

Intensify Our Fight Against Lynching!

By OTTO HALL.

BRYAN, Texas, a town named after the late William Jennings Bryan, notorious bull thrower and fundamentalist, recently contributed its bit to the wave of lynch terror that has made Texas famous and is now sweeping the country.

A mob of "civilized cannibals," satiated with hunting rabbits, methodist camp meetings, and, deciding that this form of sport was too dull, set out to look for larger game, and a Negro whose identity is not yet known was seen walking along the road by this mob who chased him into the woods about five miles from Bryan, Texas, where they cornered him and riddled his body with bullets. As reported in the yellow, prostitute capitalist press, he was suspected of having attacked a white woman.

For the real reasons behind these lynchings we have not far to seek. The deepening economic crisis which has hit the cotton belt particularly hard and in a futile attempt to check the crisis the government advised the cotton growers to limit their production, which is throwing the burden of the crisis on the backs of the Negro and white toilers, who, subsequently, are developing resistance in joint struggles under the leadership of the Communist Party and revolutionary trade unions.

The following figures quoted from "The Financial Chronicle" of June 14, 1930, show that "The exports (raw cotton) from the week ending this evening a total of 46,767 bales against 64,202 bales in the corresponding week

labor unrest. Shipping is quite dull. Raw silk prices are the lowest in fifteen years.

CHINA.—General import and export business in Shanghai is practically at a standstill, with extreme pessimism and depression ruling in all markets. Credit conditions are strained, owing to the failures of several large Chinese banks. (Strange, this was never mentioned in the capitalist press reports!) These conditions result from the heavy slump in silver, lack of demand for foreign import goods and a marked absence of demand from abroad of Chinese products.

"Repercussions of these conditions," says the U. S. Department of Commerce, "undoubtedly account for the falling off in American export trade. It seems very likely that depression in other countries is operating to retard the recovery from industrial recession in the United States through failure to absorb the surplus products of our farms, mines, cotton fields, forests and manufactories."

of last year" a decrease of nearly one-third and still steadily falling.

The narrowing of the home market is vividly shown by figures in the same journal, which gives the total receipts since August, 1929-June, 1930, of 8,072,184 bales, against 8,945,346 bales for the same period of 1928-29, showing a decrease since August 1, 1929, of 873,162 bales. This lack of markets, the lowering of the price of cotton forces the capitalists to attempt to place the entire burden of the agrarian crisis on the poor farmers and the Negro tenant farmers and share croppers in particular, by increasing the terror against these workers to force them into actual slavery. The small and middle farmers are rapidly being dispossessed and their land is being gobbled up by the big plantation owners who are able to use labor saving machinery which enables them to market their products much cheaper than these poor farmers who are forced to depend on hand labor.

These increased lynchings and the race riots which the capitalists are inciting place our tasks, as leaders of the revolutionary struggles of the workers, squarely before us. We must intensify our anti-lynching campaign! We must immediately go about the tasks outlined for us at the recent anti-lynching conference! Our immediate tasks are to broaden this campaign and secure the whole-hearted support of every working class organization in preparation for the great national anti-lynching day which will soon be announced.

Our recent anti-lynching conference, although there were many shortcomings, was fairly successful, with 400 enthusiastic delegates present. A resolution against lynching was adopted, also a resolution declaring the solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the Indian and Chinese workers, was adopted unanimously. We cannot be satisfied with enthusiastic meetings and merely adopting resolutions. Our weaknesses at this conference must be overcome by hard work to broaden the conference and every delegate that was present at this conference must carry this enthusiasm back to his or her organization and mobilize the workers 100 per cent behind this campaign. We must immediately organize our defense groups of Negro and white workers to fight this capitalist terror. We must put into action our program of social, political and economic equality for the Negro workers and we must support the struggle of the Negro toilers in the South, for self-determinati