

The SOUTHERN WORKER

The Paper of The Southern Toilers

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TUSCALOOSA CROPPERS OPEN FIGHT FOR CASH SHARE OF COTTON CHECK

Landlords Jail Six, Start New Terror Drive in Frantic Effort to Crush Union

DADEVILLE, Ala.—The Tallapoosa share croppers, under the leadership of the Share Croppers Union, are waging an organized fight for a cash share of the government's checks for plowed-under cotton. In an effort to crush this struggle, the landlords have arrested six croppers and framed them on a charge of assault with intent to kill. Croppers' cabins are being turned inside out in a search for literature, guns, and lists of members of the Croppers Union. A new wave of terror has been let loose in Tallapoosa County.

The excuse given for this particular series of raids is that a Negro stool-pigeon, Paul Powell, was given a severe beating recently. The landlords sent Powell into the Union as a spy, ordering him to get the names of leading members and turn the list over to the sheriff at Lafayette. Powell worked under the direction of Frank Wood, a white landlord who has announced that he is ready to kill every member of the Share Croppers Union.

The croppers who have already been arrested are James Kimbal, Tut Carl, John Willis, Perry Hill, George Simms, Jim Speate and John Taylor. They are held in \$1000 bond each.

Share Croppers Union Strong

The Share Croppers Union has grown until its size and power are a nightmare to the landlords. The year has been a bitter one for the small farmers, the croppers and the tenants. This, and the steady and brilliant organizational work of the union leaders, have brought the membership to the 5,500 mark.

The croppers, under the leadership of the union, have refused to sign the government checks made

out jointly to them and to the landlords, for the cotton the croppers plowed under. The joint checks are a scheme making it possible for the landlord, once he has the cropper's signature, to steal the entire sum. The landlord need merely put forward the claim that the money is owing to him for food and clothing furnished the cropper in the past.

A cropper from Dadeville writes the following description of how the landlords steal the entire sum for the plowed-under cotton:

Landlord Smith meets a cropper on his land, John Brown. "John," says the landlord—in the South, in accordance with a well-arranged system of insulting practices, any white man may address a Negro of any age by his first name—"John, I just got the cotton check from the Post Office. Come on up to the house and make your mark and get your share." John Brown goes to the house, where he finds the landlord's wife. The presence of the white woman is a threat that a rape charge will follow any attempt of the cropper to demand his share of the check. "Now, John," says the landlord, "I'm signing my



Here is Wirt Taylor, well-known Southern leader of the workers, organizer of the Birmingham Unemployed Council. Taylor was one of eight arrested on October 22, when police raided a conference of trade union delegates in the Old Pythian Hall. The roar of protest from the workers forced the unconditional release of Taylor and the others. (See story on page 2.)

TEXTILE STRIKES SWEEP SOUTH AS N.R.A. BRINGS PAY-CUTS, STRETCH-OUT

Thousands Out in South Carolina and Georgia; Troops Sent to Aid Bosses

BATH, S. C.—A desperate struggle against starvation resulting from the N. R. A. textile code, is being waged by the cotton mill workers in the Horse Creek Valley section of South Carolina and in Augusta, Ga. Mills are on strike at Augusta, Bath, Langley, Warrenville, Graniteville, and Clearwater.

Since the textile code went into operation, the mills have put in new stretch-out systems. This has thrown hundreds out of work. Like many other textile towns, Bath and other places nearby are finding the ranks of the unemployed swelled by the addition of discharged textile workers.

Cutting Pay

The "minimum" wage mentioned in the NRA code has become the maximum—and there is nothing in the code to prevent this. The pay of skilled and semi-skilled workers has been graded downwards.

The workers of these towns are also finding that, in spite of the ballyhoo about the NRA granting the right to organize, the employers refuse to meet with union committees, and cite the NRA provisions to back up their stand.

Violence and brutality against the strikers have marked the entire course of the struggle.

A machine-gun unit of the National Guard has been sent by Gov. Blackwood to the Horse Creek valley area, for use against the strikers. National guardsmen patrol the striking mill villages. Four machine guns have been set up in the town of Bath, a grim and silent threat to these workers fighting against starvation.

Governor Helps Mill Bosses

The governor has also ordered additional highway patrolmen to go on duty in the area. The "duty"

of these patrolmen will be to try to prevent groups of workers going from one textile center to another, appealing for solid action of the workers over the entire area.

Just before the arrival of the troops, workers from Augusta travelled to the Aiken mill at Bath, S. C., and picketed the plant. The police used tear gas bombs and a fire hose to disperse the picketers, who defended themselves with the utmost heroism.

Prepare Frame-Up

Twenty-two strikers have been arrested thus far, four of them women. That a brazen frame-up is in progress, and one which may have far-reaching results, is seen in the fact that one of the strikers is charged with assault and battery with intent to kill, and another with carrying a concealed weapon.

