unanimously. Another resolution on a Farmer-Labor cooperation plan for securing control of markets and cost of production prices for farm products was passed. This resolution provides for organizing cotton farmers to control 50% of the cotton produced, put the union label on the bale, and by agreement with the Textile Workers Union, have the workers refuse to spin anything but union label cotton. This plan would give the farmer the power to name the price of cotton, and according

appeal the case to higher court.

When Earl Browder, Communist presidential candidate was in the city he visited Barton's cell and expressed his support of his fight to win his freedom.

A number of Birmingham liberals joined the fight and several times a delegation of ministers and liberals called on Mayor Jap Bryant to seek Barton's release. Professor Joseph Gelders was especially active in the campaign to free Barton and it was this activity that led the reactionaries to have Gelders kidnaped and flogged.

The Communist Party pointed out that not only was the law under which Barton was convicted unconstitutional but that it did not apply to Communist literature since the Communist Party does NOT advocate the overthrow of the government by force and violence. The big corporations which control Bessemer, however, were determined to keep Barton in jail.

The decision, rendered by Justice W. H. Sanford, held that literature specifically advocating the overthrow of the government by force and violence might be held unlawful, but that the ordinance unduly limited freedom of speech.

to the plan one price, equaling the cost of production price, would be named as the price for the whole year.

A plan for cotton cooperative marketing associations was voted down and then the resolution was amended to make it apply to counties that voted for it. This plan would mean securing control of three million bales of cotton, storing it in Farmers' Union warehouses, borrowing 80% of the value from the government to give the farmer some immediate cash, and then force the cotton exchange to agree to a higher price for the cotton by holding it until the market ran short. It was pointed out in the convention that farmers can't afford to build warehouses and go in for large expenditures. Also the cotton graders, who have been getting a dollar a bale for grading cotton, are getting too much money from the farmers.

R. H. Sartain of Parrish was re-elected President, G. S. Graves of Sumikon was re-elected Secretary, and W. O. Clemons of Baldwin County was re-elected Vice-President. A resolution dividing the state into six county districts was passed.

Resettlement Ousts Louisiana Farmers

OPELOUSA, La.—The Resettlement Administration is trying to put all tenants off the St. Landry farm to make room for 15 others in making it a project of the administration.

Only three tenants on the place were officially notified to move, and then not until November 7, when most arrangements for places are made in July and August. Louis Fontenot, the Resettlement supervisor, has admitted they are getting a raw deal. The evictions are supposed to start December 1.

Most of the tenants have been on the place a long time. Harry Griffin helped clear the land on the place 17 years ago.

All the tenants are members of the Farmers' Union and have adopted the slogan "We shall not be moved!" They are demanding that the Resettlement furnish them loans to buy mules, repair the farms, and to put in a crop.

Reactionary Forces Receive Setback In Election

Communists Come Through Elections with Increased Vote

The Communist Party has come through the elections in a better position than at any time in its history. The Party worked with all its strength to defeat Landon as the main fascist danger in this country, and the Party was no doubt an important factor in mobilizing the big vote against the Republican standard bearer. Undoubtedly the radio speeches of James W. Ford exposing Landon and Knox were largely responsible for millions of Negroes breaking for the first time, their ties with the Republican Party.

In almost every instance the Party showed big increases in its own votes. But this is not the test of our success. Obviously many voters who have cast their ballots for the Communist Party voted for Roosevelt in their determination to defeat Landon. The Party utilized the campaign primarily to educate the people to the need of a Farmer-Labor Party and it reached literally millions of people with this message.

In many Southern cities where open Communist meetings had never been held, Earl Browder spoke to large and enthusiastic audiences. In several Southern cities, James W. Ford addressed Negro and white workers. For the first time in history, the Durham (North Carolina) Court House provided a platform for this brilliant Negro speaker. In Tampa, Earl Browder made a fight for civil liberties which won him and the Party warm applause throughout the South.

The experiences of our Party in the elections, however, contain some very important lessons and focus attention on evils which must be ended if a party of the common people, the Farmer-Labor Party, is to succeed.

First is the poll tax which kept thousands away from the polls November 3. Second is the disfranchisement of the Negro people. The right of the Negro to vote must be won if the labor vote is to be increased.

Third is the absence of a secret ballot in many states, especially in Alabama. In this state every ballot is numbered and the reactionary politicians can quickly learn who voted the "radical" tickets. The Communist vote in Alabama can be appreciated only when we consider the intimidation which every citizen who voted Communist must face.

The way to establish the secret ballot absolutely is to force the legislature to install voting machines.

Fourth is the practice of reactionary state administrations preventing minority parties from appearing on the ballot. In Georgia the Tammany machine illegally kept the Communists off. The same was done in Florida, and North Carolina. Mississippi and Louisiana make the requirements so difficult that a minority party finds it almost impossible to get on.

