

"Communism Is 20th Century Americanism" - Earl Browder

# THE SOUTHERN WORKER

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## Browder Speaks in Southern Centers

### Southern Labor Protests C. I. O. Suspension

### South Celebrates Labor Day With Giant Rallies

**MOBILE, Ala.** — Mobile local no. 39 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, passed a resolution requesting the executive council of the A.F. of L. to rescind its decision suspending the 10 CIO unions and to refer the whole matter to the coming convention of the American Federation of Labor.

Organized labor in the South, with three important state federations already on record for industrial unionism, angrily regarded the suspension of the ten international unions affiliated with the Committee for Industrial Organization. In Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia, it was to John L. Lewis that union people pointed to as their leader in the Labor Day celebrations. William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, has been denounced by Southern Trade Unionists for splitting the labor movement.

The ten unions of the CIO were suspended by Green and the executive council for refusing to disband the Committee for Industrial Organization. The executive council acted beyond its authority as Lewis and his associates pointed out. The executive council does not have the right to suspend any union. That authority is reserved for the Labor Body itself, in annual convention.

Meanwhile, leaders of the Drive to Organize the Steel Industry, announced their intention of setting on as if nothing had happened.

Throughout the South, Labor Day was marked by large enthusiastic meetings and parades of organized labor and sympathizers. In Birmingham, a crowd of several thousand gathered at Ensley Park to hear the leaders of the Steel Workers Organization Drive call upon Birmingham workers to support the steel drive. William Mitch, president of the State Federation of Labor as well as regional director of the S.W.O.C. and district president of the U. M. W. referred to in his speaking at Labor Day three years ago when the bosses kept the miners working.

"Just as the miners are here today, so will the steel workers be here next year," declared Mr. Mitch.

Noel Beddow, who with Mr. Mitch is co-director of the regional S.W.O.C., answered the attacks on the steel organizers. "They don't call men who come in here to be T.C.I. officials 'carpet-baggers,'" said Mr. Beddow. "It's only when you try to help the workers that they begin to call you a foreigner and trouble-maker."

In Alabama, large Labor Day meetings were held at Jasper, in Walker County, at Bessemer, stronghold of the T.C.I. in Jefferson County, and at Florence, where the entire Muscle Shoals region turned out to hear a group of speakers including the governor and David E. Lilienthal, T.V.A. director.

### Meetings In Dixie Enthusiastic; Klan Prevents Tampa Address

#### Visits Scottsboro Boys, Jack Barton

**BIRMINGHAM.** "To let them and the world know that the Communist Party is behind the Scottsboro Defense Committee and will support it until the boys are freed," Earl Browder, Communist candidate for president, visited the nine innocent Negroes whose names are written into Alabama history. Browder told them that the demand for their freedom is written into the Communist platform and that in every meeting throughout the campaign the issue of Scottsboro freedom will be raised.

Browder also visited Jack Barton, young Communist leader serving a staggering sentence in Bessemer for literature possession. The two Communists exchanged greetings through the bars of the young labor leader's cell in a jail long since condemned, alive with vermin and smelling of filth. Browder characterized it as a "post-hole unit to be dignified by the term 'dungeon'."

"I will use every occasion to make this issue known to the whole country and to throw the spotlight of publicity on Alabama," the candidate promised young Barton.

Joseph B. Gelders, Southern Representative of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, has announced that his committee will cooperate with the International Labor Defense in the fight to free Barton and nullify the law under which he was convicted. An appeal hearing on a writ of habeas corpus directed to the circuit court last month is scheduled for the State Court of Appeals this month. All interested persons and sympathizers are urged to send protests to Mayor Jim Bryant, Bessemer. An appeal should be sent to the International Labor Defense, Box 262, Birmingham, Alabama.

#### FARMER-LABOR PARTY LAUNCHED

**LEXINGTON, Ky.** — Plans for the launching of a Farmer-Labor Federation in the Commonwealth are being formulated by the leaders of the Kentucky Alliance, the Kentucky Farmers Council and other groups. A public conference to launch the movement is to be convened October 12-13 at the Hotel Lexington, Lexington, Kentucky. The conference will be opened by the Rev.