The leading officials of the A. F. of L. are doing all they can to betray this strike. Paul Fuller, representing the A. F. of L., has played a particularly dirty part. He has told the workers to cut out picketing on several occasions, and for days at a time. Picketing is (Continued on page 2)

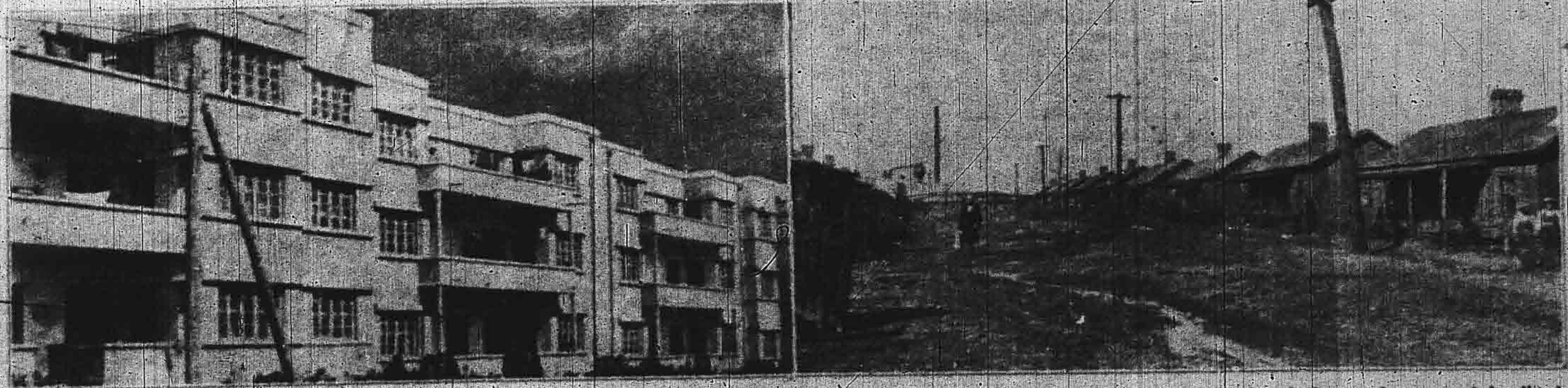
name here. Just touch the pen while I sign yours, or make your mark." If the cropper signs, the landlord goes on as follows: "Now, John, let's just run up your account. You owe me \$150 for the season. But your share of this check is for \$190. So we'll count that off and now you only owe me \$50."

Fight Eviction from Land

The croppers of Dadeville and surrounding areas, however, feeling strong in their organization, re-

(Continued on page 2)

STACK 3



Sixteen years ago, on November 7, 1917, the workers and poor farmers of Russia rose in a revolution. They overthrew the rule of the employers and landlords. They set up their own government, a government of workers and farmers. The best of everything in the Soviet Union (Soviet Russia) goes to the workers. At the left we see one of the beautiful apartment houses built in Baku, a part of the Soviet Union. As fast as possible, the workers have been moved from the barracks where they used to live and given places in houses like these. There are apartment houses as good as this in America too—but we workers don't live in them. We live, many of us, especially in the South, in such houses as are shown at the right. The picture shows a street of the houses in which the Sims-Sheffield Steel and Iron Company puts its workers. Unlike the Baku apartment house, these houses have no electricity, or other conveniences. Note the unpaved street in front of the houses.

Win Release of Eight Jailed in Birmingham

WORKERS ARRESTED UNDER JIM-CROW LAW WHILE AT UNION CONFERENCE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The workers of Birmingham have won a great victory. They have forced the police and city officials to release from jail without any charges at all seven delegates arrested on October 22, at an unemployment and trade union conference. Only one worker was held for a short period.

The police, headed by the notorious murderer, Officer Moser, of the Red Square, thought that they would keep the eight workers in jail and give them long sentences for violating the unconstitutional Jim-Crow assembly ordinance of Birmingham. This ordinance forbids white and Negro to meet together.

Flood of Protests

But the police officials—who do what the employers want them to do—were mistaken. Within twenty-four hours after the arrests, the city heads and Judge Henry Martin, who was in the case, were swarmed under with protests from workers and organizations. They knew that two things were at stake in these arrests: their right to organize for better conditions, and the right of white and Negro tailors to meet together. They knew that although there has been a lot of ballyhoo about the N. R. A. giving us the right to organize, this talk is just so much fakery. The fight to organize has to be fought for and won. And that fight was at issue in the arrests of October 22.

Ready to Fight Jim-Crowism

So strong was the wind of anger and protest that whirled about the ears of the city officials, that they did not even dare to bring the workers to trial. They did not dare

to press the Jim-Crow ordinance charge, especially when they saw white workers ready to go to jail for the right of white and Negro to meet jointly. The International Labor Defense, which defended these workers, announced that it was ready to fight this ordinance to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Arrested at Workers' Conference

The Birmingham workers are determined to get cash relief and more relief for the jobless, and to organize in unions against the wage-cutting policy of the N. R. A. They sent delegates to a conference on October 22 at the Old Pythian Hall, called by the Unemployed Council and the Rank and File Trade Union Committee.

