

White and  
Colored Workers,  
Unite!

# SOUTHERN WORKER

Don't Starve—  
Fight for Social  
Insurance!

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## First Victory for ILD at Scottsboro

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KY. MINERS STRIKE, DEMAND TROOPS AND GUNMEN WITHDRAW

### A F of L Called in Troops; Miners In Mass Protest

### Delegates To All-Southern Meet Elected

### Mass Protest Already Gains Points in Court

Jail 29 While Troops With Machine Guns Hold Off Miners; 5,000 Unemployed

HARAN, Ky.—Five hundreds miners struck here in protest against the arrival of troops and demanded the withdrawal of the mine owners armed guards. Three mines were struck completely.

HARLAN, Ky.—Miners thruout this section who had been waging a fierce struggle against starvation, are enraged at the invasion by troops being used to support the mine owners and their gunmen and the arrest of 29 of their number indicted by the grand jury for "murder," "banding and confederating," and other charges.

When close to 400 troops, heavily armed with machine guns, grenades and artillery, came into Everts, the mine center, groups of demonstrating miners, numbering as high as 1,000, demanded their withdrawal. At the same time a group of 100 composed of the business men of the town, company officials, and United Mine Workers officials and hangers-on marched to the edge of town to welcome them, waving the American flag.

#### U. M. W. Officials Call Troops

The troops were sent by Governor Sampson of Kentucky after he had been petitioned to do so by the local labor fakery of the U. M. W., 50 business men of Harlan and Sheriff Blair, notorious two-gun strike-breaker of the Black Mountain Coal Company and the Harlan Mine Owners Association. William Turnblazer, district president of the U. M. W., Lawrence Dwyer, Pineville A. F. of L. official, and Peter Campbell, secretary of the Kentucky Federation of Labor, signed the petition for troops.

The labor fakery are now demanding that martial law be proclaimed.

The 29 indicted were arrested by troops heavily armed with machine guns and rifles. Sheriff Blair and his men being afraid to go near Everts after the decisive defeat given them by the miners a few days before when three deputies and one miner were killed in a gun battle.

#### Independent Local

Local president Hightower and district president Turnblazer had jammed thru a vote in the mine local to "cooperate with the troops" when they told the miners that the governor had made an agreement with them that the troops would disarm the mine guards. The miners now see this to be a fake, and that the majority of the miners did not believe them was shown by the thousands demonstrating against the troops in Everts.

The miners local in the Harlan coal fields is not recognized by the United Mine Workers, altho officials of this fakery's outfit are busy in this region misleading the miners. There is strong opposition to these union misleaders among the miners, especially since they saw these officials, for the first time in mine struggle history, petition for troops, to supplement the mine guards.

#### Miners Evicted

Those arrested and charged with murder are Frank Smith and Al Benson, miners, chief of police Asa C. (Turn To Page Four)

### 6,000 IN PA. SILK STRIKE

ALLENTOWN, Pa.—Over 6,000 silk workers here are on strike, closing down every mill, against a wage-cut of 16 percent. The strike was spontaneous and spread like wild-fire within a few days to every silk mill in this city.

As they did in Danville, Va., and at Elizabethton, Tenn., the officials of the United Textile Workers have entered the battle—on the side of the bosses—telling the strikers that they are there to help them. Like in Marion, where six strikers were murdered in cold blood for following the advice of the fakery, the strikers are being told to picket in small groups, peacefully, practically with bibles in their hands.

The National Textile Workers Union, which had begun organization among the workers, is warning the strikers against the sell-out tactics of the U. T. W., urging them to elect a broad rank-and-file strike committee, and carry on the strike by mass picketing.

### Jail Braxton, Marine Organizer, in Orleans

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Eugene Braxton, Negro youth organizer of the Marine Workers Industrial Union here, was arrested on the docks while distributing literature to the seamen and charged with "no visible means of support, distributing literature without a permit and violation of the federal injunction."

### Make Warrior Miners Professional Beggars

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—A new idea for solving unemployment has been announced by a minister here. It consists in making handicrafts people out of miners—set them to work at making quilts and other odds and ends with no hopes of being able to compete with the manufactured products and depending upon charity to sell their goods. Minister Morgan wants to make professional beggars out of 500 miners in and around Warrior.

For the last few years the miners here have been starving. Today they are actually starving to death. While

### Form Block Groups For Scottsboro Defense

Calls inviting them to send delegates to the All-Southern Scottsboro Defense Conference to be held in Chattanooga, May 31, at the Masonic Hall, have already been sent to over 3,000 Negro churches, lodges fraternal orders and Negro and white union bodies by the Provisional Committee of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights and the International Labor Defense.

#### Scottsboro Block Committees

The League of Struggle for Negro Rights is preparing for the Conference by organizing Scottsboro Defense block committees in Chattanooga, Birmingham, Atlanta, and New Orleans. Workers living in one block, who are willing to join the struggle (Turn To Page Two)

### N. C. Scottsboro Meet on May 24th

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—A United Front Scottsboro Defense Conference for the Charlotte District has been called jointly by the League of Struggle for Negro Rights and the International Labor Defense to be held in this city on May 24th, at 30 S. College street.

All Negro and white organizations churches and fraternal orders in Charlotte and vicinity who wish to join the fight for the release of the boys, are being invited to send delegates.

The conference is called not only to organize and centralize the protest against the Scottsboro courthouse lynching, but also against the rape frame-up of three Negro farm laborers at Mint Hill, N. C.

