

White and  
Colored Workers,  
Unite!

# SOUTHERN WORKER

Don't Starve  
Fight for Social  
Insurance!

Issued Weekly by Communist Party of U. S. A.

Volume 1, No. 28

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. Feb. 28, 1931

2 Cents a Copy

## 2,000 Demonstrate In Greenville For Jobs

GREENVILLE, S. C.—Over 2,000 unemployed workers, including about 200 Negro workers, met in the city on Feb. 16 at the call of J. Roberts, a mechanic and marched 5 miles to the construction job of Reid and Abco on the Park Mountain road and demanded that they be given jobs.

This was the largest labor demonstration ever seen in Greenville and arose out of the mass misery and starvation of the Greenville workers. Roberts, who according to the newspapers called the demonstration, confused and misled the workers by demanding from the contractors that they fire the workers from North Carolina, at present employed on the job by the Asheville, N. C., road construction company and employ South Carolina labor instead.

After getting a promise from Hugh Abco, of the construction company, that he would check back over the payroll and see to it that 50 percent of the workers employed were from South Carolina, as specified in the contract, the workers marched the 5 miles back to the city Court House, where they held a meeting at which Roberts spoke. After the court-house meeting about 5,000 unemployed workers, mostly ex-service men, gathered in front of the South Carolina Nat'l Bank, to protest against the statement of its president, J. W. Norwood, who opposed the world war veterans' bonus.

Immediately following the demonstration, L. E. Brookshire, president of the South Carolina Federation of Labor hastened to inform the newspapers and the bosses that the A. F. of L. had "nothing to do with the labor demonstration in and near Greenville this morning." He further explained that the A. F. of L. does not sponsor such demonstrations or any mass fighting movements for immediate relief for the unemployed.

Roberts further confused the workers by declaring in his speech at the court house that they "were all good Americans who were willing to fight and die for their country," but that they "were cold and hungry and demanded their rights." Instead of leading the demonstration to the City Hall to demand immediate cash relief from the City and telling the North Carolina workers that they were willing to fight together with them for shorter hours and decent pay so more could be employed on the road, Roberts accepted the promises of the contractor, who does not care where his workers come from as long as they accept low wages.

## FARMERS WANT RED ORGANIZERS

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—That the farmers of the South are ready to fight is amply proved by the letters from white and Negro croppers which are received by the Communist Party in District 17 almost every day. Today, for instance a cropper writes in from Silver Creek, Ga.:

"I read your leaflet 'Farmers Fight Starvation' and I am ready to fight. I am on Mr. Bradshaw's farm. He has refused to let me make a crop because I could not live on \$10 a month advance. I have 5 in my family. Please help us start the fight."

Another letter comes in signed by 4 croppers in Jasper County, Ala., asking for an organizer to come down to their section as the farmers are starving and want to fight against the landlords and bankers.

From Gastonburg and Alberta, Ala.

## Lawrence Strike Ties Up Mills

LAWRENCE, Mass.—The entire mills of the American Woollen Company were shut down when workers in the combing room of the Washington, Ayer and Wood mills struck against the new speed-up system.

By militant picketing right inside the mill, employing 4,000 workers, the strikers under the leadership of the fighting National Textile Workers Union, forced the mills to close. Fearful of the militant mood of the strikers, the management is now asking them to return on the old basis, without the speed-up and without discrimination, but without a settlement with the strike committee. This the strikers refuse to do, sticking to their demands for the abolition of the 2-comb system, time and one-half for overtime and the recognition of the N. T. W. U. The American Woollen Co. also has a mill in Atlanta, Ga.

## Workers' Candidates Fight For Relief in Chattanooga

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—While the 18 boss candidates in the election campaign for mayor and city commission are trying to blind the workers to the real issue—relief for the unemployed—by using the screen issues of "honest and efficient government," the Communist Party and the Unemployed Council is pushing the fight for immediate cash relief for the unemployed into the foreground of the campaign.

The present city administration, headed by Mayor Bass, Joseph servant of the Tennessee Electric Power Co., and the Chamber of Commerce, broke up the demonstration of over 2,000 white and colored workers on Feb. 10 and arrested the leaders, in order to prevent them from marching to City Hall to present the demands of the unemployed. The very willing Judge Fleming, who has been city judge for the last 20 years and is now running for re-election, placed every

(Continued on Page Two)

## Jobless Thruout World Fight For Insurance; Relief

As we go to press demonstrations of workers thruout this country and Europe for unemployment insurance are taking place, and hunger marches of the unemployed on a number of state capitals have started.

From New York City, after the mass demonstration on Union Square on Feb. 23, International Fighting Day Against Unemployment, the march on the New York State Capitol begins, drawing in workers from all state cities as the march progresses and it is expected that about 500 will arrive in Albany on March 2 or 3. A similar state hunger march will start in New Jersey on Feb. 28, meetings will be held in the road and the Workers International Relief is arranging for food for marchers.