EARL BROWDER

#### South's Workers Welcome Browder

**WASHINGTON, D. C.** — The La Follette Committee for Investigation of Civil Liberties has promised a thorough and prompt investigation of the treatment accorded Earl Browder in Tampa, Fla.

The National Committee for the Defense of Civil Rights in Tampa has filed a protest with Mayor Chancy against the lockout of Earl Browder in Tampa.

Speaking before enthusiastic crowds in three of the South's major cities, Earl Browder, Communist candidate for the presidency was warmly received on his first trip into the deep South. In Chattanooga, Birmingham and Norfolk, Browder addressed large meetings and also spoke over the radio. In each of these cities he was welcomed by both liberals and the press, as well as by the workers. His appearance in the South has set a precedent for free speech in communities where Communist leaders have formerly been attacked for attempting to speak openly.

Browder's Southern tour was marred only by the Ku Klux Klan in Tampa Florida, which barred the doors of the hall in which he was scheduled to speak. Refusing to let President Roosevelt, Browder demanded an investigation of "certain elements who seized hall and barred others from entering for meeting." The local authorities in the citrus center where Joseph Glazebrook, Socialist leader, met his death at the hands of the Klan last fall refused to take action to protect rights of the presidential candidate to speak. The Tampa press had brazenly published threats before the meeting.

In Chattanooga, Browder spoke in the Civic Auditorium, heard by an audience of nine miners, two white workers, ministers, small business men, students, students and professionals. His discussion of the Negro question brought loud applause.

In Birmingham, Browder claimed the honor of being the first Communist to hold a successful meeting without notice or advance or headline coverage. The meeting was held in the Labor Temple, Birmingham, and was well attended. The speaker was well received and applauded.

## Herndon Case To Reach High Court In October

The United States Supreme Court is to hear the appeal in the case of Angelo Herndon. October, it was announced yesterday. A statement of the case was filed with the Supreme Court by Seymour Whitney, New York Attorney retained by the International Labor Defense to defend Herndon.

With the news that the appeal would be taken to the Supreme Court, Angelo Herndon faces his second trial. He was found guilty of the murder of Sheriff Eugene Williams in 1930. He was sentenced to death. The Supreme Court will be asked to review the









## Farm News

The cry for drouth relief is sounding over Dixie like the dew. At present the sharecroppers and tenants cannot get any relief because the landlords refuse to give for them. This is used as a means of forcing down cotton picking wages with government aid. Union relief comes soon the worst wave of sickness and death that has been witnessed in many a year will set in with the cold weather.

The next time Governor White of Mississippi tours the farm areas we recommend that he get out of his beautiful car, walk into a corn field and shake a few ears of corn. The last time Mr. White looked the fields over he said that Mississippi had a good crop. The stalks do look nice but there is nothing on the cob. Farmers report that 50 to 75% of the corn crop is lost. Don't kid us Governor White, the farmers need relief.

Here is one for Hix's Alabama Oddities. In Morgan County, the home of the world-known Scottsboro case, the Negro and white sharecroppers, tenants and small owners formed a Morgan County Tenant Farmers Union back in 1920. The large landlords tried to increase rents. Negroes and whites organized secretly, much in the same manner as the Share Croppers Union in central Alabama. Terror did not break their organization. After they won their demands the organization died out for lack of a more permanent program.

M. R. N. Nixon, Chairman of the Southern Policy Committee, just wrote a syndicated column under the heading of "The South Today." In his article he shows that the group known as the "Agrarians," who believe in peasant farming, are really trying to carry us back to the Middle Ages with a program similar to that of Hitler and Mussolini. Dr. Odum's book is praised as a real research into Southern problems, offering a splendid source of facts and information. However neither group offers a solution to the sharecropping problem in the South.

