

# The SOUTHERN WORKER

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## TUSCALOOSA LYNCH OFFICIALS DRIVE OUT LAWYERS FOR I. L. D.

### Officials Hope Thus To Insure Legal Lynching For Five Framed Negroes

TUSCALOOSA, Ala.—In order to make sure of the legal lynching of five Negroes framed here on a fake murder charge, and to prevent the raising of the issue of Negro rights, the Tuscaloosa authorities—judge, sheriffs, police, and militia—drove out of the county three attorneys of the International Labor Defense hired by the defendants.

The defendants are Dan Pippen, Jr., and Elmore Clarke, charged with criminal assault and murder; A. T. Harden, charged with being accessory; and Dan Pippen, Sr., and Will Jimison, charged with obstructing the investigation.

Pippen was framed for the murder of Vaudine Maddox, a white girl, after the local authorities and the newspapers had admitted that the murder was obviously the work of a friend of the girl—that is, a white man. Clarke and Harden were arrested because they were known to be friends of young Pippen. Jimison and Dan Pippen, Sr., were put behind the bars when they gave the sheriff conclusive evidence that young Pippen had been working in a field with them the entire morning the crime was committed.

#### Lynch Gang Organized

Tuscaloosa, seat of the University of Alabama, and thus one of the centers of higher learning in the South, lost no time in organizing a lynch gang. The lynchers stormed the Tuscaloosa County Jail, but the prisoners had already been taken away.

The announcement of the I. L. D. that it would defend the victims of this brazen lynch frame-up, made the local lynchers furious. Although the defendants and nearest-of-kin had signed retainers

for the I. L. D. lawyers, the Tuscaloosa employers and officials began a campaign to terrorize the Negro population and particularly the five victims of the frame-up. Completely ignoring the right of the defendants to have lawyers of their own selection, the court insisted on appointing three attorneys. With appointing counsel for Negroes framed in the South, we have already had experience in the Scottsboro case. The Negroes were then terrorized into repudiating their retainers for the I. L. D.

The I. L. D. attorneys are Irving Schwab, defendant of the five framed share-croppers in Tuscaloosa; Alan Taub, who has been working for the defense of the Scottsboro boys; and Frank B. Irwin, attorney for Alice Burke and Wirt Taylor, organizers of the workers in Birmingham.

The court in Tuscaloosa has appointed three prominent Southern attorneys, who can be counted on to raise no question of the rights of Negroes to serve on juries or any of the other issues of Negro rights involved in the case.

The first move of the court after driving the lawyers for the I. L. D. out of town by use of the militia, was to postpone the case indefinitely. This means, of course, that the five framed Negroes will

(Continued on page 2)

### Force Innocent Scottsboro Boys To Trial Again

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—In spite of complete evidence of innocence, the nine Scottsboro boys will again have to stand trial on the framed charge of rape against two white girls.

After admitting, in his reversal of the death sentence against Haywood Patterson, one of the boys, that all the evidence points to the innocence of the defendants, Judge James E. Horton, of Decatur, refused to quash the indictment and failed to call a hearing to set bail for the boys.

The lynch-rulers of Alabama are determined to burn these boys in the electric chair. Only the mass movement behind the Scottsboro boys forced the new trial for Haywood Patterson. Only a greater mass movement of whites and Negroes will finally win freedom for all the boys.

The International Labor Defense is going ahead full steam with preparations for the new trials this fall.

### WILL DEMAND NEW TRIAL FOR FRAMED SHARE-CROPPERS

DADEVILLE, Ala.—The hearing on a new trial for the five framed croppers of Tallapoosa County will be held August 14 before Judge B. Bowling. The croppers were arrested last December for resisting the seizure of livestock of a poor farmer, and were sentenced to long years in the penitentiary.

Three of the croppers are now in the hell-hole of Speigner Prison. The International Labor Defense will demand a new trial. As grounds for reversal they will bring forward the exclusion of Negroes from the panel from which the trial jury was selected.

## SOUTHERN TEXTILE WORKERS STRIKE AS CODE BRINGS PAY CUTS

### Skilled Workers Find Wages Lowered Under N. R. A., Hundreds Lose Jobs

Thousands of textile workers in North Carolina, in Georgia and in Louisiana have called strikes during the past few weeks against the effects of the N. R. A. cotton textile code on their wages and work-load.

The code has resulted in decreased wages for many workers—chiefly the skilled workers; in no increase for many others; and in a very slight increase for a small number of the poorest-paid workers. In no case in the increase anywhere near the rising cost of food and clothing.

Four thousand struck at the High Point, N. C. seamless hosiery mills on the day the code went into effect; 1,000 at the W. F. Poe Manufacturing Co. in Greenville, S. C.; 550 at the Arial and Alice Mills at Easley, S. C., and 550 at the Appleton Mills at Anderson.