Arrest Wirt Taylor

Before the meeting could even begin, the police entered and arrested four white workers and four Negroes. The whites were Bill Stone, Syd Brown, Marcus C. Ellis, candidate of the workers on the ticket of the Communist Party for head commissioner in the recent city elections, and Wirt Taylor, organizer of the Unemployed Council and outstanding Southern leader. The Negro workers were John Howard, Will Hosea, Homer Martin, and L. Sullivan. The police stole the documents of a delegate of the Switchmen's Union of the Railroad Brotherhoods.

But within three days the organized protests of the workers had forced the unconditional release of all those arrested.

A TALK WITH OUR READERS

By Jim Mallory
Editor, The Southern Worker

Almost every day I get letters from workers and farmers, asking: "Why doesn't the SOUTHERN WORKER come out oftener? Why doesn't it appear regularly, instead of now and then?"

These workers are quite right to ask this question. A paper that comes out only every now and then, cannot bring to the Southern masses regular news of the struggle against the employers and landlords. It cannot be a real leader and organizer of these struggles.

Hiding from the Police

Why, then, don't we publish the SOUTHERN WORKER oftener? Because, friends, to put out a paper like this is a very hard job, and one for which we need a great deal of money. We have to publish underground—that is, we have to print and distribute our paper in such a way that the police will not know where it is put out. It takes more money to publish this way than to publish openly.

The big newspapers, that print what the employers and landlords want, that tell lies about our struggles, have plenty of money. They get it from the employers in the form of advertising and in other ways. But the SOUTHERN WORKER, the paper of the toilers of the South, has no such source of income. Our treasury is in the pockets of the workers and poor farmers. Their nickels, pennies, dimes, and dollars pay our printer, buy our stamps and other supplies, and give the editor a chance to eat once in a while. If more money comes in during the month, we print sooner. If less money comes in, the next issue of the SOUTHERN WORKER has to be put off for a while.

Scottsboro Trials Set For Nov. 27, in Decatur

LYNCH-RULERS OF ALABAMA WILL MAKE NEW EFFORT TO SEND BOYS TO CHAIR

For the fourth time in two years, organized protest of millions of the rulers of Alabama are going to try to murder by a court trial the nine innocent Scottsboro boys. The news that these boys will be arraigned on November 26, and tried on November 27, should come as an alarm, a warning, a danger-signal, to every white and Negro worker and sympathizer who is honestly fighting frame-ups and oppression.

These nine boys, first tried in Scottsboro in March, 1931 on a fake charge of "rape", have been saved from the electric chair, and from lynching, again and again by the SOUTHERN WORKER.

We therefore ask our readers: Do you want to help to put the SOUTHERN WORKER on a regular basis? Do you want to see it come out every two weeks, then every week, carrying regular news of our conditions, acting as the leader and organizer in our struggles with the employers?

If you do, then act now! Can you pledge yourself to \$1 a month, to be paid regularly, so that the SOUTHERN WORKER may appear oftener? Can you get a friend, a neighbor, a fellow worker, an organization to which you belong, to pledge and send in \$4 a month? A lot of \$1 bills will put this paper on its feet. All contributions and pledges will be acknowledged at once.

Let's get on the job for a WEEKLY SOUTHERN WORKER.

workers in every corner of the world. The International Labor Defense earned their first conviction in the Supreme Court and with the masses behind it, forced the Supreme Court to grant a reversal.

When Haywood Patterson, one of the nine, was tried again in Decatur in March, 1933, and convicted by an all-white jury of businessmen, the mass protests forced Judge Horton to set aside the verdict once more.

Rulers Make Another Attempt

Now for the fourth time the lynchers will try to get the lives of these boys. They have set the trial for Decatur, which in the past few months has seen a number of brutal murders of Negroes. They have appointed Judge W. W. Callahan, boss-friend of Thomas E. Knight, to hear the case. An important witness of the last trial, E. L. Lewis, Chattahoochee Negro, has since been killed by poisoning. The lynch-rulers are especially angry because the I. L. D. has carried on a fight for the rights of Negroes to sit on juries.

The working masses of the South have a great and special part to play in saving these boys. The lynchers cannot afford to be deaf to voices of protest that come from their very door-step. Only a greater mass movement than we have had before can free these boys. Where millions protested and demonstrated before, there must now be hundreds of millions.

And loud among the protesting voices must be the voices of the Southern workers, white and Negro, struggling against conditions that grow more terrible every day. To stop these struggles, the rulers—employers and landlords—hope to throw in our faces the charred bodies of nine innocent Negro boys. We Southern workers must help to stay their hand!

Delegates of Toiling Farmers Will Plan Mass Fight On Hunger, Low Prices, and Mass Evictions From Land at National Conference in Chicago, Illinois, November 15-18

A call to the "forgotten men" of the countryside, to send delegates to a conference of working farmers has been issued by the Farmers National Committee for Action. The conference, which will be known as the Farmers Second National Conference, will be held in Chicago on November 15-18. There the "forgotten" men of the wheat, cotton, and tobacco fields, and other agricultural centers, will lay plans for a struggle against eviction, foreclosures, and starvation.