Delegates from the Charlotte District Conference will be elected to the All-Southern Scottsboro Defense Conference at Chattanooga.

The Communist Party has also issued leaflets calling upon workers in the mills, churches and organizations to elect delegates to the Charlotte Conference.

### Mrs. Wright and Girl Welcomed by New York Workers; Members Hit N. A. A. C. P. Traitors

Two important victories were won by the International Labor Defense in the fight to save the lives of the nine Scottsboro boys, when the hearing for a new trial for Haywood Patterson came up in the Scottsboro court on May 6th.

A hearing on a new trial was granted not only in the case of Haywood Patterson, but also to the other seven boys already convicted and for whom a new trial had been denied by Judge Hawkins when Roddy made the weak and ineffectual motions at the close of the trials.

#### Important Victories

This is an extremely important victory, since according to Alabama law, once a new trial had been refused, the hearing cannot be reopened. This permits the introduction of the mass of new evidence proving the boys' innocence and exposing the frame-up.

The second point won was that Judge Hawkins granted a change in venue from Scottsboro to Fort Payne, fifty miles away.

#### Wor by Mass Protest

The winning of these two points was made possible by the mass movement of protest against the legal lynching thruout the country. George W. Chamlee, International Labor Defense attorney, who argued the motion at Scottsboro, declares that this victory is due to the resolutions and telegrams of protest pouring in from all parts of the country.

Stephen Roddy, the attorney denounced by the boys and their parents as a traitor, and whom the N. A. A. C. P. and the Ministers Alliance claim to be their attorney in the case, did not even show up in the court room.

It was while Haywood Patterson was being tried that the jury in the case of the first two to be tried, Norris and Weems, returned with a verdict of guilty and the courtroom as well as the mob gathered outside burst into frenzied applause. The verdict was received by a brass band with the jury sitting on the case of Patterson taking it all in.

#### Ozie Powell 14 Years Old

Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two of the boys, and her 9-year-old girl, Elsa—known to the Chattanooga workers as sister—arrived in New York City and was given an enthusiastic welcome at the terminal by white and Negro workers. She will speak in New York and other Northern cities under the auspices of the International Labor Defense, rallying more mass support in the struggle to save her boys and the other defendants.

In a letter sent to the League of Struggle for Negro Rights by Mrs. Josephine Powell, mother of Ozie Powell, who is facing the electric chair reveals that her son is only 14 years old, instead of 16 as he was made to say at the trial. This means that three of the nine boys—Roy Wright, Eugene Williams and Ozie Powell—are all under 16 years (Turn To Page Two)

### Cut Farm Wages To 25 Cents In Ala. Black Belt

TALLAPOOSA, Ala.—The planters of this vicinity have agreed among themselves to do away with share croppers and tenants and instead use the Negro and white tenants as farm laborers, paying the men 50 cents a day and the women 25 cents a day, according to reports circulating here.

This would mean nothing but outright slavery for the Negro and white farm workers here in the heart of the Black Belt. This outrageous wage for a day's work lasting from sun-up to sun-down will never be seen by the workers, since it will all be kept by the planters to pay off debts that the workers were supposed to have piled up. Even the slight degree of indolence enjoyed by a farm tenant or cropper would thus be taken entirely away from him.

The sawmills in this area are paying \$1 a day for highly skilled workers and 50 cents daily to the laborers.

The Communist Party has organized number of groups of farm workers and sawmill workers in this vicinity to lead the struggle against the proposed peonage and against the conditions that exist at present. A number of meetings have already been held, at which the Negro renters and croppers have enthusiastically welcomed Communist leadership and sent resolutions of protest against the Scottsboro legal lynching to Governor Miller. Delegates to the All-Southern Scottsboro Defense Conference to be held in Chattanooga on May 31, are being elected from among the farm workers.

there were 5,000 miners in this section 40 years ago, mining steam coal for the railroads, today there are only 500. These 500 miners were working only one or two days a week for the past few years and today the mines are shut down entirely. Even according to the minister, there have been such severe wage-cuts that the reductions place the "wage scale at a figure that, with six days work per week for every man, the men could hardly provide a decent living for their families."

Sudden interest was taken in the miners when a delegation of 22 min-

ers appeared before the Jefferson County Commissioners last week and demanded jobs and relief. The Commissioners refused to give it to them on the grounds that it was "illegal."

Now the charity hogs are trying to hamstring the miners by the home industry idea, on the basis of which Morgan is now collecting funds. Real relief can only be obtained by forcing the mine owners and county commission to grant cash relief to the miners and demanding this new charity fund being raised turned over to the miners for distribution among them.



# WIN VICTORY AT SCOTTSBORO

(Continued From Front Page)  
 of age. The parents and closest relatives of the five boys from Georgia have all issued statements fully endorsing the International Labor Defense and placing full confidence in them.

### Denounce N. A. A. C. P.

Members of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, are following the lead of William Pickens, field organizer who has endorsed and supports the International Labor Defense in the fight to save the boys. There is wide movement of resentment against the treacherous tactics of the "leadership" of this organization among the members, who demand a united front with the I. L. D. and other organizations. One member of the organization, in a letter to the Daily Worker, central organ of the Communist Party, attacks the N. A. A. C. P. leadership for its "sinister inaction in the case of the nine black boys who are in the shadow of the electric chair in Alabama." He condemns the national office of that organization for refusing to join the united defense movement.