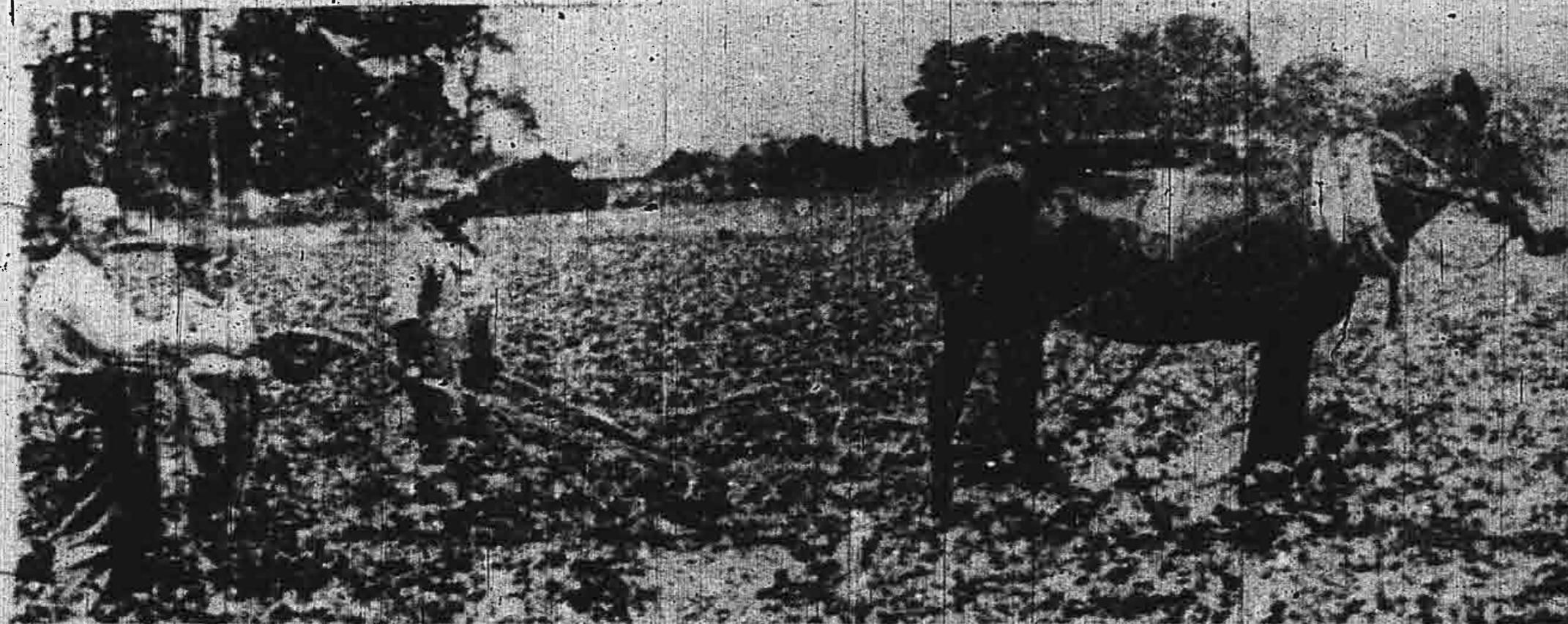
Skilled Workers Getting Less  
Workers of the Arial and Alice Mills, especially, show that the skilled workers are making considerably less today than before July 17, when the textile code of the government was applied.

At the Ames Cotton Mill in Selma, the workers have had to turn out more in 8 hours than they used to have to turn out in nine and a half hours before the code went into effect.

At the Tabize-Chaiton Corporation plant in Rome, Ga., 1,000 workers struck when they found the wages of many of them reduced by the code.