These groups of whom Dr. Nixon speaks have no organized backing and thus find themselves acting at rat's paws for the landlord interests. They dare not have the courage of their convictions.

Why don't the liberals like Dr. Odum and the Agrarians face the fact that they themselves dig up the men and the women organized in unions have a program for changing the South and they represent the only force that can make a progressive change. It's time these liberals put their support to the only people willing to work for progress under the sun.

### PEACE AND PEACE

WASHINGTON — The members of the Communist Party in the District of Columbia have decided to support the peace movement. A resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Central Committee of the D. C. Party, held recently, which reads:

### FRAMES COMMUNIST

Nominated first vice-president of the United Textile Workers Union. No other candidate was nominated.

### S. C. U. Protests Forced Picking

In a telegram to Corrington Gill, Acting WPA Administrator, Clyde Johnson, Secretary-Treasurer of the Share Croppers Union condemned the policy of forcing rural workers off relief and into the cotton fields to work at inhumanly wages. The telegram follows: "We protest the closing rural WPA projects in Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas to supply cotton pickers for planters at inhumanly low wage levels. We protest cooperation between local administrators and landlords in move to slash wages, unload relief roles and starve the people. We demand all projects be continued, no worker forced to accept other work at less than WPA weekly wage standard. Workers accepting work picking cotton be rehired by WPA at end of season."

### Union Leader on Tour of Louisiana

NEW ORLEANS, La.—W.C. Irby, member of the National Board of the Farmers' Union, toured Louisiana the last week in October to rally interest in the Farmers' Union and implore membership so that Louisiana would be able to get a state charter for this year.

The farmers greeted Irby's speeches with enthusiasm. When Brother Irby explained that the Farmers' Union aimed to control enough cotton to supply the mills, place a Union label on the bales, and then have union workers in the mills refuse to spin it unless the farmer got his price for it, the farmers agreed 100% and endorsed the Union Label campaign.

At the conclusion of the trip Mr. Irby spoke to the New Orleans Central Labor Union on Farm-Labor cooperation and was cheered enthusiastically by the delegates.

### COOPERATIVE COTTON MARKET

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The organization of a cooperative marketing in Nashville was announced by Robert Clegg, director of the Tennessee Farmers' Union, at a recent meeting of the State Farmers' Union.

## Free The Farmers!

"We believe that the American government is obliged to save the American Farmer from distress and ruin, to guarantee the farmers and tenants their inalienable rights to the possession of their land, their homes, and chattels." — from the Communist Election Platform.

The farmer of today faces the worst years in American Agriculture unless a big change is made in present government policies. The drouth has ruined more than a billion dollars in farm products, and has left a trail of destitution in 22 states. Evictions and foreclosures are increasing. Sharecroppers and tenants have been robbed more than ever by the big landowners and face plain starvation this winter.

The Communist Party, in its 1936 Election Platform proposes real steps to remedy this situation.

The Communist Party believes that the land is the common heritage of the people. The government must obligate itself to save American farmers from distress and ruin by guaranteeing them possession of their land, homes, livestock and equipment. The sharecroppers and tenants, the slaves of the plantation owners, should be placed on fertile land of their own, furnished homes, equipment, and crop loans by the government at very low interest rates and easy repayment terms.

Evictions and foreclosures must be stopped. The government must pass a farm mortgage refinancing bill similar to the Farmer-Lemke Bill to refinance the debts of needy farmers.

The government policy of crop destruction must be stopped. Farmers should be encouraged to grow more so that the American people can all enjoy a high standard of living. The government must regulate prices so that the farmers get at least cost of production.

Real soil conservation should be planned and directed in cooperation with farmers' organizations.

The cost of such a program must be met by taxation of the bankers, cotton and grain exchange brokers, corporation profits, and in general the incomes and inheritances of the rich.

This program is designed to aid the millions of American farmers facing destitution. This is a program that aims to make America free, prosperous and happy. Join the ranks of the real Americans who believe America belongs to the people and that human needs come before property rights and private profits.