Demonstrations will also take place thruout Europe on Feb. 25. In Poland, where a much greater terror is in force against the workers than in the South, the unemployed will defy the terror to demonstrate for unemployment insurance. Demonstrations are being held in all important capitals and industrial centers, called by the Red International of Labor Unions and the Communist Party. (Full details of these demonstrations will appear in next week's SOUTHERN WORKER.—Ed.)

## Workers' Candidates Fight For Relief in Chattanooga

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(Continued on Page Two)

## B'ham Trials Up; Another Jailed

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Scotly Worthy, candidate of the Communist Party for U. S. Senator from Alabama in the last elections, was arrested last week in Birmingham and held "for investigation."

Worthy was arrested when he appeared at the police station to get his car which the police had towed in from where it was parked the night before. Police claim to have found "seditious literature" in the car. After holding Comrade Worthy for 36 hours the police were forced to admit they had no charge to hold him on and he was released.

The cases of Tom Johnson, Harry Jackson and Frank Burns, Communist organizers charged with vagrancy, the last hearing of which resulted in a hung jury, come up again before the circuit court on March 6.

Comrade Worthy is one of the five workers arrested some three weeks ago and charged with Criminal Anarchy. The trial on this charge will come up Feb. 28th. Under this charge the workers are deprived of the right to even a jury trial. A conviction seems certain, therefore, leaflets signed by the Communist Party have been distributed inside dozens of shops calling on the workers to fight back against the increasing police terror.

## 5,000 Strike Against Cut on Orleans Docks

Federal Injunction Covers Waterfront; M. W. I. U. Calls For Mass Picketing

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Five thousand longshoremen struck here on Monday, Feb. 23, against a wage-cut of 15 cents an hour ordered to go into effect on that day by the four largest ship companies to New Orleans.

Police and state forces were immediately mobilized by steamship owners against the strikers. A permanent federal injunction, obtained by the ship-owners during the last year's strike, covering the whole waterfront and prohibiting picketing goes into effect immediately.

F. L. A. Will Sell Out

The strike was called by the International Longshoremen's Association, an A. F. of L. racketeer outfit, when the workers showed by their militancy that they would not stand for the cut and would strike anyway. The F. L. A. racketeer outfit are here to sell out the strike unless the longshoremen take things into their own hands. There are at most about 3,500 organized in the two local of the F. L. A. in New Orleans, and the extent of the strike shows that the non-organized dockworkers have joined the walk-out. One of the local is a Communist local, which there are about 2,000 Negro longshoremen, who are discriminated against by the union officials by giving jobs to the white union members first, thus playing the boss policy of race prejudice.

Preparations are now in full swing for the mass unemployment open-air demonstration to take place on March 10, the week before the city primary elections, at which the unemployment demands will be discussed and from which a delegation will be sent to (Continued on Page Four)

## Southern Worker Moves to Chatta.

In order to be more centrally located and be within easier reach of workers' struggles in the South, the SOUTHERN WORKER has moved to Chattanooga, Tenn., from Birmingham, Ala.

Just as when it was located in Birmingham, the SOUTHERN WORKER will still remain the paper voicing the fighting demands of workers and farmers in all parts of the South, and not to be restricted just to the city of Chattanooga.

As the Southern organ of the Communist Party, it welcomes all workers and farmers thruout the South to write to the paper and use it for winning more workers to our ranks.

Address all mail: SOUTHERN WORKER, Box 1853, Chattanooga, Tenn.

—EDITOR—

## RED LEAFLETS RIGHT IN MILLS

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The ability of the Communist Party to have its leaflets distributed inside the largest steel, metal and textile mills, as well as in the mines of Birmingham, has the bosses wild. In the great T. C. E. plants at Ensley and Fairfield the mill management posted notices last week stating that any worker caught even reading one of the red leaflets would be immediately fired.

The superintendent of the Continental Gin Co. here called his usual meeting of all workers last week to rave against the Communist leaflets distributed by the workers inside the plant exposing the rotten conditions and the 25-cents-an-hour wages. Every week lately the super has in turn

threatened and pleaded with the workers to stop distributing these "lies of the reds in the shop," but still the leaflets get in.

C. S. Pipe shop here resembled an armed camp recently when the bosses had six or more city cops as well as their own gun men out to the shop to find out who had carried thru a successful inside distribution of the Southern Worker. Despite all these efforts to prevent the Party from reaching the workers with its propaganda directly in the shops and mines, workers in the biggest shops here are reading Communist leaflets and papers each week distributed by their fellow-workers in the shops, who are members of the Communist Party.

## Red Union Calls For Mass Picketing

The Marine Workers Industrial Union, with headquarters at 208 Chartres Street, is calling upon the members of the F. L. A. to form a united front and join the strike committee, which will dump the preacher-like leadership from their backs and militantly picket the waterfront until the strikers win.