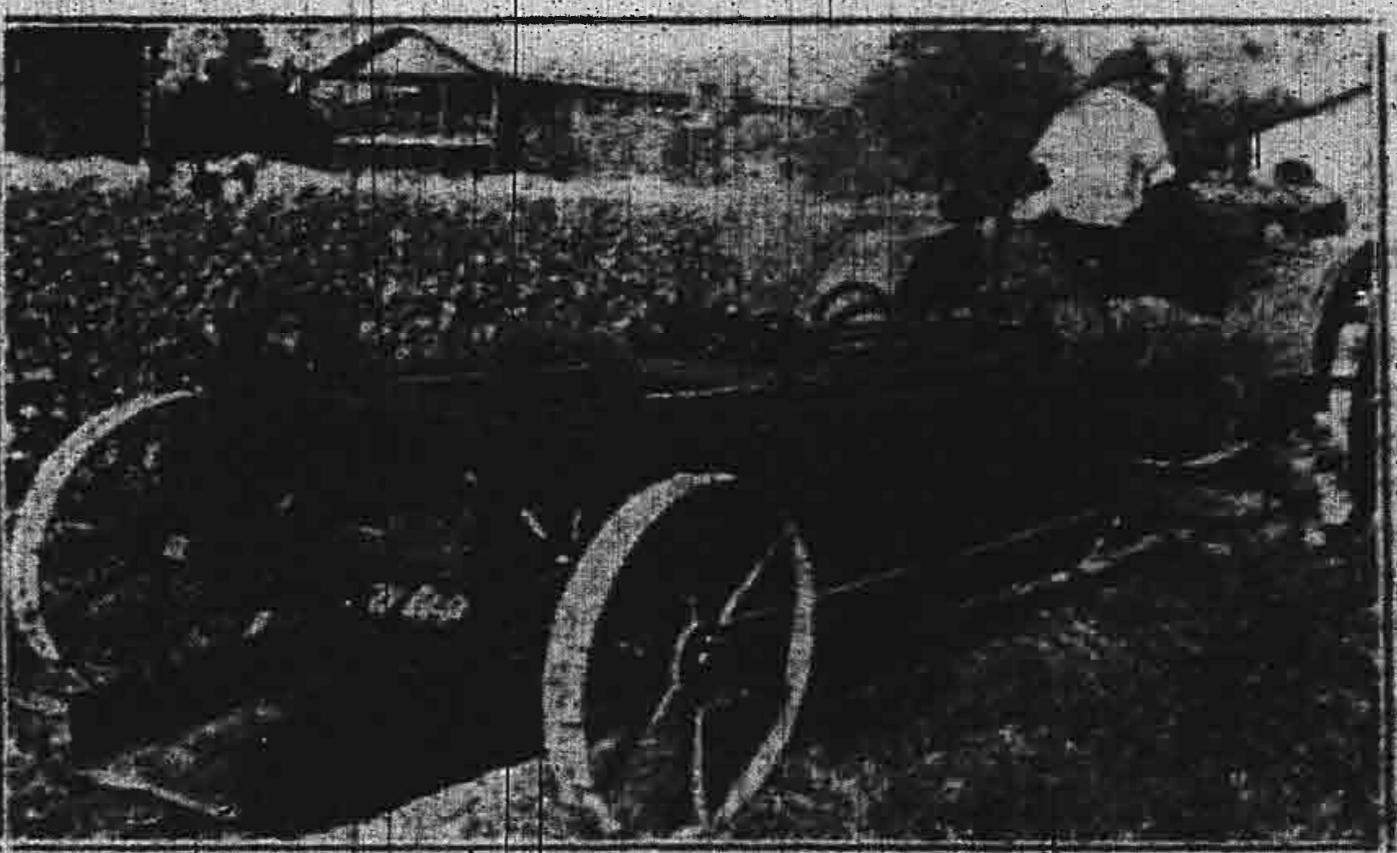
The Lane Cotton Mill in New Orleans cut wages of workers making above the minimum as soon as the code went into effect. Machinists' pay was reduced from \$34 to

(Continued on page 2)



Here we see two pictures which show clearer even than words the difference between the dying economic system of the United States and the new system in the Soviet Union—Russia. The left-hand picture shows Dallas Berryhill, farmer of Mecklenburg County, N. C., plowing under 11 acres of cotton. The cotton cut plan is designed to make the speculators and landlords richer, because they can sell the surplus they now hold at the high summer prices. In the fall, when the little fellows have cotton to sell, the prices will drop again. The farmers plow under the growing cotton while millions haven't a piece of clothing that isn't falling to rags.

The picture on the right shows the use of tractors in developing cotton culture in Turkestan, part of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is doing its best to increase its cotton acreage and output. In addition it has bought four million dollars a worth of cotton from the U. S. and is arranging for an additional \$55,000,000 purchase. All this so that its people may be better clothed. In the Soviet Union, the workers and the farmers have kicked out the bosses and landlords and are running the factories and farms for their own benefit. Production is for the USE of all, not for the profit of a few.



# T. C. I. Workers Who Got \$8.00 in 1930 Now Get \$3.80; Company Deducts Jobless Aid From Pay When Re-Hiring

## Organisers of B'ham Jobless Are Out On Bail

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Alice Burke and Wirt Taylor, young unemployed organizers arrested November 7, 1932, for leading a demonstration of 5,000 Negro and white workers for relief, have been released from the Jefferson County Jail.

Bond of \$2000 was furnished by the International Labor Defense, which has been fighting for their complete release.

## KLAN BURNS FIERY CROSS AT HOME OF HERNDON DEFENDER

ATLANTA, Ga.—In an effort to scare the masses rallying to the defense of Angelo Herndon, framed Negro organizer of the unemployed, the Ku Klux Klan on August 1 burned a fiery cross before the home of Mrs. Walter E. Washburn.

Mrs. Washburn has been active on the Provisional Committee for the Defense of Angelo Herndon, and has spoken at numerous meetings on Herndon's behalf. Her activity and the activity of others for Herndon's freedom will only be increased as a result of the Klan's threats.

## I. L. D. DEFENDS FRAMED NEGRO YOUTH IN NORFOLK

NORFOLK, Va.—Trial of Russell Gordon, 13-year-old Negro boy framed on a charge of "raping" a woman twice his size and nearly three times his age, has been postponed until August 7. The International Labor Defense is carrying out a mass and legal campaign for his release.

## ALL CARGOES AND SHIPS FOR U. S. S. R. MUST HAVE UNION LABOR

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Soviet Russia alone, of all the countries in the world, demands that its cargoes and ships be handled by union labor.