The SOUTHERN WORKER heartily endorses this conference. The Southern farming masses are the hardest hit in the country. We know that thousands of Southern farmers are already electing their delegates to the conference. The locals of the Share Croppers' Union, now 5500-strong, are sending many representatives. Groups of the Farmers Committee of Action in such sections as Andalusia, Ala., are sending delegates. Unorganized groups are getting together for the same purpose.

N. R. A. Hurting Farmers

The N. R. A. in spite of all the ballyhoo about helping the workers, is lowering wages. This is especially true for the skilled and semi-skilled textile and steel workers. Speed-up is throwing more hundreds of workers out of jobs. All this means that there will beout of cultivation. That means

fewer buyers for the products of the farmers. Working farmers always get the low price. The boom-time comes after the products are out of their hands. Inflation works injury to both working farmers and the workers in the town.

The working farmers of Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and other cotton lands have been particularly hard hit by the program of plowing under cotton. The plowing under of cotton—while millions go in rags—is a scheme that benefits only the speculators and landlords. These landlords were able to sell at a high price during the summer, the cotton they had stored away in their barns the year before. By the time the small farmer, cropper or tenant got ready to pick and sell, prices went crashing down.

The smaller cotton crop has put tenants and croppers deeper into debt—because they had less to exchange against the little clothes and food they got from the landlord. It has thrown thousands of agricultural laborers out of work.

The checks for the cotton the croppers and tenants plowed under, have been stolen outright by the landlords, on the excuse that they would have to be counted against outstanding debts.

Next year and the year after, the landlords and the government plan to keep 15 million cotton acres out of cultivation. That means

plowing under the croppers, who will no longer be needed. It means that some will be driven off the land, and others will be starved out because the landlord refuses to furnish.

Tobacco Farmers Suffer

In the tobacco fields of the Carolinas, the landlords are forcing croppers, tenants and small tobacco farmers, to let tobacco leaves rot on the stalk. Only the landlords and tobacco kings get anything out of such a program.

To plan a struggle against evictions from the land, against refusal of the landlords to furnish, against the plow-under program, against mortgage foreclosures and seizure of chattels, and for immediate relief for the starving farm population, the working farmers of the country will meet in conference in Chicago in the middle of November.

Any farmer, farm woman or farm youth, who makes his living wholly or mainly by his own and his family's labor on the farm, dispossessed farmers, and farm workers can be elected to the conference. The farmers should meet in the courthouses, in the school houses, in the woods if terror rides, and send delegates to join the farmers of other crops and fields.

Send all communications to the Farmers National Committee for Action, People's Auditorium, 2457 West Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

CROPPERS OPEN FIGHT FOR CASH SHARE OF CHECKS

(Continued from page 1)

fuse to sign these checks. They are also preparing a determined struggle against eviction from the land, which is one of the results of the campaign to reduce cotton acreage. "You can either become cash tenants or get off the land," say the landlords. This will not mean an increase in cash tenants, for the croppers have less money than ever this year. It will mean—unless the organized power of the croppers, agricultural workers and small farmers can prevent it—the mass eviction of hundreds of thousands of croppers from their fields and cabins. These evictions may take the form of starvation, the landlord refusing to furnish these croppers. Or, in many cases, the croppers will be driven off by the sheriffs and deputies.

More than ever this winter, the landlords are determined to smash the Croppers' Union. The arrests in Dadeville are the beginning of a new terror drive. Speed protests to Bob Slay, High Sheriff, at Lafayette, Ala.

TEXTILE STRIKES SWEEP SOUTH AS NRA BRINGS CUTS

(Continued from page 1)

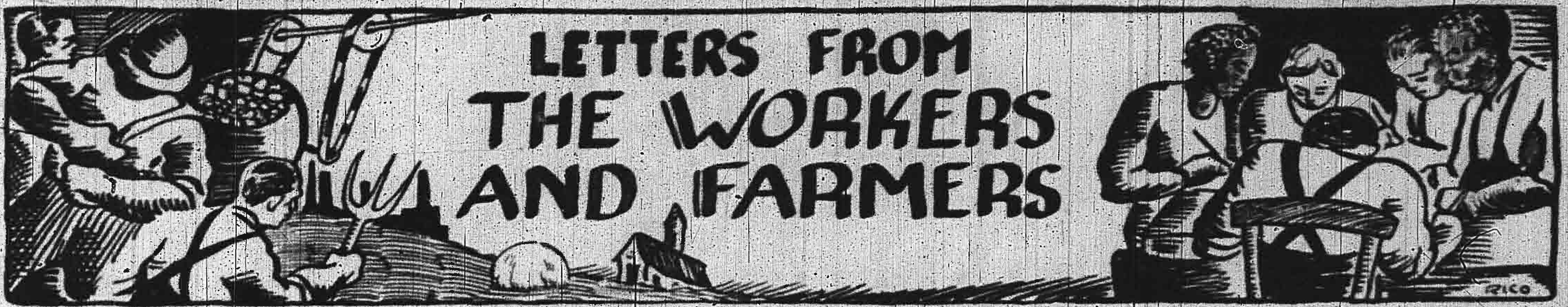
the strikers' chief weapon of struggle. Fuller called off the picketing of the Langley mill by the Bath and Clearwater workers.