"As a genuine testimony of my interest," he writes, "I enclose a check for \$10. Five Dollars for the I. L. D., and \$5 for the Southern Worker, that courageous little paper that is carrying on the work of the Abolitionists in the very heart of the South."

### Another Vile Lie

In an effort to try to cripple the defense of the boys by preventing workers and friends from donating funds, A. Randolph Neal, Nashville lawyer, attacked the International Labor Defense in a statement issued to the boss paper—which of course they printed—by lying about the use of the funds. According to him the funds collected for the case will be used for "Communist propaganda," and he attempts to use his own connection with the Gastonia case to prove this. The truth of the matter is, that Neal was never hired to defend the Gastonia strikers, but himself offered his services free in return for publicity which he hoped to obtain, and refused to follow the defense policy as laid down by the International Labor Defense.

Thousands of dollars have already been expended by the International Labor Defense in fighting the case thus far, and extra thousands will be needed, which can only come from the hundreds of thousand of workers and friends who sincerely wish to join the struggle to save the lives of the boys.

The Ministers' Alliance at Chattanooga and certain churches in this city and others are collecting funds on the basis of the Scottsboro Defense, which never reach the International Labor Defense, and are used either for personal purposes or in betraying the boys, as by the Ministers' Alliance. All workers and organizations are asked to see to it that funds are sent direct to the International Labor Defense, 416 Temple Court Bldg., Chattanooga, Tenn.

### Workers! Act!

The All-Southern Scottsboro Defense Conference to be held in Chattanooga on May 31, is expected to centralize the whole wide protest movement and be a high peak in the fight.

Workers, see to it that your organizations, the workers in your shop, elect delegates to this conference! Form block committees for Scottsboro defense! Raise funds to carry on the defense of the boys, which should be sent to the International Labor Defense, 416 Temple Court Bldg., Chattanooga, Tenn.

### 175 LAID OFF

JESUP, Ga.—Due to the bankruptcy of the Case-Fowler Lumber Co., of Macon over 175 men have been thrown out of work, with no prospects of getting other jobs.

## Elect Delegates To All-South Conference

(Continued From Front Page)  
 for the release of the nine boys, are organized into a committee which carries on the work of spreading literature, collecting funds and preparing for the Conference. These committees must not necessarily be formed by the L.S.N.R., but any worker who wishes to do so may organize such committees.

In Chattanooga a number of such block committees have already been formed and the work is progressing rapidly. In addition to delegates from churches and organizations, delegates will also be sent to the All-Southern Conference from the block committees.

### Delegates From Black Belt

News comes from Tallapoosa county in the heart of the Alabama black belt, that Negro sharecroppers and tenants organized into groups by the Communist Party, are working out ways and means of sending their delegates to the Conference.

A number of churches have already elected delegates to the conference and the organizers of the International Labor Defense and League of Struggle for Negro Rights are being flooded with invitations to speak before churches, despite the treacherous activity of the Ministers' Alliance.

### Autos Wanted

Under the direction of the Provisional Committee for the Conference, which includes the Chattanooga parents of the Scottsboro defendants, all preparations are being made for the Conference and block committees are being formed.

The Provisional Committee asks all individuals or organizations out of town who have machines or trucks at their disposal to get in touch with the Provisional Committee at 416 Temple Court Bldg., Chattanooga, immediately, so that arrangements can be made to transport as large a number of delegates to the conference as possible.

### New Orleans Conference

Invitations are also being sent to the dozen or so conferences being held thruout the country during the month of May to send delegates to the All-Southern Conference

In New Orleans preparations are in full swing for a city-wide Scottsboro Defense Conference to be held on May 24, from which delegates will be elected to Chattanooga.

The secretary or organizer of all block committee organized by workers independently are urged to get in touch with the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, Box 219, Chattanooga, Tenn., immediately.

## I. L. D. Wins Freedom For Oregon Worker

PORTLAND, Ore.—John Moore, tried under the criminal syndicalism law of Oregon for being a member of the Communist Party, was found not guilty by a jury after deliberation of a few hours, while speakers of the International Labor Defense and other militant organizations were addressing large crowds of workers on the square near the courthouse.

The freedom of Moore, a lumber worker, was obtained by a mass movement of workers in the Northwest, whose united voice of protest forced the court to acquit him. This is the second victory obtained by mass campaigns led by the International Labor Defense within the last two weeks, the other being the release of Paul Kassay in Ohio. The same kind of mass protest will obtain the release of the nine Scottsboro defendants.

## Elect Delegates In Shops to All-Southern Scottsboro Conference

## WORKERS' CHILDREN — A CONTRAST

Workers' children in the Soviet Union and in the United States.

The photo shows children in New York City on the breadline. The bosses have granted them this special favor. On the right you see a nursery in one of the Soviet factories. Here the mother gets two months' vacation with pay before and after childbirth and her baby is given the best of care by trained nurses.



## Fight Frame-Up In Charlotte

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—In the last eight days three Negro workers have been snatched up and charged with assault upon white women. The arrests took place in a rural section known as Mint Hill, about four miles from Charlotte, N. C.

The three Negroes—Ed Robinson, Fred Rushing and Steve Pell—are share croppers and Mint Hill is well-known for the miserable conditions of the white and Negro farm workers there. The supposed assaults were against two women, Ed Robinson being accused of attacking one, and the other two accused of attacking another.