## TUSCALOOSA LYNCH OFFICIALS DRIVE OUT I. L. D. LAWYERS

(Continued from page 1) lie in jail indefinitely. This move was made with the consent of the defense lawyers appointed by the court.

The court forced the I. L. D. attorneys to leave the county under escort of the militia, in an effort to make it appear that the trial is to be a "fair" one, the court said that the threatening crowds at the trial were there not to harm the Negroes, but as a protest against the presence of the I. L. D. That this is a lie is shown by the fact that a lynch mob had already gathered before the jail when the prisoners were first arrested. The crowd at the courthouse was there in the hope of seeing the lynching, legal or other wise, of the defendants. It was necessary to use tear-gas to rout this crowd.

## CHANGE NAME OF ROLLERS TO FINISHERS, CUT \$1.03 PAY TO 82¢ GOVERNMENT AND STEEL BOSSSES AGREE ON OPEN SHOP

By a Worker Correspondent  
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

The workers of the T. C. I. are organizing to demand a full pay check. After months of unemployment, some men are being put back to work for a short time.

Most of the workers have gone deeply in debt to the company's relief system. The company tells them they owe up to as much as \$400, which is to be deducted from the already small pay check.

The workers that used to make seven days a week make only four days now. They divided three days with the old-time workers. When a worker who used to work seven days begins to work four days, they say that "business is picking up."

### Wages Go Down

In some departments—rail mills, millwrights, bessemer, pipe-fitting—where the men used to work 10 hours at an average of 40 cents, they now work 8 hours at the same rate. The workers in the rail mill get tonnage. They used to work two 10-hour shifts. Now they work three 8-hour shifts and get the same tonnage. That is, they get a wage-cut.

The Southern Worker and the militant organizations in steel say that the workers who have just been taken on don't owe the company a cent. It was no fault of theirs that they were unemployed. The profits they made for the T. C. I. when they were working were more than enough to take care of them when they were jobless.

Some men who have been working for the plant ten years, are now only working one day a week, on Sunday, and drawing \$2.20. But that is enough of an excuse to cut these men off all relief. Besides that, they cut off 65 cents every two weeks for hospital bills—

whether you are ever sick or not.

Men who used to make 18 a day in 1930, now make \$3.80. Others who used to make \$8 now get \$2.70. The pay is always two weeks behind, just in case the company thinks you owe them something when you quit.

They changed the name of the rollers to finishers. The rollers used to get \$1.03 for 1,000 pounds, but now they get 27 cents for exactly the same work.

The T. C. I. bosses are determined to keep the company union. The A. F. of L. fakers act as if the workers had got a victory because of what happened at Washington. But all the government said was that the company union plan must not be written into the code. The government plan amounts to

the regular open shop—that is, that workers do not have to belong to a union to work in the shop. They put this in fancy words, but that is what it amounts to. And the T. C. I. bosses say plain that they intend to foster the company union even if it isn't written into the code.

The Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers came along and they refuse to organize the unorganized or help the unemployed. They held a big meeting in Ensley Park and one of the workers asked them questions about jobless insurance and about equal pay for Negroes, and the fakers couldn't answer these questions.

## Textile Workers Strike As Code Brings Wage-Cuts

(Continued from page 1)

code...large numbers are being laid off and some operatives are being called upon to do a third more work." The relief agencies of South Carolina reported that the number seeking relief had been increased as a result of the textile code.

Practically all workers on the third shift of the Loray Mills in Gastonia will lose their jobs as a result of the code.

Thus we see that instead of increased employment and higher wages—we have less wages and fewer jobs. It was this result that was predicted by representatives of the National Textile Workers Union when they appeared before the government some weeks ago. Only the demands put forward by this union represent a real advantage for textile workers. They are as follows:

### Demands of N. T. W. U.

1. That industry and the government assume the responsibility for a fixed minimum weekly and yearly wage for every worker in the industry. This is to be achieved through provisions that no worker shall be given less than 40 weeks of employment per year, no less than 30 hours per week, and a maximum of 40 hours per week; that wages shall be set at a minimum of 60 cents an hour. This would provide a minimum wage of \$720 yearly for every worker.
2. That where industry does not provide workers with this minimum of yearly earnings, the government shall pay unemployment insurance equal to make up this amount.
3. That the wages of workers receiving at the present above this minimum shall be increased immediately by 25 per cent.
4. No increases in the amount of work per worker, and decreases where the present work is tiring.
5. The right to have democratically elected shop committees, and the right of the workers to belong to any union of their choice.
6. No night work for women, no child labor under 16. State support for children who are thus taken out of jobs.
7. Negroes to have the right to all jobs in the mill with equal pay. Standard for minimum wages to be the same for Southern and Northern workers—\$720 yearly.

## ORGANIZERS OF TOBACCO UNION IN TAMPA FREE

TAMPA, Fla.—All the workers arrested in 1931 because they took part in the organization of the Tobacco Workers Industrial Union are now free. They were finally released because of the furious indignation of the workers over the frame-up.

