

# 200 Negro, White Delegates Open All Southern Scottsboro Conference

## Fighting Enthusiasm Marks Assembly Determined To Free 9 Negro Boys

### NEWS FLASH

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., May 31.—Robert Minor, B. Aamis, Tom Johnson, Heywood and one other worker were arrested as they left the conference hall following the close of a highly successful All Southern Scottsboro Conference.

Minor, Amis, Johnson, Heywood and the other worker whose name we were unable to learn at the time we went to press, stopped to talk for a moment as they left the hall. At this moment they were approached by Chattanooga police and placed under arrest. The Daily Worker expects further details by tomorrow's issue.

### BULLETIN

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., May 31.—In spite of the carefully planned campaign to terrorize and prevent the delegates to the all Southern Scottsboro Conference here from being elected and allowed to assemble, the conference is a success. The campaign against the Scottsboro Conference by the N. A. A. C. P. was the biggest campaign that that organization ever conducted in the South and it was in this case assisted by the police.

Reverend Bowen, president of the Chattanooga Ministers' Alliance, and cooperating with Walter White, secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., with a squad of assistants, conducted a systematic campaign, visiting all churches, Masons' and other lodges to prevent the election of delegates.

Bowen personally visited many and threatened he would have them arrested if they ared to go to Chattanooga. The K. K. K. and the Veterans of Foreign Wars were similarly active. Unknown persons bribed truck owners who at the last minute refused to transport delegates, many failing to arrive.

The Scottsboro Conference, espite all obstacles, is a success, but it can be considered a success only if made the beginning of a hundred times greater mass movement and if all delegates return home really to begin the organization of millions.

(Special to The Dail Worker.)

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., May 31.—The All Southern Conference in defense of the nine Negro boys framed at Scottsboro opened in the Negro district at 11:30 today with 200 wildly enthusiastic Negro and white delegates from all over the country attending. One hundred of these delegates were volunteer delegates. The nine Scottsboro boys, Mooney, Billings, the Patterson five and Imperial Valley prisoners were elected honorary members of the conference committee. C. Burton of Birmingham, a Negro worker, was elected chairman.

The delegates arrived via hitch hike, freight car and motor truck. Three New Orleans marine workers arrived in a 1913 model White truck. The car in which the mothers of the nine Scottsboro boys came, broke down, but was repaired and they arrived only 20 minutes before their entrance being wildly ap-

plauded. The nearest relatives of all the boys were present at the conference. One other Birmingham car failed to arrive due to a breakdown. One delegate and speaker was a Negro worker aged 75, a slave by the name of Elder Carter, who walks on crutches and had to be carried to the speakers platform.

Carter is a leading preacher, and

(CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE)

**Fight lynching. Fight deportation of foreign born. Elect delegates to your city conference for protection of foreign born.**

## U.S. GOV'T ADMITS RENTS ARE HIGH

### Warn Landlords To Head Off Movement

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Forced to admit that the rents built upon the speculative boom profits of landlords and contractors are exorbitant and daily getting beyond the means millions of more tenants, a government department sent out a cautious warning advising landlords to head off the movement for lower rents by giving a few concessions.

What is feared by the landlords and their government is the growing smoldering anger at the sky-high rents forced from workers and that now eat up the bigger part of the weekly wage—when there is a wage.

The moment is opportune for the Tenants Leagues to become active in organizing and leading worker-tenants in militant struggle for lower rents.

## Strike Against Capitalists A

The Trade Union Unity League calls for strikes against wage cuts, and wage cuts are multiplying at a tremendous rate. In spite of every attempt of the capitalist organs from Hoover down to conceal this fact, two responsible capitalist information sources, writing for their own people and not for workers to read, have admitted that the income of the workers is collapsing, and by implication, admit the situation is worse than they dare to put in plain words.

### Weekly Wages Fall

The National Industrial Conference Board has issued a long report on wage changes from 1924 to and including 1930, but not 1931. It admits frankly that the reduction in weekly earnings in 1930 was very great, but by excluding any part of the present year, during which most of the open, general wage cuts in hourly and daily earnings were made,

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he welcomed the delegates in the name of humanity. He quoted lynching figures and said the Negroes were still enslaved. The expenses of the delegates were paid by pennies and nickels collected by local block committees and neighbors.

Telegram greetings were received from many workers' organizations, including the Communist Party, League of Struggle for Negro Rights, International Red Aid and 241 New York organizations. A cablegram from the mayor of Maurenne, Iviry, France, with fifty thousand population, demanded death to lynchers. A letter from Roy Wright was read to the conference, stating: "Fakers can't fool me. I'm for the I. L. D."

Twenty-two Birmingham official delegates failed to arrive because their truck broke down in Birmingham. Delegates represent churches, Masonic Order, fraternal organizations, trade unions, and Y.M.C.A.'s, workers clubs, etc. Reverend Bowen of Atlanta made last minute speeches to the boys' relatives and church congregations threatening them if they attended the conference. As a result sixty per cent of the Atlanta delegation alone were coerced away, although the boys' relatives defied threats and arrived. Bowen is the Atlanta NAACP chief and leader in Ministers Alliance.

J. Louis Engdahl exposed the Ministers Alliance and the Chattanooga Veterans of Foreign Wars. He also put forward the record of the International Labor Defense in the south and showed that the 18 indicted in Gastonia, none electrocuted, for an example. He also said the conference proves the I. L. D. has not been chased out of the south. He contrasted the polite treacherous NAACP with the League of Struggle for Negro Rights and the fearless fighting I. L. D.

Robert Minor, representing the New York Scottsboro Conference was wildly applauded for stating there can be no fair trial for a Negro. He stated only the power of the masses will sway the Court. He exposed the frame-up in detail and mentioned the huge demonstration against the frame-up. He proved that the Communist Party was the first in the case.

Comrade Heywood as the Communist Party representative briefly showed the role of the Party generally and in Scottsboro at length.