About three weeks ago a farm union was started at Mint Hill and only last week the Young Communist League formed a unit among the Young Negro share-croppers. The landlords, fearing an organized movement among the farm workers, intend to railroad these three Negro workers to the chair and wave aloft the bloody banner of lynch law as a means of terrorizing the Negro workers and try to "keep them in their place."

The League of Struggle for Negro Rights and the International Labor Defense are calling a United Front Conference for May 24th in Charlotte to protest this frame-up and that of the nine boys at Scottsboro.

### A LIFE'S REWARD

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Fired recently, after working for 23 years for the American Sugar Exchange, Sidney L. Vallee, 38-year old worker, got a nervous breakdown and later shot himself to death, because he saw no way of supporting his wife and three children. After giving the best years of his life to the interests of his boss, he was thrown out on the street like a worn-out piece of machinery.

## U. S. Negro On Moscow Soviet

MOSCOW, U. S. S. R.—George Padmore, Negro worker from the United States, has been elected a member of the Moscow Soviet. The workers of the Palace of Labor, headquarters of the Red International of Labor Unions, and the various unions of the Soviet Union participated in the elections which took place at a meeting of over 17,000 workers.

In his speech of acceptance, Comrade Padmore pointed out that his election was a symbol of the true and deep internationalism of the Soviet workers, and an answer to the poison of race prejudice as in the case of the two American engineers who were expelled from the Soviet Union for refusing to eat at the same table as Negro workers.

White workers in this country should take their lesson from the Russian workers, who realize that race prejudice is used by the bosses to his own advantage in order to keep the workers divided so that he can cut their wages and break strikes.

## LYNCH LAW AT WORK

HAVANA, Cuba.—Langston Hughes, well-known Negro poet, was arrested here when he strenuously objected to being excluded from a bathing beach here because he is a Negro. The American bosses, who control Cuba, are instilling the poison of race hatred in that country in order to divide the masses in their revolt against imperialist oppression.

MERIDIAN, Miss.—Cleveland Nelson, 18-year-old Negro farm laborer was hanged here by the state for killing a white farmer in a fight over the proceeds of the crop. The trial was a legal lynching.

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Herman Frazier, 34-year-old Negro, was charged with assault and battery on a white woman here and is now awaiting trial. Twenty Negroes were arrested on the hysterical testimony of the woman. This charge may serve as an excuse for another legal lynching.

JACKSON, Miss.—A man hunt by a posse of county and city officers with bloodhounds is attempting to corner a Negro farm laborer who cut a white planter in a fight. The planter fired at the Negro worker. Knowing that a lynching would be his lot, the Negro made his getaway.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—W. E. Hendricks, Negro, was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct because he was "sassy" to a policeman. Hendricks simply approached him to tell him that an auto had just run over his bicycle and smashed it, and asked that the driver be stopped. That was "sassy" so he was taken to jail.

EUFAULA, Ala.—Lynch mobs formed here after three Negro boys all below 16 years of age, were arrested and charged with a reported attempt of assault on an 11-year-old white girl. It is said that the boys have been taken to another "secret jail," and their lives are in constant danger. If not lynched by a mob a courthouse lynching is being prepared for them.

## Workers Fight On In Orleans Strike

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Rank and file dock strikers here are continuing unorganized efforts to carry on the strike, despite the sell-out of the International Longshoremen's Assn. officials. Alex Samuels, Negro striker, was fined \$50 and sentenced to 60 days for beating up a strike-breaker.

The policy of the officials now seems to be to allow the present situation to drag along until it is forgotten, with thousands of union longshoremen left without jobs. The Marine workers Industrial Union urges the organization of dock committees on all docks in preparation for a wide mass strike.

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# FROM THE MILLS, MINES AND THE FARMS

## 50 Do Work of 90 in Bemberg Chemical Dept.

By a Worker Correspondent  
Elizabethton, Tenn.

At the time I worked in the Bemberg chemical department we had 90 men in the department. Now only 50 work there and do the same amount of work as we 90 did a year ago.

Do they do this by better machines? No, they take it out of the workers' hides. When I was there we unloaded 2 cars per man. Now they unload 4 cars per man.

This is about the worst department for getting hurt. There are all kinds of harmful chemicals—pure ammonia, which makes the air so you can hardly breathe, and caustic soda, which eats up your nails and sulphuric acid, which affects your hands and eyes. Also chlorine gas which gets in to your eyes and lungs. I know some men who had an eye burnt out in this department.

They do not give gloves any more. The workers have to buy them now, and they cost from 75c to \$1.25 a pair and last almost no time. They do not supply overalls either, which are a great expense in this department.

—Former Bemberg Worker.

## Spinnerette Notes

By Worker Correspondents  
Elizabethton, Tenn.

In the Bemberg Rayon Mill reeling department they are working girls on the night shift, because they can work them harder. The girls now have to work from 3 to 11.

They are cutting wages a new way in the rayon mills. If you are late 5 minutes from lunch or going to work for two days, they lay you off for three days. If you stay out two days a month, they lay you off a week.

We have a physician here, who, when he goes and looks a poor worker over, he just gives them some dried up pills and charges them a very high price.

If you don't have the money he tells you to come around and work it out. You have to work for ten times the amount the pills are worth.

In the Glanzstoff twisting department we worked overtime almost every day last week. Hours worked were from 68 to 72. Besides working overtime we also worked on Sundays. They are putting more work in the plant but won't hire some of the jobless workers around here.