Fuller Prepares Sell-Out

Now Fuller announces that the strikers "will accept any decisions of the National Cotton Textile Board," which is coming into the scene. This Board is a tool of the textile employers, and will act only in their interests. Fuller, preparing to sell out the strike, dares to speak in the name of the strikers.

Workers of the area must be on guard against Fuller and others of his kind, and against mediation and arbitration bodies like the Cotton Textile Board. Mediation and arbitration mean sell-out! The only hope for the textile workers is to carry on a militant struggle, under the leadership of strike committees which they themselves elect. Only in this way can they force the employers to grant higher wages, and the right to organize. Only in this way can they smash the vicious stretch-out, made many times worse under the NRA textile code.

Great pressure on our space forced us to omit Bill Morton's RED RHYME in this issue. The Red Rhymes will be continued with the next issue.



LETTERS FROM THE WORKERS AND FARMERS

Norfolk Longshoremen Tell of Terrible Conditions on Docks and In Shacks

"So Sorry You Are Starving," Say La. Relief Officials

(By a Farmer Correspondent)
CLOUTIERVILLE, La.—Here in Natchitoches Parish we have a "wonderful" relief system that puts people on the relief list who can pay for whiskey, beer, dancing, and cigars, and can also pay to see horse races. But at the same time I can show you lots of people with little children who can't get salt or soda to put into the corn meal. If a person in need applies for relief, they hear: "We are sorry you're starving, we cannot help you."

A man who is starving, and has a family, wrote to Governor O. E. Allen, who is the head of the E. R. A. of Louisiana. Governor Allen requested the E. R. A. to investigate the case, but the E. R. A. made no investigation.

No Soda or Salt

The landowners here tell others not to hire any of their share-croppers, and yet these landowners won't feed the croppers, won't even let them have soda and salt to put in their wormy corn meal.

There are two or three croppers who could have gotten a job at a gin for two or three months, and made enough to hire the cotton picked and still have enough to buy something to eat, but their landlord told the gin manager not to hire them. The gin manager wanted to keep this landlord's trade so he did not hire the croppers.

N. R. A. MEANS PAY CUTS, SPEED-UP IN ALA. FOUNDRY

(By a Worker Correspondent)
BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—All of the workers in the Alabama foundry have been speeded up to the limit. Under the N. R. A., we are not making enough to meet the high prices. The white workers are making only \$2.40 a day, with prices sky-high. The Negro workers are still cut 10 cents a week for welfare and 35 cents a day for sand-cutting.

RED MEANS BREAD

If "red" means bread for wife and kid,
A job for you and me,
Why be afraid of being red,
Of wanting work, of wanting bread?
If organizing means we're red,
Then red's the thing to be!

—B. M.

SHIPS' GANGS FORCED TO LOAD FREIGHT WITHOUT EXTRA PAY WHILE CAR GANGS ARE JOBLESS

(By a Worker Correspondent)
NORFOLK, Va.—The situation in Norfolk is bad, and especially on the unorganized docks, the Merchants and Miners Transportation Co., the P. and N. Line, the Old Bay Lines, and the Chesapeake Lines.

What is the cause of this situation? The trouble is that without struggling along the concrete program of the Marine Workers Industrial Union, we are forced to accept with a smile anything that these companies hand us.

Let us look at the Norfolk and Western piers, especially Pier S. When there is a change to be made that will affect the men, what will they do? First, they will call all hook men to the front (those who have been in service from four to fifteen years) to tell them of the change about to be made. They know that these men, without any form of organization, have to accept this change. If we were organized things would be different.

Waiting for Work

At the N. and W., the men sit around from two to three, and sometimes four hours, before going to work. We would not be compelled to do that if we were organized.

One day at the Merchant and Miners dock, the car gangs stood by all day, with only three hours made for a day's work. The ship was being discharged, also the tide was rising, barges were being placed alongside the docks to remove the freight for fear of getting damaged. After discharging the ship, the ship's gang began to load the freight off the floor on

ROCKINGHAM, N. C. MILLS CUT WAGES

(By a Worker Correspondent)
ROCKINGHAM, N. C.—The bosses of the Pee Dee Mills are running the mill only five hours a day and four days a week, thus cutting the wages of the workers to one-half of what is called for by the robbery code.

This and other grievances in the mills have raised a storm of indignation and the workers are looking forward and preparing for a strike.

The workers are coming to see that the only way to better their conditions is by organizing and fighting for improvements.

barges that the car gang could have loaded at the same time the ship was being discharged. Some may ask, what was wrong with that? I say that plenty was wrong. If the ship's gangs were organized they would have refused to do that work when the car gangs were standing by.

Several weeks ago M. M. and T.