The wage-cut was ordered by four members of the New Orleans Steamship Association—the Duke, the Lykes Bros., Roper, the Mississippi, and the Tampa Overseas Companies—reducing the wages from 30 cents to 15 cents an hour. The Lykes Bros. apparently is notorious for its day-drinking ships and docks. The Marine Workers Industrial Union, which has among its members both seamen and longshoremen, is calling upon the seamen not to unload the ships as they are often forced to do by Lykes Bros. and to strike together with the dock workers.



# Brushy Mt. Mine, Nashville State Jails Are Living Hells

(A picture of inhuman torture and living hell is given in the following letter received from one who was a prisoner at Brushy Mountain coal mine, and later in the main jail at Nashville. Do those who lie so glibly about "forced labor" in the Soviet Union say anything about these living hells in sweet America?)

Dear Editor:  
I have been waiting for a chance to tell you about Brushy Mountain prison and how it has come. I have been 60 days in the pen and was treated like a hog.

**Beaten Till Blood Comes**  
In the Brushy Mountain coal mine they want the prisoners like hogs, and if he can't do the task assigned to him, even if it is impossible, the warden has him beaten with a stick that a human wouldn't whip a mule with.

Jack, they whips the prisoner with a whip and the warden boss puts the strap under his foot to get him to work, so that he can get the strap and take it back. He puts fear of the prisoners to hold the strap to himself.

If a fellow gets sick the doctor and the warden boss got it arranged to make him work anyway. The food there is not fit for a dog to eat. In the morning they give us slop with rotten meat, bread and corn bread. The bread is stinky and sticky and stale. They give us two or three raw potatoes and a piece of raw fat meat and a piece of that bread to take into the mine with us. That is all we get up till night when we get the stale bread and rotten beans. The beans have worms and sticks and rocks in them and are half done. They won't feed it to the hogs, they are afraid it will kill them.

Now, what I am telling you is true. I was there myself. I tell you people, it is a starving hell.

**Nashville Pen Is Worse**  
They transferred me from the Brushy Mountain coal mine to the main prison at Nashville, for they would like to have killed me because I couldn't do no work. The pen in Nashville is worse than Brushy Mountain. They have convict labor in there and foundries, shirt shops and every mill. The task is too much for us fellows to do, and if we don't do it they will beat us until we can't stand up and they pull us in a cell or beat us and water. I have seen them whip fellows there until blood

dropped from their heels and they would have to carry them to the hospital. I have wished lots of times to get out of that hell-hole, but fate was against me. I couldn't die, I wasn't lucky enough.

They bats are about the same as Brushy Mountain, only when the inspectors come out the warden always gets word that they are coming and he has everything fixed up and if any one of us says anything to them he will try to beat us to death.

**Die From TB**  
We don't get any rest at all. We go right from our cell to the slop house and from there, hungry, right to those man-eating shops, and at night right out of them to the slop house, then locked in our cells till morning. They work us 12 hours a day and several men have died from it. It gives them the TB. When I went there my weight was 187 pounds, now I weigh 124.

They have got a bakery there and they charge us ten cents a loaf for the stuff they call light bread. It is sour and sticky and we find bugs in it. It is the filthiest place there is. It is awful.

**The Food Kills Hogs**  
It is just a place where we die by degrees and when anybody's time is up they give him \$1.50. When they go out what can a man do with that? No job, no home. They do that so he will have to steal something to eat, so they can get him back to finish working him to death.

I would like to sign my name to this, but if the warden, A. E. McCorkle, knew it he would beat me to death, for he knows it is true. He is a big faker and beats us fellows for the least thing we do. The fellows wouldn't eat slop they call "looby" one morning. They had to take it to the farm and feed it to the hogs and it killed several of them. Now, I hope all of you people will believe what I am telling you, for it is true. I spent five years in there and know just what is going on.  
—A Prisoner.

# House Launches Attack Against Foreign-Born

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The bill introduced into the House by Representative Bachman of Virginia, member of the Hans Fish Committee to investigate the Communists, to deport foreign-born Communists, and another bill not to permit Communists to enter the country, have been passed by the House Immigration committee and sent to Congress for approval.

These bills introduce a new vicious attack on foreign-born workers, who make up a large proportion of the Northern working class, in an effort to intimidate them and force them to accept starvation without fighting. It is but an introduction to new legislation against the entire working class.

# Fight For Relief In Chattanooga Election

(Continued from Front Page)  
possible change against the organizers and the ridiculously high bonds, under which they are still being kept in the County Jail.

**For Cash Relief**  
The workers candidates—J. L. Lee, Ford, white blacksmith, for mayor; Mack Coads, unemployed Negro worker, for City Judge; Albert Cassidy, unemployed white worker, for City Commissioner—represent the fight of the workers against starvation, for immediate cash relief of \$12.50 for every unemployed worker from the city. They demand the abolition of the chain gang system, with all city work being done by free labor at a minimum weekly wage of \$15 for a 7-hour, 5-day week, without discrimination because of race. They demand that the poll tax which keeps many workers from the polls and is used by the boss politicians to herd votes by issuing poll tax receipts for those who will vote for them, be abolished. They demand the unconditional release of the four workers arrested on Feb. 10 for demanding relief, and the stopping of evictions, reduction of rent, free light and coal and welfare for the unemployed.