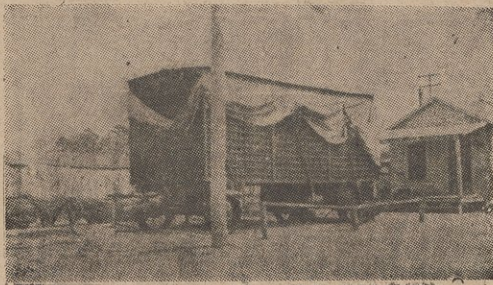
## Negroes Fight For Voting Rights in N. C.

HIGH POINT, N. C.—Fist fights between white officials at the registration stations and Negroes took place here, when Negro workers came to the booths to register for the municipal elections. One white politician resigned in protest at Negroes taking part in the elections.

Altho Negroes are guaranteed the right to vote by the Constitution, in practice they are denied this right in almost every part of the South. However, it is reported that 500 Negroes were expected to register in High Point and insist on their right to vote.

## Form Scottsboro Defense Block Committees

## Traveling Dungeons



A wagon used to house chain gang prisoners while at work on the roads.

## Boss Rot in New Orleans Election

By a Worker Correspondent  
New Orleans, La.

The election campaign has started in New Orleans. The workers look upon it with a sort of skeptical amusement. It would be a good show if the privileges for which they battle did not mean so much to the workers. They fight each other for the supreme right to exploit the workers.

Each group in the election has a pitiful explanation to give for the present unemployment situation. The Independent Party accuses the City Party of driving away industry. The City Party claims that owing to the enormous sums lost on the stock market the country is short of change, and that such men as they should be let remain in office so they can make more money.

The leader of one party owns a hotel where good soup can be made from the slop fed to the workers who have had the presence of mind to retain their poll tax receipts.

The other praises the big "free" hospital built by their leader where workers can buy any kind of treatment they wish providing they have sufficient pull.

One has given a piece of property to the city to build a fire station on, but has enough strings tied to it so that should their opponent wish to build they could pull the property from beneath and allow the fire station to fall through.

Promises are very elaborate. Should half of them be fulfilled the U. S. S. R. would look to Galveston for guidance. Workers have learned that all boss promises are lies and are beginning to realize that a fight between two capitalist factions can mean no material benefit for the workers. Soon they will learn that there are but two parties in this country—the Capitalist Party for Capital and the Communist Party for the workers.

—A Worker.

## B'ham City Relief Cut As Plants Shut Down

By a Worker Correspondent  
Birmingham, Ala.

The city of Birmingham is in an awful condition and is getting worse. The City Park Board is only working a few.

They only make enough to feed them half time. There is never anything paid the house rent man. When your belly begins to growl and the rent man is knocking on your door, you may know what a fix we are in.

The Chicago Bridge is now working the men 12 hours a shift. McWain Pipe Fitting Co. called a meeting the other day and told their workers they had to go back to work with a wage-cut.

—A Colored Worker.

## Organize and Strike Against Wage-Cuts!

## "But Bosses Don't Pay Interest To God by Suffering"

By a Worker Correspondent  
New Orleans, La.

I was speaking to a preacher. I asked what did he think of the way the people were starving.

He said the people had robbed God because God was due his 5 or 10 per cent of their money, and starvation is a curse he has put on all the nation for robbing him.

I asked him, why are not the capitalists starving? I did not get an answer. He said if you are submissive to your boss you will go to heaven.

He said that labor cannot stand without capital because we need the boss to tell us how to build and manufacture things. I asked him, "Wasn't the Soviet Union standing?"

He said that would not stand long. I told him that as long as this earth stands so will Soviet Russia, and what is more we, the black and white workers are going to turn this country into a Soviet United States.

Preach workers, don't let the preachers stop us. Let us get together and make him a liar about Soviet Russia and me a prophet about the United States.

—Y. C. L. Member.

## Workers Choked By Boss Greed

By a Worker Correspondent  
Elizabethton, Tenn.

There was a terrible accident a few days ago in the Glanzstoff Rayon Plant.

There are supposed to be fans going all the time to keep the air fit to breathe where there is a lot of gas and chemicals.

Well, a few days ago for fear of hurting a little material and because there was such a rush of work, they stopped the fast fan in a room full of sulphide gas.

At noon we noticed that two of the men did not come out to smoke. We went in and found them lying unconscious. They were taken to a hospital where they recovered consciousness hours later. One of the men was delirious for a long time.

We know that the company will fight giving compensation in this case as it does in all others.

It is like this in all of the plants. The company thinks first of the material and last of the workers.

—Glanzstoff Worker.

## Guard Gets One Year For Killing Worker

LaFAYETTE, Ga.—A. N. Cooper, the Walker county chain gang guard who shot down Hoke Cantrell white prisoner, while helplessly manacled to a tree in the camp, was sentenced to only from one to three years imprisonment here.

## WOMEN WEAVERS FAINT FROM FATIGUE IN NEW STRETCH-OUT

By a Worker Correspondent  
Charlotte, N. C.

Back just a few months ago I went to work at a mill. They paid \$13.75 a week. I hadn't been there long until the bosses put piece work rates on all the yarn.

Some of the very rottenest yarn was only 1 1/2c per pound, and some weeks we only made \$7 and \$8 a week working hard, staying right with the work.

Then the bosses thought they could make us slave still more. They had us put on large aprons. They bought brooms and stood them at our machines for us to sweep our floor every few hours. Then they laid off a Negro helper and sweeper.