Dock Workers Are Forced to Live in Filthy Hovels

(By a Worker Correspondent)

NORFOLK, Va.—I want to describe some of the conditions at the Points. The men must be on hand at all times to satisfy the bosses. So shanties are built for them. These are built right under the pier and about one hundred feet from the dock, where the ships are loaded.

All the dirt and dust from the dumping of coal blows right into the shanty, and settles on the bunks. The floor is full of holes, and the dampness coming right through makes the bed covers sticky and gummy. When you walk into one of these shanties it smells first like one thing and then another.

Yet these men are members of the International Longshoremen's Association, they pay dues as if they were getting all rights and privileges of union membership. Plenty of coal is shipped from the piers to supply every one of us with a good living, but we are being deprived of the right to live by illegal self-trimming.

Illegal Coal-Trimming

The longshoremen are hard-working, but they are not much better off than the unemployed. The average earnings per man at Lambert's Point and Sewall's Point are not more than \$5 a week. The men are robbed, especially the coal trimmers, by the operation of self-trimming ships. That is in direct violation of the agreement. The seamen on the coal boats have to trim the coal against their will, and don't get a cent for it, and the bread is taken out of our mouths.

We need a union that will fight. The I. L. A. is not such a union. We must put the rank and file in control, must build the Marine Workers Industrial Union, and then we will get a chance to live.

Co. car gangs were bawled out by one of the clerks at the clock. They are always notified when to return for work by the blackboard. They returned at the given time. No one was there to check them in, so they returned to their lockers, until the clerk came down from the office to check them in. This happened so often that the men decided to wait at the locker until the clerk came down from the office before going to the clock to check in. On this particular morning the clerk came down, and found the men out at the lockers. When the men arrived at the clock, the clerk, Whiteards, was at the boiling point. He began to curse the men. The next morning the men had the same call, 9:30, but the clerks did not show up until ten minutes to ten.

Foremen Graft on the Job

Fellow-workers, we know the conditions the longshoremen are working under at present. Some are paying the foreman cash in order to make a few dollars a week and some do not work at all. Is President George Milliner doing anything about this? No.

The only thing that will prevent worse conditions is a growing membership in the Marine Workers Industrial Union. This is a union that is really controlled by the men, and that fights for better wages and conditions. We have a splendid opportunity here. We workers are in the key industry of Hampton Roads. With the program of the Marine Workers Industrial Union, we do not have to become beggars nor accept anything the bosses of Hampton Roads cram down our throats.

WORK IN WATER AT SAYRETON MINES

(By a Worker Correspondent)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—At the Sayreton mines, our working conditions are still the same old thing, only worse. We have to walk the long slope every day, when we are supposed to ride to work. After walking to work, we have to stand in water to do our jobs.

All this is simply because the mine owners try to get by as cheap as they can. We do not have any mantrips to ride into work, and that is why we have to walk nine or ten miles. We have to stand in water because the company does not hire a man to keep this water out with a pump.

N. R. A. Brings Fast Pace, Less Pay To Boothton Miners

(By a Worker Correspondent)
BOOTHTON, Ala.—The mine-owner, Mr. Peters, here has put in a conveyor-belt system. This is a stretch-out and fast pace system that is not exceeded even by Ford. Here the N. R. A. has helped Mr. Peters, and only Mr. Peters. Formerly, the miners worked separately, or in twos and threes in separate rooms, getting paid by the ton. Now it's shovel and load in the pans chained to the belt. From 8 to 12 coal loaders are worked on each conveyor belt, and the coal loaded runs anywhere from 100 to 150 tons per conveyor.

Timber Without Pay

The coal loaders also have to timber the roof every four feet, without any extra pay for it. Although the work is now limited to eight hours a day, five days a week, the coal loaded in five days is more than used to be loaded in two weeks by the same number of men.

The pay at present is \$2.25 to \$2.50 for coal loaders, who, if they were paid by the ton, would earn \$5 to \$7 per day.

Workers have begun to complain of the speed-up.

WORKERS IN UNIT STOVE, GET LESS PAY IN NEW DEAL

(By a Worker Correspondent)
BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—What does the N. R. A. mean to us workers in the Unit Stove Foundry? The boss promised us a 50 per cent raise on the dollar but we did not get it. We got a 10 per cent raise, which was not a raise at all. Because now we can only make from \$12 to \$17.50 a week, when we used to make as high as \$24 before we went under the N. R. A. Yet we are speeded up to the highest limit.

BOASTS OF N. R. A. ARE LIES, SAYS WORKER

(By a Worker Correspondent)
GADSDEN, Ala.—The N. R. A. boasts that it is raising wages. But in the steel mills here, before the new deal we made 50 to 60 hours a week at 25 cents an hour.

Now under the new deal we make 30 to 40 hours a week at 25 cents an hour.

So you see we have not got a wage-raise, but a wage-cut under the new deal.

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The Russian Revolution — And Us

Sixteen years ago, on November 7, 1917, the workers and poor farmers of Russia rose in revolution. They overthrew the rule of the employers and landlords. They set up their own government, a government of workers and farmers, the best of its kind in history.