### VOTE COMMUNIST!

## Alabama Farmers "Hunger March" Union Denounces Threatened By State Bale Tax Ky. Alliance

HALEYVILLE, Ala.—The Six-County Union meeting of the Farmers' Union passed a second resolution condemning the proposed Bale Tax in Alabama. The tax on cotton is supposed to raise money for the administration of the Soil Conservation Act in the state.

Speakers declared that Farm Bureau leaders in Auburn, representing the landlord interests, had framed the tax bill.

### S. C. U. Urges United Front

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—The Sharecroppers Union issued an appeal to the Alabama Farmers' Union, following the decision of the recent convention for a united front of immediate bales and to provide uniting the two organizations.

The latest proposal of a united front against evictions and mortgaged foreclosures for direct relief, for elimination of the profit tax on the basis of the sharecroppers and tenants to live and till their own farms, for better roads, schools, health centers and other public works of economic and social value.

The new United Front of the Alabama Farmers' Union, which was formed at the recent convention, is to consist of the

## S. C. U. Leader Urges Support For Conference

By Harry Williams, president Share Croppers Union.

The drouth has swept this entire country. Cotton, corn, and other food crops have been burned out and there is almost nothing left to live on through the winter. Thousands of sharecroppers will be faced with starvation.

Alabama landlords start another cotton pickers strike. They learned a great lesson from the 1935 strike and they are looking for another one this year. They say that if a strike is called it will either have to be stopped at once or they will have to pay higher wages. The landlords have agreed to wages ranging around 75¢ a day and less for picking 100 lbs. of cotton. This is not enough for croppers and tenants who have eight and ten in their family.

The croppers and tenants are coming together in meetings to discuss what should be done about the low wages that the landlords are trying to force on them. They have hundreds of men cut off of relief jobs and forced back into the fields to pick cotton for the landlords.

The croppers go to the County Agent or the Department of Public Welfare to sign up on relief and they are told by the local landlord about a job. It is left up to the landlord to say whether or not the sharecroppers shall get relief. This is done to tie the croppers to the cotton patch until cotton picking time is over and then they will be turned loose to starve. Every farmer should support the Sioux City death conference September 29-30 so the croppers can put up a real struggle against starvation.

## Drouth Aid Topic of Farm Conference

SIOUX CITY, Iowa—A Drouth Relief Conference of farmers from the 22 drouth stricken states to consider the problems of relief, debt aid, stopping evictions and foreclosures and establishing a system of crop insurance was to be held September 29-30 in Sioux City. Farmers in four Mid-West states got together to call the conference. John Bowes, president of the Farmers' Holiday Association, placing support to the conference as the main object of drouth relief and the manner in which it is handled to drouth stricken farmers.

Confidential sources indicate that the Share Croppers Union will send two delegations to support the conference and make this a real working base for the farmers to meet to save farmers from the drouth.

Confidential sources also indicate that the Share Croppers Union will send two delegations to support the conference and make this a real working base for the farmers to meet to save farmers from the drouth.



# Soviet People Celebrate



Stalin and a group of Soviet women gather to celebrate the progress and accomplishment of their people. Women are on an equal basis

with men in the U. S. S. R. and take an active part in the government.

## Spanish Workers Militia Fighting For Democracy

By TED WELLMAN

Events in the struggle of the Spanish people against the bloody forces of Fascism have recently taken a turn for the better. On all fronts with the exception of the Irún-San Sebastián sector along the French border, the government forces are strengthening their lines. The Fascists imprisoned in the Alcazar fortress are on the verge of surrender, while the miners surrounding Oviedo will take that city within a few days. This will leave two large and important cities completely in the hands of the People's Front Government, and release thousands of worker-soldiers for other parts of the country.