Now they have got to ordering their cops already run. Said they could get it 1c a pound cheaper than to get the hanks and pay us to run it. But they discovered so many knots in the yarn that the weavers had lots of trouble about it.

Now the bosses have invented what they call a knot-catcher. It catches every knot that comes through and breaks the yarn. Then he bought us scissors and told us to backwind the cops and tie weavers knots and cut the ends close.

So you see all that takes up time and we poor women workers can't possibly make a living.

I actually saw a young widow with three small children stand up and cry because she could not get the rotten yarn to run. Said she was going to

have to put her children in the orphanage because she could not make enough to keep them up.

And times keep on getting worse. So we must stick together and stop this slavery.

—A Young Woman Worker.

## Workers Enraged At Jailing of T. U.U.L. Organizer

By a Worker Correspondent  
Greenville, S. C.

I have been reading in labor papers since about 1910 about free speech fights in the east, west and middle west.

Here in Greenville, S. C., we have one of the boldest, openest frame-ups I have ever witnessed.

A May Day meetings was in progress on the Perry Avenue show grounds and who should drive up, but forty eruolds of the law. The sheriff walked out and arrested W. G. Binkley and put him in jail.

This happened Friday, May 1st, at 11 o'clock and on May 2 at 11 o'clock W. G. Binkley was on the chain gang serving a 60-day sentence for vagrancy.

Workers, think it over. Here is a man that works 16 to 18 hours a day for the Trade Union Unity League on a salary, who is jerked up and slammed on the chaingang for 60 days on a vagrancy charge.

We workers will remember Mr. Bramlett in the next election and also Mr. J. G. Leatherwood, for his prosecuting activities.

—A Mill Worker.

## Bosses Protect White Women?

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The wife of an unemployed white worker of Gate City was barely saved from death in child birth by the timely aid of one of her neighbors, after every effort was made to obtain a doctor, who would not come because he could not be paid.

The unemployed worker frantically begged a number of doctors to come to the aid of his wife, weakened to hunger. But despite all the talk about "protecting the white womanhood" of the south, the doctors would not come unless their fees were assured, and were ready to let the working class woman die.

In the Soviet Union a working woman gets two months vacation on full pay before and after childbirth, and the best of care. In this country talk of "protecting white womanhood" is only used as an excuse for lynching Negro workers, or railroad- ing them to the death chair as at Scottsboro Ala. The bosses care nothing about the white womanhood of the working class, and use them only to grind profits out of it. White workers, join in the fight for the release of the nine Negro boys legally lynched at Scottsboro!

times and bled to unconsciousness, of being forced to work with limbs paralyzed.

All those who spread the lies about forced labor in the Soviet Union, never say anything about the brutal treatment of prisoners on the chaingang, farms and prisons. There is talk of an "investigation" altho Governor Bibb immediately called the prisoners "ordinary liars."

## Cut Week 2 1/2 Days In Mill

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—The Louise Textile Mill of Charlotte has just cut two and one-half days off the week. The mill now works only four days a week, 10 hours a day, and men workers receive \$9 a week, women and children \$7 a week preceding the cut. With the shortening of the week the wages will not be enough to even keep the workers in food.

At the same time, the workers are being sped-up beyond endurance. Last week a woman worker fainted on the job because of malnutrition and the stretch-out, and was fined because she could not keep up with the pace.

The bosses are also hinting at another wage-cut within two weeks and the workers are preparing to struggle against it. The National Textile Workers Union has issued a leaflet to the workers calling on them to organize and fight wage-cuts, stagger and the stretch-out.

Cantrell was killed four days after he began his sentence and while \$150 to pay his fine was on the way from his brother in Atlanta. As usual, the camp guard was whitewashed and will probably serve only the one-year sentence, if that. Brutality on the chain gangs is notorious against both Negro and white workers alike, many of whom have been arrested for vagrancy or taking a loaf of bread to keep alive. But boss justice is never hard on its tools of oppression.

## Brutal Forced Labor In Miss. Prisons

JACKSON, Miss.—Stories told by four prisoners at the Parchman state penal farm reveal horrible cruelties and barbarous treatment of the prisoners. The prisoners told how they were made to work with the roof of their mouth parched from thirst and denied a drink from the water cart 50 yards away, of being strapped 42



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Jim Allen, Managing Editor  
Chattanooga, Tenn.  
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### Harlan Miners Fight Rather Than Starve

In the Harlan coal fields the miners are waging a fierce struggle against starvation. There are 5,000 miners unemployed, evicted from their homes, starving. Only one out of every ten miners are working, most of them only part time. Those that are working have had their wages cut, extra work put on them.

The same situation exists in practically every coal field in the country. In Oklahoma, 5,000 miners have threatened to take food by force unless given immediate relief. In the Warrior section in Alabama, 500 miners sent their delegation to the county commission demanding jobs or relief. In Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois the miners are starving. Part time, wage-cuts and speed-up are eating away at the very lives of the miners.

In the Harlan coal fields, in the midst of the most brutal terror carried on by the coal companies, miners are waging a war against death. These miners would rather fight than starve. They are fighting in united ranks—employed and unemployed together, white and black in solidarity. The first gun battle occurred when white miners prevented the company gunmen from arresting a Negro fellow-miner.