Both the Mayor Bass crowd and the boss politicians in opposition to him representing the large local merchants, are playing for the colored vote, by building machines among the big Negro bootleggers and professional people. Walter Robinson, who has been given a job by Mayor Bass as Negro trustee officer at a salary higher than what either white or Negro teachers get, and a car into the bargain in return for mustering Negro votes, is trying to fool the Negro workers into voting for Bass. As one Negro put it: "During the elections we are 'Negro,' but before and after we are just 'Nigger.'" The colored workers, thousands of whom are starving and forced to eat the slop from the city soup kitchens, are rallying together with the white workers around the workers candidates, in the fight for relief and for the release of the Feb. 10 prisoners.

**Landress Another Boss Man**  
While Landress, candidate opposing Bass for mayor, is trying to make an issue out of the failure of Bass to order free coal from the prison worked state mines at Brushy Mountain, he has nothing else to offer the unemployed but more slop at the soup kitchens, which is handing out 30,000 slop-meals weekly. If elected he will be just as "honest and efficient" in carrying out the boss policy of starvation.

At a meeting in the Howard High School last Friday at which all the candidates spoke, Mack Coads, candidate for City Judge, presented the demands for immediate relief.

The city is now being flooded with leaflets by the Communist Party and Unemployed Council and stickers are appearing in all parts of the city giving the names of the workers candidates.

# Strikers Call For New Fight In Danville

DANVILLE, Va.—With the Danville strikers now turned over to the tender mercies of the Red Cross by the United Textile workers' officials, who have closed their headquarters and left town, the workers are now fully awake to the treachery of the A. F. of L.

In a leaflet signed by "A. Communist of Strikers that Will Continue the Fight," and widely distributed in Danville and Shelby County, the strikers are exposed for the slant they are and the agreement that they are making, called the "Tomato Soup Agreement," because it is an agreement getting the "Red Cross" to do the feeding and that the company can take a worker back if they want him and when they want him.

Pointing out how the A. F. of L. misleaders kept the workers from mass picketing and thus assured the loss of the strike, the leaflet goes on to say: "We know we must fight for what we want. We have now learned that we can't fight under the leadership of the U. T. W. They are against fighting. We must have a union but we want a fighting union—the National Textile Workers' Union—that believes in picketing and that fights for shorter hours and higher wages and rights against the stretch-out and other bad conditions. A union whose leaders go off the picket line and fight with the workers against the bosses."

"We will continue the fight for decent conditions when we work and for unemployment insurance when we are out at work."

# SPEED UP B'HAM SIGNATURES

The campaign for signatures on the Union's emergency demands of the Communist Party on the City Government of Birmingham must be speeded up. The campaign, which started off well, is losing speed lately. Every Party member must realize that this work is about the biggest job of each Party member for the next few weeks. So far about 1,000 signatures have been obtained. Organizer of Unit 12 still holds the lead in the revolutionary competition with 15 filled out blanks to his credit. This is a record to shoot at.

# LYNCH LAW AT WORK

CLARKSDALE, Miss.—George Spann, Negro tenant farmer, who shot and seriously wounded his landlord Charles O'Neal in a quarrel over proceeds of crop and arrangements for the next crop, was killed by a mob led by the sheriff of the county. Spann was hanged down by blood hounds.

PERTH AMBOY, N. J.—Ignatius DuBussan, Negro worker, who had just obtained a job working on the street after being unemployed for months, was stoned and beaten and almost lynched by a mob of white hoodlums, who said that he attacked a white servant girl of a house near by. DuBussan had simply asked the girl for a drink which he brought him. The arrival of a motorcycle police unit scattered the crowd before they could get into with their destined deed and DuBussan was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct.

ATLANTA, Ga.—William White, Negro, who was found guilty of killing a white man by a boss jury, if Rome barely escaped lynching when he was taken to the Atlanta jail after the trial. White denies any connection with the murder and has an alibi. Right after the trial more than 100 white thugs rushed from the courtroom to the jail on its lynching mission.

PORT ARTHUR, Texas.—With drawn revolvers in their hands a mob of 100 whites attempted to storm the jail here at one o'clock in the morning, to seize and lynch a Negro musician who they said had insulted a white girl at a dance. Several white rowdies attacked him while he was playing in the orchestra and stripped all his clothes from him, beating him severely.

# WOMEN'S DAY MEETING CHATTANOOGA

Tenn.—A special mobilization for drawing women workers into the Communist Party, a mass meeting will be held here on Sunday, March 8, International Women's Day, at the Union Hall, 316 W. Main Street. Further details will be announced next week's SOUTHERN WORKER.