The Communist Party urges all progressives to join with it in fighting for the elimination of these shackles of democracy.



EARL BROWDER, Secretary of the Communist Party of the United States, in a photo taken in Birmingham during his recent political campaign tour of the South.

Roosevelt's Election Is Victory for America's Common People

The reactionary interests received a real set-back in the overwhelming defeat of their candidate for the presidency, Alf Landon. President Roosevelt was re-elected by a majority of 10 million, the largest in our history. The defeat of Landon was a victory for the common people of America. It was the common people alarmed by the danger of an out and out Wall Street government that defeated Landon.

Landon had the backing of every big corporation in the country. The Liberty League poured millions of dollars into his campaign. More than 80% of the big newspapers and magazines backed him and gave the impression that he was sure to win.

In spite of all this, the common people marched to the polls and defeated Landon and elected Roosevelt. As never before organized labor presented a united front in the elections and for the first time played a relatively independent role in the elections. The CIO, Labor's Non-Partisan League and the American Labor Party worked

hard to mobilize Labor's vote against Landon and succeeded. Pennsylvania and certain New England states which rarely if ever go Democratic voted for Roosevelt as a result of the Labor vote. Farmers, dissatisfied as they are with the New Deal farm program, voted against Landon. **THE ROOSEVELT VOTE WAS A CLASS VOTE. THE COMMON PEOPLE VOTING AGAINST LANDON AND THE BIG MONEY INTERESTS.**

This election should give organized labor, the farmers, and common people confidence in their own power to meet the money power at the polls and defeat them.

It is not true, however, that the people who voted for Roosevelt are satisfied with his record. On the contrary, they were determined to defeat Landon at all costs, and voted for Roosevelt in the belief that this was the only way they could secure their needs. The vote of the common people was not a vote for a man or a party, it was a vote for definite objectives, such as:

Higher wages, shorter hours, the right to organize and bargain collectively, abolition of the Southern wage differential.

Real social security with full protection of jobs for the unemployed.

Protection for farmers against farm closures and evictions, with prices for farm products sufficient to meet the cost of production.

Equality for the Negro people, abolition of segregation, Jim-crow, lynching, the enforcement of the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments to the Constitution.

Taxes on big incomes and against the ultra tax.

Protection of the people from assault of the big monopolies on their living standards.

Protection of civil liberties and democratic rights.

Against war and the fascist financial set-up.

In other words, the tremendous majority of Roosevelt was a mandate that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Farmer Labor Party?

WASHINGTON — Labor's Non-Partisan League will become a permanent organization to support progressive legislation and to help form a new political realignment in America.

This announcement by League leaders followed close upon a statement by John L. Lewis, chairman of the CIO and president of the United Mine Workers of America, in which he declared, "The workers of the country must organize themselves to consolidate their political victory and translate it into material benefits and reforms."

"The election is a rebuke to the insolence and arrogance of organized wealth. Its service and capacity has been checked and must be further restrained in the interest of the people."

Bessemer Law Invalidated, C. P. Demonstrates It Is Legal Party

"The Communist Party is a legal party and defends its legality." This stated a resolution of the Ninth Convention of the Communist Party. The decision of the Alabama Court of Appeals invalidating the anti-Communist ordinance of Bessemer and ordering the release of Jack Barton is one result of our determination to demonstrate that we are a legal party.

The reactionaries hate the Communists not because we "advocate force and violence." The reactionaries know that we Communists do NOT advocate force and violence. The reactionaries hate us because we are the best fighters for the rights and well-being of the common people.

We expect to continue this fight regardless of the persecution visited upon us by the big corporations, their pol-

iticians and their things. Jack Barton is a good example of a Communist. The Bessemer jail may have broken his health but it did not break his spirit. He returns to the fresh air of freedom determined to carry on the fight for the people.

When Barton's health gave way in the foul gas hole known as the Bessemer jail, liberals forced Mayor Bryant to transfer him to the Sanitarium where he remained until the court of Appeals rendered its decision.

If you, too, believe that we workers and farmers can make a better world where misery, hunger and war will be no more, your place is in the Communist Party. Join with us now to build a Farmer-Labor Party to protect the democratic rights of the people, to win a better life for those who toil.

Ala. CP Vote up 70%

BIRMINGHAM — Final election returns for the state of Alabama show that the Communist Party increased almost 70% over last party's vote in 1932. On November 3, a total of 879 citizens of Alabama voted for Browder and Ford against 405 in 1932.

The Socialist Party vote in Alabama fell from 2,650 in 1932 to a mere 243 in 1936. Lemke, Union Party candidate, received 548 votes.