Against this splendid fighting solidarity of the miners, the officials of the United Mine Workers—who are attempting to have the independent mine local formed here join their union—have taken their position in the battle on the side of the coal operators. The secretary of the Kentucky Federation of Labor, the District President of the U. M. W., an A. F. of misleader of Pineville, petitioned the governor to send troops to break the strike and smash the struggle. They told the miners that the troops would disarm the mine guards and leave the field clear for the miners to win their struggle. But the miners have had their experience with troops. While about 100 company officials and U. M. W. fakery and local business men marched to welcome the troops waving an American flag, the miners demonstrated in masses against the sending of the troops. One United Press report described how groups of miners numbering as high as 1,000 in each demonstrated and demanded the withdrawal of the armed forces. They did not believe the glib lies of the U. M. W. misleaders that the troops were going to carry out the promises of the governor and disarm the mine guards.

When the troops arrived, the company jumped into action, arresting 29 miners, including the local secretary of the independent mine local and Everts officials sympathetic to the miners. The deputies had not dared carry out the orders of the coal companies, for they had had their lesson with starving miners who had determined to fight. The sending of the troops was an effort to smash the struggle, in which the U. M. W. officials took a leading part.

About 500 miners at work in the pits struck when they found they had been tricked by the U. M. W. officials. The struggle is just beginning. The Harlan miners are setting the pace in the struggle of the miners against wage-cuts and unemployment. Again, the A. F. of L. and the U. M. W. are playing their traitorous game.

The miners in other parts of the country are following developments in Harlan closely. In the struggle against starvation, there is no room for playing with traitors. The miners themselves, thru their own broad strike committees and unemployed councils, must take the leadership in their struggle if they are not to be sold out and sent back to starvation.

### Harlan Miners Fight Against Starvation

(Continued From Front Page)

sick, W. B. Jones, representative of the United Mine Workers in Harlan county, and Joe Cawood, a school trustee. Besides, 24 other miners have been arrested.

One Negro miner was charged with "criminal syndicalism", but the jury failed to indict him.

Everts is the only "free" town in the Harlan coal fields, and was therefore the center of the miners fighting the mine owners. Everts stands on the only land in the county not owned by the mine owners, and it was here that thousands of miners and their families flocked when they were evicted from their homes in the company towns for either joining the mine local, not being able to pay rent because they were unemployed, or refusing to pay high prices at the company commissaries for their food. There are now 5,000 persons living in Everts, altho the normal population of this town is 1,500. The miners were put up at the homes of their friends after the wholesale evictions from the company towns. In the Harlan fields there are about 5,000 men out of work, and only 10 percent of the population is at work. Of the 87 mines in this section, only 35 of the smaller ones are working part or full time.

#### Fighting Solidarity

Both white and Negro miners are showing excellent fighting solidarity

in the struggle. Last Thursday there was a mass demonstration of miners to force the release of a Negro miner who had been arrested by Sheriff Blair's men, and it was to save another Negro miner from arrest that fighting occurred between white miners and deputies two weeks ago, resulting in the killing of one deputy and the serious wounding of a miner.

In his official order for the troops to march into the mine territory, Gov. Sampson, as usual, tried to divert the attention from the starvation conditions against which the miners are fighting by the usual line about "interlopers." He said: "Quite several undesirable citizens from other states, it is reported, have taken up their abode at Everts, and are inciting and leading the trouble. They do not want to work or allow others to do so. Some are said to belong to those societies called Reds and Communists. The community must be rid of these outlaws by lawful means—they are too great a menace to society." The governor stated that his information about the "reds" being in Harlan came from Turmblazer and Dwyer, officials of the U. T. W. and A. F. of L., who are evidently alarmed at the militancy of the miners.

#### SPRING SOWING IN SOVIET

MOSCOW, S. S. R.—Sweeping all obstacles aside toward completion of the 5-year-plan the Soviet Union will sow this Spring 250,000,000 acres of wheat, corn, rye, oats and flax, 28,000,000 acres going to wheat.

### WHERE THE FARMERS SMILE



On a collective farm in Soviet Russia.

## ORGANIZE SCOTTSBORO DEFENSE COMMITTEE!

The white and Negro workers must organize their forces to save the nine Scottsboro boys.

The only power that can free the nine Negro boys is the organized strength of millions of white and Negro workers and farmers. The vast nation-wide movement of angry workers of this country against the Scottsboro lynching must be definitely organized and united under the leadership of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights and the International Labor Defense. (I.L.D.).

#### Block and Shop Committees

The League of Struggle for Negro Rights (L.S.N.R.) calls upon the readers of the SOUTHERN WORKER to form Scottsboro Defense Committees, in their neighborhoods, and shops.

Each man, woman and child has a task to perform to save these innocent Negro boys.

Each reader of the SOUTHERN WORKER shall become an organizer for their defense as tens of thousands of white and Negro workers are already doing throughout the entire nation.

#### What To Do

After you read this copy of the SOUTHERN WORKER talk the matter over with your shop mates and neighbors. Bring four, five or ten of them to your house and organize yourselves as a committee of the L. S. N. R. to defend the Scottsboro boys.

Elect a secretary at the meeting. Arrange to meet regularly each week

in someone's home. Get in touch with us immediately. Assign a job to each member of the committee. See that each one speaks to his friends, shop mates and neighbors and organize similar committees in every block, every shop and in every neighborhood where workers and poor farmers live. The Secretary should immediately write to the L. S. N. R., Box 219, Chattanooga, Tenn., for information and advice.

Order extra copies of the Southern Worker to sell and distribute among your friends and neighbors.