All the freed prisoners say they are going to work harder than ever to build the union.



The T. C. I. is putting on more cops at its plant and at its workers' living quarters now that the "new deal" is with us. Here is a cop at the gates of Fairfield, which is almost a company town of the T. C. I. in Birmingham.

## Gangs Terrorize Farmers Who Won't Plow Under; Landlords Pocket Profits of Destruction

Organized terror is being used in the cotton belt against those small farmers and croppers who don't want to make the speculators and landlords rich by plowing under the cotton. When the farmers refuse to plow under, they find threats from the Cotton Ku Klux Klan; they find their fields pulled up or burned up; they find themselves threatened with boycott on the local market or by the ginning mills.

In the last issue of the Southern Worker, we explained that the plan to plow under the cotton will make the landlords and speculators rich, because they have last year's crop in their warehouses and they can sell it now at higher prices. By the time the little fellows have cotton to sell—that is, in the fall—the price will be down again.

What we said then is confirmed by letters coming to us from share-croppers, tenants, small farmers and agricultural laborers in every section of the South. The croppers tell us that the cotton they were forced to pool with the landlord at four and five cents a pound, is now being sold at 10 cents a pound and more.

The checks from the government are made out jointly to the land-

lord or ginning company, and the tenant or cropper. Now how much change have the croppers—especially the Negro croppers—to get their part of the money? They couldn't even get their loans from the government in 1931 when the check was made out direct to them. The landlords simply stole them with the help of the rural mail-carriers.

Other letters from the cotton belt show that there is systematic discrimination against the small farmer in the estimate of his cotton and in the kind of cotton he is allowed to plow under. Of course this discrimination is worst of all against the Negroes.

### Ginning Companies Help in Dirty Work

The ginning companies are always good friends of the cotton landlords, but this year they will have an extra batch of dirty work to do. They are planning to boycott the small farmers who didn't plow under. Of course they do this under the direction of the landlords.

At the same time, there is a lot of talk—and it will probably come true—that the price of ginning will be higher this fall.

The officials in Washington re-

port that the big landowners are enthusiastic about the plan—especially Alfred Tunstall of Greensboro, Shelby Fletcher of Huntsville, Will Howard Smith of Prattsville, and others. Of course they are! The money they get now for the cotton plowed under by the croppers puts them on their feet for the season.

**What Can We Do About It?**

As a result of the plan, a lot of mortgages will be foreclosed, and a lot of croppers and tenants will go deeper into debt, and a lot of agricultural laborers will be squeezed out and others forced to take a lower price. This means there will have to be a struggle this year, such as we have never seen before, against evictions from the land, the seizures of live stock for debt, the forced pooling of cotton, and starvation wages to agricultural laborers.

To carry out these struggles, we need strong organizations. The Farmers Committee of Action, and the Share Croppers Union, must grow and spread. They must win thousands of new members in every state of the South in order to lead the desperate struggle for existence that faces the cotton farmers this fall.



## FARMER CORRESPONDENTS EXPOSE GOVERNMENT'S "NEW STEAL" IN COTTON, WHICH ENRICHES SPECULATORS

### NEGROES GET LOWER PRICE FOR COTTON

(By a Farmer Correspondent)  
OXFORD, Miss.—The farmers are not enthusiastic about the "New Steal"—the plowing under of cotton. A large number, both white and Negro, have refused to sign up. The poor whites and Negroes are threatened quite openly with fines or some other form of penalty if they refuse to sign up.

It is rumored that ginning will be \$10 a bale this year, as against \$9 last year.

#### Negroes Get Less for Same Cotton

The Negroes' cotton is estimated lower than the white man's. I know of one Negro whose cotton is in every way as good as his white neighbor's. The white neighbor's cotton is estimated at \$16 while the Negro was offered \$8 for just as good a stand.

Of course it throws a lot of hands out of work, which will work hardship on thousands of poor people, and of relief we have none.

### Croppers Allowed 4 Cents on Cotton Now Selling at 10

(By a Farmer Correspondent)  
KILMICHAEI, Miss.—I am a tenant farmer. I declare the big bosses certainly have us sharecroppers by the neck.

Last year they withheld R. F. C. aid from us poor workers until almost Christmas. No merchant would pay any cash for what little produce we had to sell. They allowed us (in trade) the following prices for our produce: Corn, 25 cents per bushel; molasses, 15 cents per gallon; peas, 50 cents per bushel; peanuts, 50 cents. We were compelled to accept these robbery prices in order to obtain shoes, clothing, school books, medicine, etc.

#### Landlords Took Whole Crop

The landlords took ALL the cotton for debts and allowed us workers 4½ to 5 cents per pound on our "accounts." They are now selling this same cotton right around 8 and 9 cents per pound.

The bosses acknowledge charging 75 cents for corn now that was bought from the farmers at 25 cents. But I will make the statement under oath that they are charging \$1 per bushel right here in this county for corn bought from workers last fall for 25 cents in trade! The price of molasses now is 40 cents and still rising.