Many more workers would have voted for Browder and Ford in this state, a Communist spokesman said if there were a secret ballot here. The fact that the corporations know exactly how their employees vote prevented many from mobilizing their jobs by voting Communist.

Nov. 7th, What It Means

On November 7, of this year the working masses throughout the world celebrated the 19th anniversary of the victory of their brothers and sisters in one-sixth of the world—the Soviet Union. On November 7, 1917, the workers and farmers of a great nation wrested control of their country from the ruinous and greedy hands of capitalism and began the building of the first great socialist country. Under the guidance of the Communist Party and its great leaders Lenin and Stalin the people of the Soviet Union have continued that building with greater and greater success. In 1936, the Soviet Union enters its 20th year as a great bulwark against fascism and war and a glorious example to the world of the success of Socialism.

Today the success of the Soviet Union points the way to peace, freedom and plenty for the masses of all countries—the way of workers' revolution. The triumph of Socialism in the Soviet Union shows the masses of every country, that, once they take the revolutionary, the Leninist road, they can end hunger, insecurity and war. It shows them also that they can build a real democracy, a democracy for the millions, such as is found today only in the Soviet Union and is expressed in that great milestone of human progress—the new Soviet Constitution.

LESSON OF OUR DAY

In the victory of Socialism in the Soviet Union lies the great lesson of our day. In Germany, Italy and Austria the path of reformist opportunism and class collaboration betrayed the people step by step and prepared the way for fascism to grind them down under its bloody dictatorship. In Russia, the path of workers' revolution led to victory—to Socialism, freedom and prosperity.

Today a key battle of the long fight for socialism is going on in America and in the world—it is the life and death struggle against fascism.

In every capitalist country where fascism has not yet triumphed, the capitalist class, fearful of losing its power, is watching for an opportunity to crush labor under fascist dictatorship so that capitalism and the rule of the capital-

ists may continue. On the international scene the fascist nations are preparing to let loose the dogs of war on the world. Hitler, Germany, and militarist Japan are waiting for the opportune moment to spring at the throats of the democratic nations, and, above all, to attack and destroy the workers' father-

land, the Soviet Union. In every country the reactionaries are rallying around Hitler and Mussolini for the creation of a world front of fascism to destroy democracy, attack the Soviet Union, and plunge the whole world into the horrors of a second world war.

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19th Anniversary of Revolution



Thugs Kidnap Atlanta Boy

ATLANTA, Ga.—A band of armed thugs were foiled in their attempt to kidnap Arnold Kay, chairman of the Atlanta Forum, when they mistook Roy Kotlicke, Kay's 16 year old brother, for the person they intended to "ride" out into the country and "lend to".

Kay, 21, is known in Atlanta for his activity in the struggle here for free speech. The Atlanta Forum is a non-political organization which stands for the right to present to the public any current topic, and the right to present both sides of that topic.

Kotlicke, a school boy, was coming out of a downtown building when he was accosted by men representing themselves as the "feds". They handcuffed him, put a gun in his hands and

shoved him into a waiting car. When they started questioning him about the Atlanta Forum, after they had sped miles into the country, the youth understood that they had mistaken him for his brother. After he finally convinced them of this, they turned off their lights, shaved him out of the car, and drove away before he was able to get the license number.

They gave him this death warning to take to his brother:

"Tell your brother to close his forum and quit holding meetings or you both will go for a ride from which you won't come home."

The boy's father, Barney Kotlicke, has announced that he will demand a federal investigation of the kidnaping.

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In America also the reactionaries are preparing to meet and defeat their attacking force.

In America the worst reactionaries have just suffered a temporary defeat. The leaders of American reaction organized their efforts around the candidacy of Alfred M. Landon for the presidency of the United States. On November 3, the American people gave those leaders of reaction their answer by sending Landon to overwhelming defeat. But the rulers of American industry, who desire also to remain the rulers of American life, will not give up so easily as that. Their strength is still tremendous. The fight will go on.

If the American people are to win this fight, they must have their own party through which they can fight their own battles, a party whose policies they can democratically control—a Farmer-Labor Party.

In the great struggles which are to come the people of the South will play an important part. Great things are happening in the South today, as everywhere in the United States. Women are organizing against the high cost of living. Farmers are demanding higher prices for their crops. Hundreds of longshore men and seamen in Gulf ports are striking in sympathy with their West Coast brothers for union hiring halls and higher wages. The labor movement inspired by the CIO is striding forward to organize the un-

organized. The youth of America is on the march, demanding jobs and education. Negroes and whites in the North and in the South, are fighting for social, economic and political equality. A national Farmer-Labor Party is needed to unite all of these mass movements and struggles for a better life.

As the American workers organized in their own political party, struggle for these things, they will learn by experience that the only way to carry these struggles to final victory is the way taken by the Russian workers on November 7, 1917—the way of social revolution.