Collect money and send it to the International Labor Defense, Box 1511, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Order copies of the LIBERATOR by writing to "LIBERATOR," at 799 Broadway, Room 338, New York City.

Raise the question of saving the Scottsboro boys in your Union, Lodge, Church, or organization of which you are a member and get them to send a delegate to the All-Southern Scottsboro Defense Conference called for Sunday, May 31, in Chattanooga by the I. L. D. and L. S. N. R.

Write to us for further information and advice and inform us what you are doing about it.

Remember! Only our organized strength will stop the bloody hands of the lynchers. Only our organized strength will bring freedom to the nine Scottsboro boys.

LEAGUE OF STRUGGLE FOR NEGRO RIGHTS, Box 219, Chattanooga, Tenn.

### Scottsboro Conferences in 12 Cities

Thruout the country the wide mass protest movement against the Scottsboro legal lynching is growing and spreading. A dozen sectional Scottsboro Defense Conferences are being called to centralize and organize the protest and obtain the release of the nine boys.

United front conferences will be held between now and the end of May in New York City, Pittsburgh, Minneapolis, Buffalo, Chicago, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, New Orleans, Cleveland and Charlotte. All of these conferences are being invited to send delegates to the All-Southern Scottsboro Defense Conference to be held in Chattanooga on May 31, at the Masonic Hall.

Large numbers of mass meetings are being held, resolutions and telegrams of protest being sent by both Negro and white organizations to Gov. Miller of Alabama, and to Judge Hawkins, at Fort Payne, Ala., demanding a new trial when the hearing comes up on May 20.

A number of Negro newspapers have come out in support of the International Labor Defense and denounced the treacherous policy of the leadership of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People. Among these are the Chicago Defend-

er, the Boston Guardian, the Philadelphia Spokesman, the Florida Booster (Jacksonville), the New York News, Harlem Home Journal.

Numerous organizations and churches are joining in the struggle by sending telegrams and resolutions of protest to Gov. Miller. The largest Negro church in Cleveland, the St. John A. M. E. church, unanimously adopted a resolution protesting the legal lynching and endorsing the International Labor Defense. The resolutions declare in part: "We, the 1600 members of St. John A. M. E. church, demand the immediate and unconditional release of the nine Negro boys jailed on a framed-up charge of rape, convicted by a 'lily white' jury and sentenced by a corrupt judge to die in the electric chair."

The following organizations and mass meetings have joined the protest by sending resolutions or telegrams to the Governor: National Textile Workers' Union members, Maynard, Mass.; Lithuanian Sick and Death Benefit Society, Waterbury, Conn.; mass meeting, Hancock, Mich.; May Day meeting of 300 workers, Birmingham, N. Y.; 20,000 white and Negro workers at May Day demonstration in Chicago; meeting of 200 Scandinavian workers, Allston, Mass.

## Mothers Day

By MARGARET NEAL

This month brings us "Mother's Day." The boss press is writing columns of slush about the "sanctity of motherhood."

This rich country lays aside not one cent of its wealth for maternity insurance. The last session of Congress closed without passing the Jones bill, which would have revived the work for maternity and infancy discontinued by the Children's Bureau in 1929. Even this extremely inadequate provision was turned down because it would take a few dollars from the pockets of the millionaires.

Rich America forces the working class mother to go through childbirth without offering a penny of support. The boss withdraws her meager wages just when she needs them most.

Almost twenty thousand mothers die every year in the United States. That this loss is for the most part in the workingclass sections, goes without saying. The rate of infant deaths is about five times as high for the workingclass babies as for the children of the rich. The babies of Negro and foreign-born women are condemned to die 8 to 10 times as fast as the white babies. In all Southern states, women die in child-birth much faster than in any other state, with South Carolina, Louisiana, Alabama, Florida and Georgia topping the list.

The boss class of America wants plenty of cheap labor for its factories and plenty of cannon-fodder for its wars. So it forbids the working woman to receive information on how to limit her family. Not all women—for the rich woman can get this information easily from the "high-class" doctors. This is a class law—like all capitalist laws.

Bosses' America does not care whether, after giving birth to her children, the working woman can support them or not. This very Mother's Day, millions of working class parents, out of a job, are watching their children grow thin and weak from lack of food. Desperately, at the end of their resources, they take their children from school, to work long hours in factories and mills.

Soviet Russia has no use for hypocritical sentiment, and no need for boasting business, so it has no Mother's Day. But workers' Russia has made the welfare of mother and child one of its first concerns.

A working woman in Soviet Russia who becomes pregnant reports to her factory committee, and is assigned to a mother-and-child clinic, for free pre-natal care. Two months before the birth of her child, she quits the factory, not to return for four months. During these four months she continues to receive her pay in full. The hospital in which she gives birth to her child gives her its services free. When she returns to work, her child is cared for in a sunny crèche at the expense of the factory. Summer rest homes have nurseries so that the mother need not miss her annual two-weeks' vacation. For all these services the worker pays nothing out of her wages; these services are at the expense of the state and factory. The maternity service, like all other social services in workers' Russia, are received not as a degrading, humiliating charity, but at a working-class right.

A Russian woman receives information freely about health and family limitation. Yet the net increase in population in Russia is 3 1/2 millions yearly, greater than in any Western capitalist country. For Russian women know that neither they nor their children will ever stand in breadline.

Workers' Russia has no crocodile tears to shed over the "sanctity of motherhood." But with power in their hands, the Russian workers have built a country where working and peasant women are glad and proud to bear and rear their children.