### Plowing Under Puts Tenants Deeper Into Debt; Mortgaged Farmers Fear Foreclosure in Fall

By LOUISE PREECE

AUSTIN, Tex.—The order to plow under has reached every one of the 296,160 cotton farmers in Texas. Out in the fields men, women and little children are just beginning to pick the crop in one of the worst heat waves that this state has ever experienced. The fields are dotted with these slaves as they struggle wearily up and down the long rows from morning till night, stopping only at mid-day to eat a cold lunch in the shade of the wagons.

Previous to this picking, there were long weeks of chopping. And now has come the word to plow under 25 per cent of this cotton when it is all ready for the harvest. Within a few days 4,155,663 of the 15,767,000 acres planted will be sacrificed in order that the landlord and speculator can realize a greater profit.

#### Speculators Get Rich While Poor Farmers Starve

Last year the small farmers realized little from their crops. Cotton was cheap, but they were forced to sell it once in order to live for the rest of the year. Many after paying their debts, had nothing left. They were forced to apply for relief for themselves and their families. While large numbers of these are even now asking for charity, the cotton into which they put almost their very lives is stacked in warehouses all over the state. Those who robbed them of it are taking advantage of the first boom in price.

Farmer King, now, does not consider that the government is playing square with him. Here he is deeply in debt. His only hope to save his homestead is to get a good profit from his crop this fall. And by fall? He will get nothing for his cotton because of a fall in prices resulting from the high prices first paid. His bales will go to join thousands of others which will be stored in the warehouses until next year, when they will bring in a good price. He will meet with foreclosure.

**A. F. OF L. FAKERS ARE BOSSSES' PEOPLE SAYS STEEL WORKER**

(By a Worker Correspondent)  
GADSDEN, Ala.—I am employed at the Gulf State Steel Company, 1 open iron, which is a trade job. But here at this mill they make Negroes work trade jobs for common labor pay. They give them 25 cents and work them 4 to 8 hours a day.

In this steel mill on lots of jobs Negroes and whites are working together. The Negroes have all the hardest jobs but they pay them \$3.50 and the whites \$5-\$7. On some of the jobs they work the whites for 25 cents an hour, too. The same old union, the A. F. of L., is coming around here again, that was here in 1930. It is the bosses' union. Why do I say that? They can organize right at the courthouse and police don't say anything. Doesn't that prove that they are the bosses' people?

getting no more an acre for plowing than Farmer Peterson, a much bigger farmer, whose cotton he considers very much inferior to his own. This fall every bit of the cotton left will bring the same low price.

#### Debt-Slavery Gets Worse

Farmer James is a tenant. He has nine children, all of whom are picking. This year he planted the entire crop on shares, the landlord promising him one-third. Then the landlord signed to plow up 25 per cent of the crop. Farmer James knows that if cotton hits a low margin this fall, he will be unable to pay off his debt to the landlord. Instead he will be forced to remain here with his family to work it out.

Another tenant farmer is Edwin Johnson. He rented his farm from the landlord and then planted it in cotton. He, too, had to sign to plow up one-fourth of the crop. After the contract was signed, he learned that he would lose the entire compensation for this fourth because taxes are owing on the place. He will have to pay the taxes which the landlord should have paid.

#### Many Mortgages Will Be Foreclosed

Farmer Bennett is a small farmer who owns his place. Because of low prices last year when he gathered his crop, he was unable to pay his debts. This year he mortgaged his farm to meet some of these obligations and to lay in the new crop. As a result, he is deeply in debt. His only hope to save his homestead is to get a good profit from his crop this fall. And by fall? He will get nothing for his cotton because of a fall in prices resulting from the high prices first paid. His bales will go to join thousands of others which will be stored in the warehouses until next year, when they will bring in a good price. He will meet with foreclosure.

**Using Terror Against Farmers**

Seeing the danger of plowing, Farmer Stevens refused to sign a contract to kill any of the crop which he and his family had worked so hard to put in. "Your cotton will be boycotted when you bring it to market," he was warned. So he had to sign. Neither did Farmer Walker wish to plow. But he also heard threats of boycott. And he read in a Dallas paper where a woman in Albany, Ga., refused to plow. One morning she awoke to find that an acre of her crop had been quietly burned during the night. A note had been left saying that if she did not plow, the rest of the crop would be destroyed. Farmer Walker dares not

take the chance of utter destruction as he is alone and unorganized.

In this state, the fate of the farmers has been decided with that of the unemployed. All over Texas, the R. F. C., with the cooperation of the Federal Farm Labor Employment Bureau, is throwing thousands off the relief rolls and sending them to the cotton patches to work for whatever they can get. This lowers the price of picking everywhere.

Thousands of persons not on the relief rolls were expecting to earn enough to last through the winter by going to the cotton fields for the summer. This winter will see not only the return to the relief rolls of those formerly on them, but also those who are unable to work because of shortened labor, reduced acreage, and meagre wages. Students working their way through school often go to the cotton fields and earn part of their expenses for the next term. Many will be unable to do this now, and they are facing raised fees at the State University and other educational institutions.