# Fight For Unemployment Insurance!

# State Lynches Three Croppers

MEMPHIS, Miss.—The state of Mississippi is taking bloody vengeance on three Negro share-croppers, who rebelled against the system of forced labor and starvation on the farms and are charged with beating Andrew Price, rich planter of Lauderdale county, to death in a fight over the proceeds of the crop they harvested.

Cleveland Nelson, one of the croppers, who are all brothers, has already been convicted and sentenced to be hanged. Dock Nelson has been sentenced to life imprisonment, and the other brother, Clinton Nelson, has also been convicted and is now awaiting sentence.

When the lynch mob fails to get its victim, the state justice machine lynches him "legally." In this case, as in many others, the three croppers are being legally lynched because they fought against the system of tenantry and peonage, which keeps them as virtual prisoners on the farms of the big planters. Not individual fights, but an organized fight in which both white and colored farmers unite to demand relief can keep the farmers from starvation, or save them from lynching, either by mob or legally.

# Murder On Chain Gang Is Exposed

LAFAYETTE, Ga.—The indictment of A. Cooper, Walker county chain gang guard, by a grand jury for the killing of Mike Cantrell, chain gang prisoner, has brought to light more details of the cruel and vicious fashion in which prisoners are treated who but slightly complain of the terrible conditions.

Cooper had been sent to bring Cantrell back to the camp from the road job where he had had an argument with the boss and had been manacled to a tree. While bringing his prisoner back Cooper struck him a number of times with a black jack. When they came back to camp, Cooper shot the prisoner thru the head, in what he claims to be self-defense, although Cantrell was manacled hand and foot.

These are the conditions which exist in the numerous chain gang camps in the South, while the bosses and the A. F. of L. misleaders tell lying tales about "convict labor in the Soviet Union."

**STARVING, GETS JAIL**  
MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Ollie Curry, Negro, was sentenced to 180 days in jail and fined \$24 for taking three quarts of milk from doorsteps to keep himself and his family alive.

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FROM THE MILLS, MINES AND THE FARMS

ARS FOR BOSS RELIEF FAKERS, POOR STARVE

By a Worker Correspondent, Chattanooga, Tenn. The bosses laid off men and kept...

The laid-off men come around again and again to the boss to see...

The men were laid off so long, they spent all the money they had...

The City said "Cut them down and give soup." They don't care whether you get soap to wash your face...

Care for Relief Workers Go to the City Hall and see for yourself how the head man of the board does and the girls they have in there...

Oh, yes! They help. They give us all red beans and rice enough to feed for one person when we have families...

These you go and call the Doctor. He may get him, and maybe you get him. He always noses out to the patients...

This is how the unemployed working man lives in Chattanooga. Vote for working class candidates in the city elections...

A DOLLAR A DAY IS ALL THEY PAY

By a Worker Correspondent, Galveston, Texas. Galveston County hired about 20 unemployed workers at the Trinity Church soup line...

Greenville Textile Workers Going "Red"

By a Worker Correspondent, Greenville, S. C. I am out of a job and haven't had work for months. They have cut wages...

\$3 A WEEK CUT

NEW ORLEANS, La.—The American Sugar Refinery has cut wages \$3 a week. A large number of workers are affected by this wage cut.

Stony Creek Farmer Tells of A. F. of L. Red Scare Lies

By a Worker Correspondent, Stony Creek, Tenn. I have been reading the SOUTHERN WORKER for a few months and I have become very interested in it...

I had heard so much about the Communist Party until I thought it was an organization that blows up everything and kills everybody. That is what I've been told by some of the A. F. of L. leaders...

Right here in our neighborhood, some of the best workers have been out of work for over two years, and some here had two and three years experience in the Hensberg and Giantzstoff mill...

I don't work there and never will, but I want to see my home people get work and good pay for their labor. I believe I am a Red. You know, I like to see workers get wages...

INFORMATION FOR McDUFF

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Chief of Police McDuff seems to fancy himself as a red-baiter and is branching out. Although unable so far to smash the Communist Party in Birmingham...

TRICK CUTS WAGES HALF

By a Worker Correspondent, Sturgis, Mich. Of the 13 factories here the most have shut down and the others only employ a few hands part time and cut wages. One big shop in town cut the wages...

S. W. Best Paper For U. S. Working Class

By a Worker Correspondent, Oakboro, N. C. Please enter my subscription to the SOUTHERN WORKER. I had never seen a copy of your paper until about a week ago...

"Speed-Up," Holy Song of Boss Preacher in Ga.

By a Worker Correspondent, Columbus, Ga. I would like to tell you about some of the good boss men we have in Columbus, Ga. Mike gets all his hands to go to Sunday school that will go...