Workers in the mills and the mines, in the shops, in the office, in the fields, women, youth, Negroes and whites! If you want a free, happy prosperous South, if you want to fight for the right of your union, your professional groups and your women's organizations to live and grow; if you are against fascism which will destroy these organizations; if you are against war; if you want unemployment insurance, if you want adequate relief to the unemployed and the farmer; if you want the poll tax abolished so that you can vote; if you want the same wages for the same work in the North and the South, you belong with us in the Communist Party.

Join us in building a Farmer-Labor Party.

Join us in fighting to bring the South what our brothers in the Soviet Union have already won; prosperity, unskilled opportunity for all—Socialism!

Reactionaries Get Set-back

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the people demanded that he carry out. Will he do it? We must remember that Roosevelt has always compromised with Wall Street. Wall Street will now concentrate on achieving under Roosevelt what they would have liked under Landon. They will bring all kinds of pressure to bear against Roosevelt.

They will have the support of many reactionary politicians who were elected on the Democratic ticket.

They will attempt, through Father Coughlin to elect other reactionary politicians to Congress in 1938.

They still have money, power, influence. And Roosevelt still listens to them.

The only way to achieve their own program is for the common people to organize independently for political action, and constantly put pressure on Roosevelt and Congress to enact laws beneficial to the people. Organized labor, the farmer and the middle classes must get together and build the Farmer-Labor Party in every state. In Massachusetts and Wisconsin where such parties are organized, the people won real victories. This can be done in Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, the Carolinas and every Southern state, too.

Working Class Leader Dies

ATLANTA, Ga.—Dorothy Calhoun, Georgia leader, militant textile worker, died here on October 13 from rheumatic fever contracted in prison last spring. She was one of the group of Negro and white workers arrested during a police raid in Atlanta last May.

Although she was a sick girl at the time, prison attendants poured hot water over her and threw her into solitary confinement, where she collapsed. She never left the hospital after she was released from prison.

Her friends and comrades who knew her as a lovable girl and a staunch fighter for the rights of the Southern workers hope that when the other 13 defendants are tried in Atlanta this month, the courthouse will be packed with workers as a tribute to Dorothy Calhoun's memory.

Mobile's Scribes And Pharisees

BY JANE CRAIK SPEED

Editor's note: Miss Jane Speed, a native of Montgomery Alabama and campaign manager for Earl Browder and James W. Ford, spoke over radio stations WSFA in Montgomery and WALA in Mobile, during the election campaign. Copies of her speech may be obtained by writing to Miss Speed at Post Office Box 1813, Birmingham, Ala.

I was sitting in a restaurant in Mobile drinking a cup of coffee, on October 29, two days after I had spoken over station WALA for the Communist Party, when I heard a newsboy yelling over and over, "Catholic Bishop Condemns Radio for Red Broadcast." I went out and bought a copy of the MOBILE REGISTER to see what it was all about.

I read a statement by C. R. Shannon saying "...the good people of Mobile were nauseated by ranting remarks in favor of Communism... by an unknown woman calling herself Jane Speed... Her remarks were indecent... the address was like the smell of a sewer... The voice of the so-called Jane Speed or her kind is not welcome to the listeners of WALA as she is out of step with patriotism, with love of God and love of Country."

There was a statement by Bishop Tuolen saying "Communism... preaches destruction of our government... and all religion... a doctrine so hateful to all true Americans... Mr Doody stated that a Legion meeting was being called to consider action. The Mayor said an address attacking public morals should be suppressed. Commissioner Bates said it should be censored. Commissioner Baumhauer said, "It was the worst I have ever heard anywhere." He then asked why Rule No. 178 which provided that no indecent, obscene or profane language shall be uttered over the radio, was not used to prevent the talk.

It was hard for me to realize that it was my speech that they were talking about.

First, I had spoken against the poll tax which keeps 83 out of every 100 adults in Alabama from voting. Does this sound "indecent, obscene or pro-

fane" to you?

I had spoken against the Southern wage differential which gives all Southern workers 20 to 60% lower wages than other American workers, in spite of the natural wealth of the South. I had spoken against poverty, insecurity and suffering of our people. Is it "out of step with patriotism, love of God and love of country" to condemn these crimes against our people?

I had warned against the money-changers, against William Randolph Hearst, the fascist millionaire, against the Liberty League backers of the Republican Party, against the KKK and against all those who would like to see American democracy destroyed and Hitler Fascism in its place. Does this sound "hateful to all true Americans"?

I gave the platform of the Communist Party which said: "Put America back to work. Provide Unemployment Insurance. Save the Young Generation. Guarantee the Land to those who till the Soil. The Rich hold the Wealth of

the Country -- Make the rich pay. Defend and Extend Democratic Rights and Civil Liberties. Full rights for the Negro People. Keep America out of War by keeping War out of the World." I had said let us build a Farmer-Labor Party.

