

WORKMEN'S ADVOCATE.

Seventh Year, No. 1.

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FIRST EDITORIAL

HELP THE MINERS.

By Lucien Sanial

The special committee appointed last Sunday by the New York Central Labor Federation to devise ways and means for the relief of the Alabama miners, issued the following appeal to the various labor organizations of this city and vicinity:

CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION.

New York, Dec. 27, 1890.

COMRADES:—The miners of Alabama are engaged in a fearful struggle.

Some time ago, overwork, underpay, the truck system of robbery, and a thousand untold oppressions drove them to despair. Ragged, grimy, hungry, but men at last, they cast away their tools, emerged from the dark pits, and in the free light of the sun struck for their rights.

The battle is raging. Capitalism in its worst form—Alabama capitalism—is not only starving them but supplanting them with convict labor, hired from the State!

Think of it, a so-called free State! This is worse than slavery ever was, even in Alabama; for the slave never was forced to compete for bread with convicted thieves and murderers.

COMRADES:—Those miners won't surrender. They call out to us for sympathy, for aid. Shall we turn a deaf ear to them? Shall we look on drily while they suffer and die in the cause of labor?

No; you will listen to this appeal at your next meeting and do what you can. Whatever you may give, give quickly.

The Special Relief Committee:

LUCIEN SANIAL,
AUGUST WALDINGER,
H. HARD,
GEO. H. MCV EY,
ERNEST BOHM.

In reply to this appeal the New York American Section of the S.L.P., at its business meeting last Monday, collected from the few comrades present the sum of

\$17.20. Other organizations will unquestionably act with equal promptness at their next meeting, although some heavy drafts have lately been and may still be made upon their treasuries in support of the Rochester shoemakers and the New York piano varnishers.

Many persons besides, in this city and elsewhere, may desire to individually contribute their mites to the relief of the Alabama miners. If they will kindly send their pennies, or dimes, or dollars, to the WORKMEN'S ADVOCATE, we shall duly acknowledge receipt in the columns of this paper.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official website of the Socialist Labor Party of America.
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