Staggered Men Cut 50c Weekly

By a Worker Correspondent, Birmingham, Ala. We were at a mass meeting Wednesday night of the Chicago Bridge Co. The bosses wanted the workers to join a club...

Gaston Farmers Want To Fight

By a Farmer Correspondent, Gastonburg, Ala. I am a colored farmer and haven't anything. My landlord says he will not help me. I have four in the family and the Red Cross gave me three pecks of meal and 6 pounds of meat every two weeks...

STARS SELL 130 S. W.'s

By a Worker Correspondent, Galveston, Texas. We carried on our Red Sunday this week. We sold 130 SOUTHERN WORKERS from door to door. The star workers' news vendor, sold 71, A. sold 40 copies and M. sold 20 copies...

CHICAGO, Ill.—Police found a one-month-old Negro baby abandoned by its mother in a flat here. The mother was too poor to keep it and left it hoping that it would be taken care of.

BOSS FRAMES UNEMPLOYED NEGO RENTER

By a Worker Correspondent, Birmingham, Ala. P. C. Finley, known as a "good old nigger" because he helps the white boss-trick the workers, and had them in jail...

The old rascal and pounder-owned property in Kingston. Two of his houses were rented out. The renter paid their rent promptly until their wages were slashed by the bosses...

When this damn rascal saw that the poor renters were unable to pay their rent he tried to get them into signing first a lease and then a note. When this didn't work he got hold of another scheme to get the renters out and till make money out of it...

He sent a child to the filling station to buy gasoline and set the house on fire a few days before this he sawed a hole in the side of the house and also sawed a notch out from a stud in the rear of the house and pretended he was fixing the house. A few days later he lit off the gasoline and splinters and ran home and got into bed. The splinters were found and also the can in which he had the gasoline.

After the rascal P. C. Finley burned the house he then went around telling lies, saying the renters did it. His taxes were unpaid and he wanted to collect fire insurance and use the money to stall the workers. But the truth has come out. All the workers in Kingston and East Birmingham are organizing to fight this thing and fight him like hell and for free rent. —Unemployed Young Worker.

A Ky. Miner Shakes Hands With So. Wor.

By a Worker Correspondent, Thornton, Ky. Just a few lines to let you know that you have a friend in Kentucky. Hold this letter in your right hand while reading as a hand shake from Kentucky. As I am ready to join the march at any time I think thousands of others are ready too.

Fight Jim-Crowism By Joining Com. Party

By a Worker Correspondent, Galveston, Texas. The bosses nearly started a riot between Mexicans and Negro races. The colored picture house cater to all races but it is in the colored section of Galveston. Sunday evening the Mexicans were sitting in the audience with all the rest of the people when someone suggested that they go to the balcony as the Negroes do in other theatres. Colored workers! Don't fight the Mexican or the white workers. That is the way the boss has of keeping us separated. We all should be as one. Join the Communist Party and fight this rotten system of Jim-Crowism and Lynch Law. When a Negro worker gets arrested they give him the limit. Fight united! —A. W. McBride.



# The Southern Worker

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John W. Johnson, Managing Editor

Chattanooga, Tenn.

Box 153

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## March Again, Greenville, But Not Divided!

Thousands of workers who marched out of Greenville to demand the construction company offices and then marched back to demonstrate in the courthouse, showed by their action that they would not starve without a struggle. They are ready for action, and will fight rather than starve.

Because this demonstration was not organized around any clear demands, it did not achieve its purpose. The workers allowed themselves to be misled by the boss scheme of dividing the workers into North and South Carolina workers, just as they divide them into white and Negro workers in order to prevent them from organizing together and fighting for their demands. The working class is one, whether in South Carolina or North Carolina. In both places the workers are starving. In both places they are receiving no adequate relief. This N. C. Construction company is given the contract to build the road by the State because it does the job cheaper by paying the lowest wages to the workers it brings with it. The South Carolina workers who will be hired on this job—if any—will receive the same low wage scale. Instead of demanding that the workers employed on the job be shipped back to North Carolina, the workers should have demanded shorter hours without wage reductions, so more workers could be hired, and told their North Carolina brothers that they would be willing to fight together with them to obtain these conditions.

Right from the onset of government in Greenville the starving workers should have demanded immediate cash relief, no evictions, reduced rents, free light and heat, free care, as so many other unemployed workers are demanding throughout the country. Instead of this rant about fighting for the American flag (the same flag under which millions of workers and farmers are starving today) for the profits of the bosses, the cry should have been immediate cash relief for the unemployed.

The A. F. of L. exposed itself as well as an agent for the bosses in this event that there is hardly any need to comment further on it, except to say that the statement of Bro. W. H. H. president of the S. C. Federation, that the A. F. of L. "has nothing to do with such demonstrations" is quite true, for that organization occupies itself exclusively with selling out the workers, as at Elizabethton, Tenn., March 1, N. C., and more recently at Danville, Va.

The Greenville workers must continue their mass demonstrations, but make them for immediate relief, and not allow themselves to be divided, by state line or anything else, or misled by false leaders.