Two thousand families have been sent from San Antonio. Fort Worth has sent 426 families. The Dallas relief commissioner, stating that a person who has a job needs no relief, has sent 1500. On the relief roll here, the unemployed worker is supposed to get \$2 a day, although it is known that he does not get this. In the cotton patch, he will get from 50 cents to \$1 per day.

### RED CROSS WORKS UNEMPLOYED 12 HOURS FOR \$1.50

(By a Farmer Correspondent)  
DADEVILLE, Ala.—In Dadeville and Camp Hill, half of the farmers are unemployed.

So they called on the Red Cross for relief. The Red Cross turned most of them down. Most of them have hired themselves out to landlords for \$3.50 per month and a patch of corn.

The Red Cross say they will help you if you have a family and can work for their help. So we are forced to dig dirt on the county road twelve hours for \$1.50. There is a boss over us to make us work like in prisons, and if we don't break our backs digging dirt we will be fired.

They don't give us but from one to four days a week. Just a few get three and four days a week. And the women have to work hard to get a little help from the Red Cross, too.

### LANDLORDS GET HIGH PROFIT ON STORED COTTON

(By a Farmer Correspondent)  
SELMA, Ala.—The plan to plow under the cotton means starvation in Dallas County. First of all, the city toilers especially in this section depend on picking cotton in the fall for their support.

The poor farmers in 1932 were forced to sell their cotton for from 4 to 5 cents a pound. The big landlords, cotton-buyers and speculators are now doubling their profit on this cotton, and it is bringing in 12 cents a pound.

It is impossible for a poor farmer or cropper to plant anything on his land that will make a success before frost falls, and by that time the price will be way down.

**Guaranteed Profit for Landlords**

This plan is what I would call a guaranteed profit for the landlords and big farmers and the cotton speculators. It only means starvation; no clothing, no shoes for the poor farmers and croppers.

### CROPPERS FORCED TO PLOW UP THEIR BEST COTTON ACRES

SELMA, Ala.—The cotton appraisers talk to the big landowners, estimate the acres and prices of the share-croppers' and tenants' cotton, then the landowner tells the Negro what cotton to plow under and what he is allowed per acre for it, with the understanding that it will be credited to his account or rent.

If the appraiser estimates the cotton at \$20 per acre, the cropper or tenant will be credited with only \$10.

As to the landowners, they are not only favored in prices, but in the quality of cotton they are allowed to plow under. They can plow under their inferior cotton. The croppers have to plow under their superior cotton.

### GET 75c IN GROCERIES IN PLACE OF \$15 WAGES

(By a Worker Correspondent)  
OXFORD, Miss.—Some Negroes got washing to do for the labor camps through a Mr. Shultz. They washed day and night for a week and got only talk, but no money.

The Southern Worker will pay 50 cents apiece for all pictures which it uses (not, however, for all pictures it receives.)

Send pictures of Southern working class conditions and struggles to Box 572, Birmingham, Ala.

## SOUTHERN WORKER

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AUGUST 15, 1933

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## The Communist Party Plans for the Coming Struggle

By NAT ROSS

(Organizer, Communist Party, Birmingham District)

Ten delegates from Southern states took part in the Extraordinary Conference of the Communist Party held in New York, July 7 to 10. This meeting, which drew 300 delegates from all sections of the United States, issued an Open Letter to all members of the Party. What was reported and discussed and planned at that conference, concerns the bread and butter interests of every worker and working-farmer of the South.

Already we Southern workers are finding that Roosevelt's industrial codes and Roosevelt's cotton acreage cut, just help the employers and landlords to dig their hands deeper into our jeans. Hundreds of textile workers are losing their jobs. Thousands of skilled and semi-skilled workers find their pay being cut. For other thousands, the pay remains stable—yet every time we go to a store we find prices have taken a jump.

In some lines, like steel, there are more jobs—for the time being. These jobs only guarantee that many of us will be out on the street again, jobless, in a few weeks or months, with unemployment worse than ever. The companies are laying up material because they know prices will jump. Increased production today is not for the market, but for the warehouse.

## SOUTHERN WORKERS GET LESS

We Southern workers are forced to take less wages than the same kind of work brings in the North. But living costs are NOT cheaper in the South. Rent is a little cheaper where we submit to the slavery of company houses—but food, clothing, incidentals are far higher in the South. WE ARE GETTING LOWER WAGES BECAUSE WE ARE DIVIDED AMONG OURSELVES—WHITE AGAINST NEGRO, BECAUSE THE NEGROES ARE FORCED TO TAKE LOWER WAGES, THUS DEPRESSING ALL WAGES, AND BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT ORGANIZED OURSELVES TO THE SAME EXTENT AS THE NORTHERN WORKERS.

The cut in cotton acreage is bringing aid to just two kinds of people, the big landlords and the cotton speculators. For the small farmers, croppers, tenants and agricultural laborers, the cotton cut means increased misery.