What is there here that "nauseated" the Bishop and "smelled like the sewer" to these Catholic officials?

These rich Catholics show that they have very little in common with the early Christians of the first three centuries of the Catholic Church whose religion was a form of primitive Communism, and who were persecuted and crucified by the rich. Jesus drove the money-changers from the temple and condemned bitterly the Scribes and Pharisees. He died because he stood above all else for the poor and oppressed.

If Jesus were to deliver the Sermon on the Mount in Mobile today these same men who pretend to be Christians would call on rule No. 178 to censor it as obscene, indecent and profane.

"My Old Kentucky Home" of Miners And Unemployed in Harlan County

BY DON WEST

I'm writing about Kentucky Homes. We have a song called "My Old Kentucky Home." I'm writing about two of them. They are both old, all right. No doubt about that. We hear much about the American home. It is sacred. Everybody from Hearst to Henry Ford tells us that.

My first home is in Harlan County. Right by the side of the road. It's the home of a Kentucky worker. Harlan is a rich county, you know. Corporations have rolled up millions here. Big shots from Ford to Andy Mellon have their fingers in Harlan's gold pot down under the mountain.

In the fall time Harlan is beautiful. Sourwood and sassafras bushes speckle the mountains with scarlet flame. My first home nestles back among those colors. You see it as you suddenly round one of the mountain curves. It raps at you like an ugly sore on a giant animal. Huge boulders extend out to the highway. Time has clawed dirt and smaller stones from underneath. It's not quite a cave -- only a rock cliff. A cave would be warmer these winter days.

This is Bill Murray's home. He is an ex-coal miner and union man. Bill

has a wife and a large family of children. They range from three to fifteen years of age. He has stood some old slabs slant-wise against the rocks. They help keep the rawest weather out. But bad winds whip the snow and rain right up under the cliff. The mother bends over a wash-tub. The oldest girl is helping. Part of the washing stretches on a line before the cliff mouth. It will bring a few pennies, and help keep the wolf out of the rock cliff. The smaller kids lie on the dirt. It is dry and dusty like places where hogs use under the rocks in the mountains. The kid's clothes are tattered and threadbare. Their bodies have sores. They can't go to school because they have no clothes fit to wear. The oldest one is 15 and went to the third grade.

Bill stands in front of his home. (a man's home is his castle in America, you know). He looks across the valley to the tipple. He hears the crack of coal cars snaking the black diamond from under the mountains.

"I can load as much coal as anybody in this section," he says. And he looks it. Bill is tall and gaunt, a typical hundred per cent Kentucky mountaineer. His muscles are tough. His blue eyes,

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almost soft, are full of intelligence. They have a clean glitter like pointed steel, as he gazes across the valley. Once he had lived better. That was years ago. He had a job. He worked hard and faithful. He was a union man and a fighter. Harlan operators don't like unions, nor union men. They use machine guns and professional gun thugs to keep them out. Bill is out of work. He was hurt once, and they say he is no good. He was never able to work again.

In the coal towns companies own every thing from the house the miners live in to the preacher and his sermon. They even own Jesus. They have put a special operators brand on him. He is issued from the pulpit on Sunday just like script is pushed out through the cash window. They have made him a sort of company stooge. He is no longer the radical, storm raising fellow who drove the blood sucking money changers out of the temple. He no longer shouts his condemnation of oppression and exploitation. They've repudiated that Jesus. They've changed him to the operator's counterfeit Jesus, just like they substituted company script for regular cash money.

Bill had to move out of the company house in Harlan. Everyone who doesn't make profits for the operators must move. Today you can see him, if you drive the Harlan highway, standing by his cliff, hacking away at a little kindling wood, unable even to get on WPA, wondering what comes next.

My second home is in a beautiful grassy meadow between high mountains. There are many like it around Turkey Knob and Paintville. They squat at the edge of the rich meadow field like little chicken coops around a barn yard. There are no gardens in the bottom land. It belongs to one man. He doesn't need or have time for vegetable gardens. A few garden spots cling to the mountain side up above. They look like sewed patches on the seat of an old pair of blue overalls.

The house is a few ancient boards slapped together. It's another of the old Kentucky homes. Windows are wooden shutters, like the pioneers used. Rains lash through. Winds howl between the cracks. Frost bites keenly at those within. The rickety shed only needs a stout puff of wind to topple it to splinters.

This home is typical of many. I know this one very well. Several nights I've slept there on corn shucks or straw. I've come in late at night and crawled through one of the cracks and

gone to bed to keep from waking up the family by asking them to open a door. I've eaten their bull dog gravy for breakfast, and I saw them worried because their children were half clothed and under nourished. Nine bright eyed, intelligent children. A new baby was born since I was there. A letter says they named it after me. I'm proud of that.