## The Policy of Hunger and Bayonets

"The crisis is not over yet. We must prepare for the future, keeping in mind a preventive of scenes of distress and inevitable violence."

So speaks Paul Krusi, Chattanooga manufacturer and representative of Mayor Bass' unemployment committee, before the committee of the state legislature which came to this city to "investigate" unemployment. This is an official announcement of policy by the city government of Chattanooga, already carried out in deed with the arrest of the leaders of the Feb. 10 demonstration.

It means: IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE STARVATION SLOP YOU GET AT THE KITCHEN, DON'T TAKE IT. IF YOU DEMAND REAL RELIEF, WE'LL GIVE YOU NONE. IF YOU ORGANIZE AND FIGHT FOR RELIEF, WE'LL SHOOT YOU DOWN.

That is capitalism in action. Both white and colored workers alike can starve to death, for all the bosses care. While millions of dollars are robbed from state funds by Luke Lea and his gang of exploiters, the state of Tennessee carries on no action against them, for they are the power in back of the police club. While Luke Lea pockets these millions, not a cent is appropriated by the State Legislature for the unemployed. Instead, the Sovereign State of Tennessee plashes the indictments against the leaders of the unemployed on Feb. 10, keeps them in jail under high bond, and orders of its circuit court judge.

Krusi represents Bass and Bass represents the Tennessee Electric Power Co., which is one of the big bosses of the State of Tennessee. These vicious exploiters will give the workers nothing, unless the workers force them to it by organizing and fighting.

In the City elections Bass runs on a policy of starvation and bayonets. The other candidates are no much different.

Workers of Chattanooga, answer this brazen attack on the workers, by voting for the workers' candidates, by joining in the fight for unemployment relief, by forcing Mayor Bass to listen to us, on March 10!

## Working Class Women Must Fight, Too!

No mass struggle of the working class can today be successful without the active help and participation of the women workers. In the recent trade strikes in New York, in the great 1927 miners' strike, in the Gastonia strike, in the hunger marches of the unemployed this black winter of 1931, our women comrades have proved and are proving their right to a place in the front ranks of working class fighters.

But too often the activity of the women workers, far from being encouraged and called forth by our revolutionary organizations, has to burst through a wall of indifference set up by the men workers. Every worker must realize that this is wrong. Every worker must realize that the women are a vital section of the working class and that all possible must be done to draw them into the struggle and into leading positions in our organizations.

On March 6th, International Women's Day, the revolutionary workers of the whole world will hold mass meetings and demonstrations, which devote their full attention to the problems of the women workers. For struggle, here in the South more and more women, particularly Negro women, are joining our organizations and demonstrating their readiness to join hands with the men workers in the fight for bread for the unemployed and against all oppres-

# The National Revolutionary Struggle Of The Negroes

By TOM JOHNSON

(This is the first of a series of three articles. The other two will appear in successive issues of the SOUTHERN WORKER.)

It is only within the past year that our Communist Party has succeeded, with the help of the Communist International, in developing a truly Bolshevik program of action for our work among the 13 million American Negroes. Moreover it is doubtful if there is another portion of our program so little understood not only by the masses of workers, but by our own party members as well. Yet the winning of the millions of Negro workers and poor farmers for Communism is a task of the greatest importance. To talk of a workers' revolution in this country without the active support of the Negro toilers is to give up all thought of a successful revolution. Particularly here in the South this task is of decisive importance to the development of the revolutionary movement. It will be, therefore, the purpose of this article to set forth the program of the Communist Party on the so-called Negro question, as clearly and simply as may be possible.

### Most Oppressed Group

In the first place it is clear to every worker in the South that the Negroes form a group which is especially oppressed, oppressed even more than the white workers and farmers. Every worker knows that in the shops and mines the Negroes can get only the hardest and heaviest work; that the Negro workers are forbidden in many cases from following skilled trades; that as a rule on the same job Negroes are paid less than white workers. It is common knowledge that on the farms in the Black Belt the Negro croppers are little if any better than slaves. They have no voice whatever in determining what crops they shall plant, how the crop shall be cultivated and how and for what price it shall be sold. All this is taken care of by the white landlord, who at the end of a season takes over the whole of the crop and then gives to the Negro cropper whatever he chooses. In many sections it is not uncommon for Negro croppers to be sold and traded with the land by the white landlords.

Second, every worker knows that the oppression of the Negro is not confined to the job. The Negro in the Black Belt has no political rights whatsoever. He is forbidden to serve on juries. No pretense is made of giving the Negroes any voice at all in the state, county, or city governments. Farther, in his daily life out-

side the shop the Negro worker and Negro farmer, no less than the work-ers as a whole, are crowded and segregated, forbidden to associate on terms of equality with the whites.