These are the conditions as we find them today. And the workers are fighting back. The textile workers are striking in many states against the effects of the Roosevelt code. The demand for unemployment insurance and relief for the jobless will take great strides.

Roosevelt said in his radio speech that the workers need not use any aggression to gain better conditions and their rights. That is the kind of fairy story they used to tell us when we were kids, and it is told for the same purpose—to put us to sleep. And if we do sleep, and fail to put up a struggle for better conditions and for our rights to organize and meet and strike, we will find things getting even worse than they are now. The bosses give us nothing that we don't make them give us, by our united action.

## WHO WILL LEAD THESE STRUGGLES?

The natural leader of the coming struggles, is the Communist Party and the unions of the Trade Union Unity League—the National Textile Workers Union, the National Miners Union, the Steel and Metal Workers Industrial Union, and others. We Southern workers have certainly had enough of the traitors who try to run our strikes and our other struggles, just to sell us out to the bosses. We've seen the traitors of the United Textile Workers in action at Marion, Elizabethton, and a dozen other places. The Alabama coal miners have had their fill of the United Mine Workers and its policy of sell-out and discrimination against Negroes.

But unless the Communist Party strengthens itself, broadens out, draws more and fresh leaders from the ranks of the working-class, it will not be able to lead the coming great struggles. And the period of these struggles will be a most critical time in the lives of the Southern toilers.

## WHAT CAN WE DO?

What shall we do? First and foremost, we must concentrate our forces on the big shops—such as the T. C. I. and Stockham Pipe in Birmingham, such as the largest of the textile mills in the Carolinas. Here is where the workers are gathered in greatest numbers. Into the basic industries of the South—steel, coal, textile and shipping—we must put our best forces and our best work. The steel and coal industries are war industries—where we must organize against the danger of another rich man's war in which we will be asked to give life and limb.

We must make headway, and rapidly, in winning over to the Communist Party, the white workers of the South. We must find those issues which will draw the white workers to our Party, for joint

struggle with the Negro masses. Neither the white nor the Negro workers of the South can make substantial gains unless they are united.

## DRAWING IN NEW LEADERS

Many of the leaders of the Communist Party in the South today are drawn straight from the ranks of the factory-workers, the share-croppers, the militant unemployed. But here, too, we can make still greater headway in promoting to leadership the workers now engaged in struggle in mine, mill and plantation.

Every unit of the Communist Party in the South should discuss the Open Letter issued by the Extraordinary Conference that was held in New York. Workers and working farmers who are not members of the Communist Party are also asked to write in and give their suggestions and criticisms on the work and leadership of our Party.

The coming months are crucial for our Party, for the whole working-class. Workers, poor farmers, and croppers, white and Negro, build the Communist Party for leadership in the coming struggles.

## What is The Share Croppers Union?

(Continued from the last issue)

In our last issue we explained what the Share Croppers Union is and what its demands are. Now we come to the question: suppose you want to start a local of the Share-Croppers Union, just how will you go about it?

## How To Build A Local

A local of the Share Cropper Union may be built as follows:

1. Call together a few people in your community who are interested, to discuss their conditions among themselves.

2. Let those present elect one of the group for captain, one for secretary and another for literature agent. Build locals of 10 each.

3. Let each pay the joining fee of five cents, which should be turned over to the captain of that local or group.

4. Send the names of the members with the joining fee to the union headquarters and get the membership cards. The address is P. O. Box 1813, Birmingham, Ala. Write to this same address if you want an organizer to come and help you.

increases in wages in all industries and for all workers.

2. A stubborn fight against all attempts to put over extensive wage reductions under the guise of a minimum-wage program.

3. Struggle against relief cuts, evictions, foreclosures, and all attempts to shut off water, gas and electricity from workers' homes.

4. Against forced labor camps, commissary relief plans, and for payment in cash at full trade union wage rates on all public works.

5. For a federal system of social insurance to be paid by the government and employers in order to secure all workers against all involuntary unemployment at the level of their previously established standard of living.

6. For the preservation and recovery of workers' rights; for the right to strike, to belong to any union of the workers' own choosing; for free speech, assembly and press; for complete equality for the Negroes; for the release of all political prisoners.

This program contains our bread-and-butter needs. If you agree with it, get your organization to send a delegate to the conference.

For further information and details on the conference, write to Room 412, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

The call to this conference is signed by many Southern working-class leaders.

## RED RHYMES



By BILL MORTON

When tyrants want the roost to rule, and keep the workers under, they play us all for bloomin' fools, and split our ranks asunder. They make the white slave hate the black, the black slave hate the white, and while each other we attack. THEY profit from our plight. If slaves forgot the lying rot that bosses have to say, they'd learn a lot and make it hot for parasites today. No longer then would working men tail for another's gain, nor children eat the hooks of wheat, while bosses steal the grain. This racial hate is really great for boss and millionaire. They rule the map while workers scrap, and fall into their snare. So black and white, let us unite, and be no longer strange. We must at length pool all our strength, for we've a world to change!