This is the home of Rev. Elihu Trusty. "Lihu", they call him. He is a fighting mountain preacher, a fearless union man, leader of the Worker's Alliance and a veteran coal miner. He says he was born a mountain man, a hundred per cent American and union man.

Elihu is a strongly built man. When he mined coal there was none better. An injury in the mines laid him out. He will never work again under capitalism.

Lately the Workers Alliance has brought pressure to bear to get him a \$22 a month WPA job. He tries to maintain a home on this meager income. But regardless of hardships, he and his whole family are true fighters in the union. Suffering and poverty

stunt their bodies, cause sickness — maybe death, but their strong courage and will to fight for justice are not daunted. Lihu preaches too. But he is no company preacher. His Jesus was not cast in the company script mould. He preaches a fighting Jesus, angry at oppression, poverty and suffering. His is a true working class Jesus, fighting to build militant trade unions and unemployed organizations, fighting against the blood suckers and money changers, for homes for the homeless and those who live in cliffs and cow sheds. Lihu wouldn't have any other kind.

Health in Danger, Birmingham Told

BIRMINGHAM — "Birmingham will not be a safe place to live until increased public health facilities are provided," declared a report placed before the Greater Birmingham Committee.

The report was the basis for the beginning of a campaign to increase the appropriations for the City-County Health Department.

"Typhus," the report declared, "is already a problem in South Alabama and the disease has now appeared in Birmingham." 20 dairies in Jefferson County are not being inspected because health authorities are handicapped by lack of funds.

Leaders of the Parent-Teachers Association pledged their aid in the better health campaign. A resolution passed by them declared, that the "public health service is in a serious condition due to inadequate facilities," and called upon city and county authorities to provide "ample resources for safe and constructive work by the health Department."

More Whites Than Negroes Arrested

Those who believe the Negro element is responsible for the major portion of crime in Birmingham are wrong. Commissioner W. O. Downs pointed out as he received the annual crime report from Chief of Police Luther Bellamy which showed that of the 22,519 persons arrested, 12,171 were white.

Of the latter figure, 2,664 were women. This compared with 1,653 Negro women. Negro males arrested totaled 2,695.

In the Bluegrass

A summer sun that dies,
And dying, throws across broad
fields

Of fertile bluegrass soil,
Rays that illuminate and reveal
The graceful forms of horses.

Clean-limbed thorough-breds
Content and cropping lush bluegrass,
Unworrying for the future,
Secure in the knowledge that horses
in Kentucky

Are never treated as humans are.
These graceful equines know
That palatial stables await them,
That their every want shall be
supplied.

And they crop the grass in deep
contentment.

Not so with workers in this blue-
grass land:

These dying rays of sunlight,
Touch gingerly as if in shame,
A row of hovels wherein workers
live.

A narrow, unkempt street,
With little groups of naked, half-
starved children

Scattered up and down its length.

By a Kentucky Worker

Hosiery Workers Will Start Southern Organization Drive

Grand Jury Refuses To Indict Thugs Who Kidnapped Joseph Gelders

By TED WELLMAN

CHATTANOOGA — Hosiery worker delegates from Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia will assemble at the next meeting of the Tri-State District Council of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers in Chattanooga, Tenn., December 8, to plan a South-wide organization campaign.

The purpose of this meeting, declared Edward F. Callaghan, second vice-president and Southern representative of the union, will be to make formal demands "for a general increase in wages, both in seamless and full-fashioned hosiery mills" and to map out a South-wide organizing campaign to build the Hosiery Workers Union into a powerful organization capable of winning these wage demands.

Mr. Callaghan cited figures to prove that the retail price of foodstuffs had risen 40% since March 1933, while the general cost of living had gone up 20%. He pointed out that "Since the action of the Supreme Court declaring the NRA unconstitutional many hosiery manufacturers imposed wage reductions upon their workers, so that today worthwhile standards in the hosiery industry have completely collapsed. We find many hosiery workers earning wages at levels not in keeping with decent American standards." He also attacked the recent drive to increase hours from 40 to 50 and even 55 hours a week.

Calling for a campaign to break down the differential in wages between workers of the North and South, Mr. Callaghan made public a telegram sent by the last meeting of the Tri-State Council of the Hosiery Union to Labor's Non-Partisan League urging a campaign for passage of minimum wage laws. The telegram said in part: "Tri-State District Council American Federation of Hosiery Workers at regular meeting heartily endorsed efforts of Labor's Non-Partisan League for further liberalism by advancing legislative programs before federal and state governments that will bring about abolition of sweat shop wages in industry and permanent establishment of the 8-hour day and forty hour week as a minimum standard for workers . . ."