### Its Basis—Profit

What is the basis for this oppression? Why do the white boss men and big farmers oppress the Negro more than the white worker? Why does the white ruling class carry on a constant campaign in the schools, the press and every else, to keep the white worker convinced that he is "superior to the Negro, that the Negro 'must be kept in his place'" Is it because the Negro happens to belong to another race? Is it because the Negro's skin is black and the white boss-ess skin is white? Not at all! The Negro is oppressed more than the white for one reason and for one reason only—because it means more profit for the white bosses and landlords. This works out in two ways.

First, by means of this extraordinary oppression the white ruling class is able to beat down wages to even below the minimum needed for existence. This is true of both the Negro farm workers and croppers. It must be clear to everyone that if the Negro had even the few rights of the white worker it would be much more difficult for the bosses and the landlords to keep wages so low and to cheat the cropper out of most of his crop. Thus, we can see that by this white system of oppression of the Negroes, the white ruling class is able to force wages and conditions on the Negro workers and farmers that would otherwise be possible, and this means extra profits for the white bosses and landlords, of course.

### Keep Wages Low

Second, by keeping the wages and conditions of the Negro workers down below that of the working class as a whole, the ruling class is able to use the white workers as well. Every worker knows that the standard excuse for cutting wages of white workers is that "Negroes will do the work cheaper." Every worker knows that in any strike in the South, the bosses always try (and often succeed) in breaking the strike by deliberately playing up the racial hatred they have created. When Negro workers strike it is white workers who are brought in to scab on them, and when white workers strike it is Negro workers who are used to break the strike. Thus we see that this special oppression of the Negroes enables the bosses to keep down wages of all workers, and of course make more profits for themselves.

(Second Article Next Week)

## Bass Spokesman Hints At Troops for Hungry

(Continued from Front Page)

Mayor Bass to present the unemployment demands. This time the workers are determined to hold their meeting, and the Unemployed Committee will call a preventive for scenes of distress and inevitable violence.

### The Bayonet Policy

What the unemployed are to expect from the city government, as already shown in the arrests of the leaders of the Feb. 10 demonstration, is again shown by the statement of Paul Krusi, manufacturer, representing Mayor Bass' unemployment committee at the meeting held here by the legislative body

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# Strange? No, System Makes Starvation

(The following is an open letter sent to The Arkansas Farmer by J. W. Webster of Blytheville, Ark., which he has asked us to print.—Ed.)

Blytheville, Ark.  
Mr. Stanley Andrews,  
Editor, The Arkansas Farmer,  
Little Rock, Ark.

Dear Sir—In your article in Feb. 1st issue of Arkansas Farmer, entitled "Where Do We Go From Here," I note this paragraph: "It is also rather strange that the soup kitchens are the most numerous, and the lines before the Red Cross headquarters are longest where land is richest." Now, really Mr. Andrews, does this seem STRANGE to you?

You make yourself ridiculous in the eyes of the farmers, those whom you pretend to want to help, by saying that this thing seems STRANGE. Then you show that you really do know the trouble, and to you it is not STRANGE at all, a little further on in your article you say "The facts are their own comment." And to clinch it still further, that you are not the very foolish man that you stated out to be, you say "Rather, we want to indicate that after all probably our system of farming in the rich land area of the state has something to do with our distress." Now why did you use the word PROBABLY WHEN YOU KNEW FULL THAT IT IS NOT THE WORD TO USE?

I have been reading your farm paper stuff ever since I was a small boy and in spite of all your hog and hominy advice, the farmer today is worse off than ever before. This ought to convince you of nothing else will. You only enable a farmer to endure his misery a little longer. Why content yourself with the little thing of wheeling the landlord out of a stall for a cow or a pen for the pig? The whole Yazoo Mississippi delta owned in blocks of from one to five thousand acres; from here comes the loudest wail of woe. While the poor hill country east of it owned by small farmers is scrubbing by.

A little farther south in the same poor hill country where the land was bought up in large blocks for its timber value, distress again sets in.

Everywhere at the times around the industrial centers, we have bread lines, and you say, and then something about PROBABLY OUR SYSTEM. Why not all a sudden a trade? Why, at the right word here? Ah, yes, CAPITALISM. No, we will not in your word SYSTEM, and say CAPITALISTIC SYSTEM. Now the whole thing is really understood. There is nothing STRANGE about it. Whenever the roasting hand of capitalism lays hold and spreads its withering blight there, you will find a plague more destructive than any drought, for a drought is seasonal, but CAPITALISM is constant and ever pressing.

CAPITALISM is a monster that has for its sole purpose, rent, interest and profit and the price of commodities never rises so low that the standard of living is not forced still lower, that rent, interest and profit may be had. Attack the monster! Dislodge this remorseless monster from its position of power. All other reforms are secondary in this. You ask, "Where Are We Going to From Here?" I answer, Forward into the fire—fields of socialized industry for socialized use, or BACKWARD INTO SLAVERY AND A CAPITALISTIC HELL.

—John E. Webster