Today the government that they set up—the Soviet government—still stands. In the Russian language, the word "Soviet" means a council or assembly. The new form of government was one of workers', soldiers', and poor farmers' councils, or Soviets.

NO CRISIS IN THE SOVIET UNION

We workers in the United States find ourselves today in the most terrible economic crisis of history. Only one country is free from this crisis and its effects—the Soviet Union. The ills from which we workers suffer are unknown in the Soviet Union.

In the United States, seventeen million of us are unemployed. In the Soviet Union, there are not enough people to fill all the jobs.

Here in the United States, and especially in the South, the N. R. A. codes are cutting our wages right and left, especially the wages of the skilled and semi-skilled workers. In the Soviet Union, the wages of all workers are being steadily increased.

SOCIAL INSURANCE

When we workers here meet with an accident, or get sick, when the women workers have children, we do not get one cent from the employers or the government to keep us alive while we are forced to be away from work. But in the Soviet Union, there is a system of SOCIAL INSURANCE which provides sick benefit for all workers, old-age pensions, and maternity insurance, which grants women workers vacation with full pay two months before and two months after child-birth.

The poor farmers, tenants, croppers and agricultural laborers in the U. S., and particularly in the South, are ground down under the most terrible poverty. They are forced to put their crops under the ground. The croppers are bound to the landlord by the iron chains of debt.

But in the Soviet Union, the conditions of the poor farmers improve all the time. The landlords and rich farmers have been chased out. The poor and middle farmers are getting together in big collective farms, which they manage in common. The government supplies modern farm machinery to these collective farms. No working farmer can be thrown off the land.

FREEDOM FOR OPPRESSED NATIONS

Here in the United States, there is a nation of oppressed people, the Negroes. The Black Belt of the South is a territory kept in bondage by the white rulers of the United States. Although the majority of the people in this territory are Negroes, they have no rights. They do not own the land. They cannot vote, nor hold office, nor sit on juries.

And that was the way it was in old Russia, under the Czar. There were hundreds of oppressed nationalities, deprived of all rights. One of the first decrees issued by the Soviet government granted to all oppressed nations full equality and the right of self-determination. That means the right to govern the territory in which they lived as they saw fit, and even to separate it from the rest of the country if they wished to do so. The Soviet Union is the one country in the world where race discrimination is a crime that is punished by the courts. The whole experience of the Soviet Union shows us that the white workers of the U. S. can gain their freedom only by helping to gain freedom for the oppressed Negroes.

WORKERS RULE THE SOVIET UNION

And so we ask ourselves: why is there no unemployment, no crisis, in the Soviet Union? Why is the Soviet Union increasing its production, why has it successfully finished a great five-year-plan of building factories and farms, while in this country factories are closing every day? Why is the Soviet Union growing more and more wheat and cotton, while we are forced to plow under the wheat and cotton, though millions are starving and in rags? Why are wages going up there, under the five-year-plan, and down here under the hammer blows of the N. R. A.?

The answer is that in the Soviet Union, the WORKERS rule, they own all the means of production, and they produce things for their own use, for the good of all, and not for the profit of a few rich people. In the rest of the world, we still have the rule of employers and landlords—that is, we still have the capitalist system. Under this system, things are produced only to make profits for the employers and landlords.

DANGER OF WAR AGAINST THE WORKERS' COUNTRY

The capitalists—the rulers—of the whole world, hate and fear the Soviet Union, for it is an example to the workers of the world, showing us how much better we can get along without employers and landlords. Thus there is a constant and growing danger of war against the Soviet Union, in the capitalist world, in such a war, the interests of the workers are with the Soviet Union, the only workers' country. The most dangerous danger of such a war, is in the order of world, or world-plan, the Soviet Union has stood out as the only country to have peacefully survived world war.

The Soviet Union has so greatly increased the buying power of its workers that it has become an important factor in world trade. This

T. E. BARLOW, MARTYRED LEADER OF THE SOUTHERN WORKERS

By JOHN SEYMOUR

"We are not arresting you, Barlow. The chief just wants to question you."

T. E. Barlow, organizer of the Unemployed Council in Texas, and two fellow workers, had been trailed by detectives from a meeting of the Council in East Bluff Park, Ft. Worth, to the Western Union Office. They were sending a telegram to Governor Miriam A. Ferguson, protesting the discontinuance of all relief.

In less than twenty-four hours from the time they were stopped on the street, Barlow, with his companions H. N. Macomb and E. E. Hardy, had been charged with "unlawful assembly."

In less than forty-eight hours, Barlow had been murdered in the Tarrant County Jail.

T. E. Barlow, the latest martyr of the class struggle and the first in Texas, gave up his life on the night of September 2.

Singularly gentle in his personal relations, Barlow was nevertheless a fierce and uncompromising fighter for the working class. Because he could neither be cowed nor bought off, the rulers killed him.

Barlow Born in Kentucky

Our dead comrade was a Southerner by birth. Forty years ago, he was born in Kentucky, the son of a carpenter. Twenty years ago young Barlow came to Texas, after having learned his father's trade.