BIRMINGHAM — Joseph Gelders, native son of Alabama, former professor at the University of Alabama, is an "agitator," and is therefore not entitled to the protection of the law.

Such was the verdict of the Jefferson County Grand Jury when it refused to find sufficient grounds to indict the men who kidnaped him in Birmingham and then took him to a lonely spot in Chilton County and flogged him into unconsciousness.

Admitting that the evidence in the case was entirely sufficient to indict the men, a member of the jury openly expressed the real reason why no indictment was returned. The grand jury, influenced by Solicitor Bailes, was afraid that the Gelders Case might become another Scottsboro Case in which once again the corporation controlled courts of Jefferson County would have to undergo a withering barrage of accusation and protest by the entire country.

"This is by no means the end of the

case," declared Gelders immediately after learning of the jury's decision. Gelders, who has been one of Alabama's hardest fighters for civil liberties, said that if necessary, he would take the case to the federal authorities.

"I do not believe in outsiders taking the law into their own hands," said one jurymen, "but we called Solicitor Bailes in and he said there was no law under which we could get to radica agitators unless they advocated overthrow of the government . . . I. with the crowd."

Joseph Gelders, "agitator and radical" was brutally lashed on September 24, because of his activities in attempting to have Jack Barton, Communist organizer, released from Bessemer jail to which he had been sentenced for 350 days for possessing a copy of the July issue of the COMMUNIST. Barton was released when the Alabama Supreme Court ruled that the Bessemer law was unconstitutional.

Demand CIO Be Reinstated

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

established on the basis of organizing the mass production industries.

A resolution passed by the convention which called for a drive to organize the mass production industries, did not recognize the necessity of doing so on an industrial basis. If the drive is conducted on a strictly craft union basis the possibilities of a bitter and protracted battle within labor's own ranks at a time when the unity of the labor movement is most necessary looms on the immediate horizon.

One of the worst fence-straddling moves of the reactionary old line leaders of the A. F. of L. was their refusal to allow the Spanish Ambassador to the United States to address the convention. As this is written, reports have come in describing the nation-wide pressure being brought to bear upon the convention so that the case of the Spanish toiling masses vs. the fascists of Spain, Germany, Italy and Portugal may be laid before the convention in an effort to enlist the official support of the A. F. of L.

Outstanding among the resolutions offered for action by the convention

were several calling for an end to discrimination against Negroes in the trade unions and an endorsement of anti-lynching legislation submitted by the Hotel and Restaurant Workers International Union and A. Philip Randolph of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

Report of a Farmer-Labor Party was voiced in five resolutions brought in by the International Fur Workers Union, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and other organizations.

Three resolutions called for sharp condemnation of William Randolph Hearst. Support of Tom Mooney's battle for freedom, support of the Scottsboro boys and of Angelo Herndon was embodied in others.

On the reactionary side, perhaps one of the most vicious union splitting resolutions ever offered, was one submitted by John P. Frey. Aimed at the Seattle Newspaper Guild's strike against Hearst's newspaper there, the resolution proposed that a central body be prohibited hereafter from placing any employer on the unfair list who has any contract of any sort with an international union.

Italy, Germany Support Rebels

BULLETIN

PARIS—Soviet Russia asked France and Great Britain to support her demands for an immediate meeting of the International Non-Intervention Committee to study recognition by Italy and Germany of the Fascist General Franco's regime in Spain.

Hitler and Mussolini have recognized the Fascist General Franco's regime as the "government of Spain."

Enraged at the failure of Franco to hack and burn his way into Madrid thus far, and fearful that their plans to turn Spain into yet another well armed fascist camp may fail, Europe's two war lords moved swiftly to turn the Spanish struggle against fascism into ANOTHER WORLD WAR!

Meanwhile, on November 19, Madrid still remained under the government of the People's Front of Spain, the legally elected government of the Spanish people.

Being above the tortured screams of women and children, torn and mangled by high explosives supplied the fascists by Italy and Germany, bombing alive in the raging flames which swept the city, the unswerving answer of the militant Spaniards still rang out:

"THEY SHALL NOT PASS!"

While Hitler and Germany unhesitatingly intend to follow up their official declaration by open invasion to extend the dictatorship in Spain which they have recognized, Great Britain announces that she moves by declaring that the Soviet Union was "more guilty" than either Germany or Italy in recognizing in Spain.

The government of the Soviet Union, adhering to the Non-Intervention pact signed by all the great powers including Germany and Italy, did not send munitions to the People's Front despite the fact that Germany and Italy aided the fascists, though the trade unions and other organizations in the Soviet Union have sent millions of dollars worth of food and clothing to their struggling brothers in Spain.

