

UNEMPLOYMENT VERY SEVERE IN CLEVELAND, OHIO

Many Jobless Workers Attempt Suicide

(Special to The Daily Worker)

By GEORGE PAPCUN.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 9.—Despite the optimistic reports of the chamber of commerce, seconded by local labor fakers, unemployment in this city is increasing daily. Many workers have already reached the stage of starvation.

Local labor leaders are attempting to dissipate the discontent of the unemployed with promises of jobs—in the spring. This will hardly satisfy the 33,645 workers who applied at the city employment office for work during October and November and who now presumably remain unemployed.

Colored Workers Hit.

These figures do not include the many workers who have ceased making what they found useless calls upon the employment office. The colored workers are the hardest hit. They are compelled to wait around the employment office for days at a time and when a job does come in to hear "white workers wanted on this job." The consequence is that there is much bitterness among them and a general discontent with both the industrial and social conditions which militate against them.

Suicide Evidence.

Reports such as the following now make their regular appearance in nearly every issue of local capitalist sheets:

"Joseph Novotny, 39, of 3372 E. 66th, slashed his throat in an effort to commit suicide. He was despondent as a result of inability to find employment. Elsie Sindelar also attempted to take her life for the same reason. John Mencin committed suicide by hanging himself in a garage in the rear of his home. Police assert he was despondent because unemployed."

Shut down factories, and factories displaying "No Help Wanted" signs are the reasons for these suicides and for the many more that will probably be committed in this and every other industrial city as the winter weather becomes more severe.