During the World War, Barlow served overseas. He drew compensation of \$32 per month, until March of this year, when it was cut off under the provisions of the "new deal."

Barlow first became interested in the Communist movement during the Gastonia strike of 1929. Later, when the Houston Unemployed Council was organized, Barlow became one of its leaders.

In 1932, Barlow was elected a delegate to the Communist Nominating Convention in Chicago, although he was not at that time a member of the Communist Party. The convention, with its splendid enthusiasm and militant fervor, left such an impression on his mind that soon afterwards, he joined the Houston unit of the Party.

A Leader of the Workers

Almost overnight, Barlow became the outstanding leader of the Party in this state. The state convention of the Party held in 1932 nominated him for Lieutenant-Governor.

The workers of Ft. Worth had long needed effective organization. Comrade Barlow volunteered to start the Unemployed Council in this large Texas city.

A small unemployed group, of about 100 members, previously led by an irresponsible adventurer who

mouthed radical phrases, readily accepted the leadership of Barlow, whose sincerity was convincing. Within a month, Barlow had built up a fighting Unemployed Council of 800 members. He had also built an aggressive unit of the Communist Party.

Under Barlow's leadership, the Unemployed Council won one concession after another from the city authorities. The workers got more relief. Many demonstrations were held. The authorities trembled. The heads of the Chamber of Commerce went into frequent and frantic consultations.

Placed in the Death-Cell

In a desperate effort to crush the struggles of the jobless, the city authorities, during the summer of 1933, arrested Barlow and 28 oth-



This is a side view of the terrible barracks at Diga Colony, Texas, where the transient unemployed are herded and set to work at forced labor. It was to put an end to conditions like this that T. E. Barlow, organizer of the Fort Worth Unemployed Council, laid down his life.

ers who had been delegated to replace some furniture in the home of an evicted worker. Barlow was thrown into the old death-cell of the Tarrant County Jail, and placed under \$1500 bond, on a charge of unlawful assembly. Barlow steadfastly refused to accept bail until all of his followers had been freed.

From that day on, Barlow became a well-known figure all over the state. The workers of Texas, seeing the magnificent struggles in Ft. Worth, began to show an interest in the revolutionary program of the Communist Party. And wherever they considered Communism, they linked it with the name of the man whom they loved and respected.

Then, on the evening of September 2, Barlow was murdered.

Whitewashing a Murder

The official report of the grand jury on Barlow's death, is a brazen whitewash. The grand jury reported that Barlow had had a fight with a boxer and that his skull had been fractured. They said that his skull was extremely thin. It is true that Barlow had a fight with Charles Morgan, a young boxer, after being transferred from

the city to the county jail. But the police undoubtedly finished the job which Morgan may have been planted to begin.

Why did the jailers delay two hours after Barlow collapsed, before taking him to a hospital? Would a fist fight in which five or six blows were exchanged have left marks all over a man's body? Why were the witnesses to the first autopsy all officers and business men? Why was Morgan released from jail the day after the fight?

As a matter of fact, Morgan now denies having struck Barlow against a bar, and witnesses to the fight substantiate his story.

Now hear the testimony of workers who examined Barlow's body. A heavy wound extended from over the right temple down to the cheekbone. The face was black and blood-shot, indicating that Barlow had been struck with a blunt instrument. The left cheek was bruised. A long streak covered both eyes and the bridge of the nose across the face.

Whole Body Bruised and Crushed

The left shoulder was bruised with a cut on the upper forearm, the shoulder appearing to have been dislocated or broken. The back of the skull was crushed in. There was a small hole in the center of the forehead, which might have been made with an ice-pick or a bullet.

The left ankle was swollen and bruised, as if it had been broken. The insteps and soles of the feet were beaten black. The toes of both feet were welded together in a solid mass of blisters, apparently having been burned with electricity, acid or fire. The pores in the skin of the left leg had begun to ooze blood, as if they had been broken or twisted.

The Unemployed Council of Ft. Worth charges that a portion of Barlow's skull had been removed to hide incriminating evidence. When Dr. O. R. Grogan performed a second autopsy at the request of the Unemployed Council, he found that the skull had been stuffed full of medicated cotton. Dr. Grogan also scouted the theory of embalming fluids, making the burns on Barlow's body. An electrician examining Barlow declared the burns to be electrical in nature.

The city and county officials declare that the case has been closed. But the Fort Worth Unemployed Council has NOT closed the case. The case will never be closed in the minds of thousands of Texas workers, who know Barlow, either personally or by reputation. It will not be closed as long as there are two classes, the rich and the poor, the employers and the workers.

Three thousand people gathered in the First Baptist Church, on September 4 to pay the last tribute to a gallant and true leader of the working class. One hundred comrades with red and black sashes followed the body to the grave of Barlow in Mt. Zion cemetery.

Barlow was a leader of the workers' revolution. But the revolution is not over. The Unemployed Council of Ft. Worth, organized by workers and poor farmers, is still working for the liberation of the workers. The workers are still being crushed by the employers and the government. The workers must continue to fight for their freedom.