As the truth about the Non-Intervention pact became open knowledge, all workers all over the world learned it was simply a screen under which the

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"THE ARMY NEEDS YOU," reads this Spanish poster issued by the Spanish People's Front Government.

C I O Tries To Secure Harmony With A F of L

At the November 7th joint meeting of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, spokesman for the C.I.O. made a last minute effort to discuss their differences with the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor.

In an attempt to break through all red tape to secure harmony before the Tampa Convention of the A. F. of L., the C.I.O. empowered John L. Lewis to seek a direct personal meeting with William Green in order to iron out difficulties.

In answer to a wire by Lewis which asked for an immediate appointment, Green replied that he would be willing

to meet Lewis but that he was not empowered by the Executive Council to make any change in the situation of the A. F. of L. any commitments.

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fascists supplied Franco's army with arms and prevented the Spanish Peoples Front Government from receiving much-needed supplies. World-wide support of the Spanish workers and farmers struggle for preservation of their democracy has been organized.

Their struggle has become the struggle of peace loving and anti-fascist forces everywhere. The fascist criminals are acting with breakneck speed. Aid must be rushed to the heroic defenders of democracy in Spain, to keep Hitler's hands off Spain, against another world war. Get your trade union to send contributions to the fund being raised by North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, 149 Fifth Avenue, New York City or you may send your contribution in to the **SOUTHERN WORKER**, Box 572, Birmingham, Ala. or the **DAILY WORKER**, 50 East 13th Street, New York City.

Court Frames Organizer; Gets 10 Years

Homer Welch, organizer for the United Textile Workers, was sentenced to 10 years in prison after he had been found guilty of killing Chief Deputy John J. Bryant on a Talladega picket line. He was found guilty by a hand-picked jury from which workers had been barred and he was sentenced by a judge whose hostility to organized labor was demonstrated in his charge to the jury.

Judge E. B. Carr told the jury that it was okay to convict Welch if they were convinced that Bryant's death was the "approximate or natural" result of a conspiracy to picket the Samoset Mill in violation of the Alabama anti-picketing law.

In other words, if Bryant was killed because there was a picket line, Welch was guilty of the killing, regardless of whether he had anything whatsoever to do with the shooting.

In Hitler Germany, a trade union leader named Edgar Andre was recently executed by the fascist government on the charge of murdering two Nazis at a Communist demonstration two years before Hitler came to power. It

Eyes on the World

News that Germany and Japan have reached an agreement directed against the Soviet Union was fully confirmed. Soviet official news agency Tass reported that negotiations between Japanese Foreign Minister Arita and Germany led to the initialing of the treaty.

Democracy in England moved a step forward this week when a bill was introduced before Parliament banning the wearing of political uniforms and organization of semi-military "private armies." Mosley, leader of the "Black Shirts," faces imprisonment if the bill becomes law and he infringes upon it.

Mussolini's son-in-law and Italian foreign minister recently paid Hitler a visit, and now Il Duce and Der Fuehrer have definitely decided to face European problems together. Under the screen of "protecting Europe from communism", Rome, approved by Berlin, suggested to London that a four-power conclave be revived. The four powers meant by Hitler and Mussolini are Great Britain, Germany, France, and Italy. Foreign secretary Eden's answer to this deliberate attempt to isolate Soviet Russia was that as much as Britain desired friendship with Germany, he must make it plain that this friendship "cannot be directed against any one else."

Premier Blum still refuses to aid the Spanish people's government. Meanwhile French workers telegraphed Blum protesting against the shipment of munitions from French factories to the Spanish fascists via Peru. It was also reported that a second shipment started en route to Italy, destined ultimately for General Francisco Franco of the Spanish Fascists.

There is sabotage with the fascist ranks in Spain. Many rebel artillery shells fail to explode. A lot of paper found in the nose of one of these shells said: "While I am an artilleryman, not a single shell fired by me will explode." Other duds were found to be filled with sawdust, despite their apparent German origin. Loyalists asserted jubilantly that German workers had filled the shells with sawdust.

The Mexican Workers' Confederation, with a membership of 700,000, called a general strike November 20, demanding that the government suppress the Fascist Regional Confederation of Mexican Workers.

was proven that Andre had nothing to do with the killing of these two Nazi thugs who came to the demonstration armed and looking for trouble. But the Nazi court ruled, that because Andre had organized the demonstration and was a leader of the workers, he was "morally responsible" for the killing of the Nazis.

The Talladega frame-up is the nearest approach to the German law we have yet seen. The prosecution could not prove that Welch had anything to do with the killing, but because he was a leader of the picketing workers, he is held "morally responsible."

Organized Labor in Alabama and throughout the South must smash this frame-up. Not only is Welch sentenced to ten years but 11 more union men are yet to be tried for the Talladega shooting and it is clear that the Talladega court expects to do its worst.

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