The Spanish people are defending the government they elected by a huge majority last February. The Fascists, the army officers, the bankers, manufacturers and landlords were enraged by their defeat at the polls. Financed by Hitler and Mussolini, they organised an armed rebellion against the government. They want to overthrow the democratic republic of Spain and set up a Fascist dictatorship. They want to smash the trade unions and peasant organisations. They want to destroy the Communist Party. They want to continue to loot and plunder the Spanish people more than they did before. They want to smash every right of the people in their drive toward power and war.

### Workers United

With most of the main battles won so far, the workers and peasants should advance steadily. However, the Spanish workers must be alert to the fact that the

### L.A. UNION BACKS C.I.O.

**NEW ORLEANS** — Local 232 of the American Federation of Government employees has adopted a resolution against the suspension of the C.I.O. unions and in support of the C.I.O.

attacks, every day now worked in the favor of the people of Spain, as they learned to fight as efficient well-drilled troops, while the failure of the first onslaught demoralized the bought-and-paid-for troops of the fascists.

Matching the planes and money supplied by German and Italian fascism, the workers of the whole world are giving aid to the embattled people of Spain. The trade unions of Soviet Russia, the largest in the world, have sent \$15,500,000 to Spain, and are collecting more millions. From the Workers of Mexico there landed safely in Spain 50,000 rifles and ammunition. In the United States tens of thousands of dollars are being collected, with the Furriers Union, the Ladies Garment Workers, and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and the Teachers Union, pledging \$5,000 each, with the Communist Party, Socialist Party and other organizations matching the unions. The French workers have given much, and are now placing pressure against the Socialist Blum cabinet to sell planes and arms to the legal Spanish government.

The new Spanish Cabinet is aburing the battle for freedom onward with new strength. The Spanish masses feel that at last they have as their leaders true and trusted fighters for labor. At the head of the cabinet is Largo Caballero, veteran Socialist militant, leader of the Spanish trade unions. With him are five more Socialists. And included on a Spanish cabinet for the first time in history are two Communists who are ministers of Education and Agriculture. The inclusion of these two representatives of the Communist Party, however, has been denied by many in Spain, and the reason is in the fact that the Communists will not accept the capitalist system of government.

However, the Communists are

## For Negro Rights

For the Negro people complete equality, equal rights to jobs, equal pay for equal work, the full right to organize, vote, serve on juries, and hold public office. . . . THE DEATH PENALTY FOR LYNNCHERS. . . . The enforcement of the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments" — from the Election Platform of the Communist Party.

The firm stand of the Communist Party on the Negro question should not be news to the workers of the South. For years, in the face of the most bitter antagonism and terror, the Communist Party has carried on a consistent campaign for full Negro rights in every sphere of life, against Jim Crow, for full prosecution and punishment of lynchers. The Communists have stood their ground firmly, honestly and openly fighting the persecution of Negroes in the South. The plank in the election platform for 1936 is no "catch phrase" to win the Negro vote.

What do the other parties say about rights for Negroes in this election? The Republican Party, once the Party of Lincoln, the Great Emancipator, today remains silent about lynchings and Jim Crow. The Republican Party has for its silent partner the notorious Black Legion, whose members destroy Negroes for gun practice.

The Democrats too remain significantly silent on the question of Negro oppression, and reactionaries within the Democratic Party have led the most terrible attacks on the Negro people. The lynching landlords of the South and the industrial oppressors are part of the reactionary group still within the Democratic Party. Their silence on the question of Negro rights does not mean that they've overlooked the question!

The Communist Party is the Party of the Negro people, just as it is the party of all working and oppressed people. The Communists have taken the lead in every battle for Negro rights, against lynchings and the terror used by Southern landlords and industrialists to keep the white and Negro workers divided. The Communists led the fight for freedom of the Scottsboro boys and Angelo Herndon, carried on tirelessly in the face of the most powerful forces of Southern reaction, and their work speaks for itself. The Negro people owe it to themselves to vote Communist.

### VOTE COMMUNIST!

### LANDLORDS TRY TO HALT RELIEF

**MEMPHIS**, Tenn.—In an effort to force thousands of jobless workers off WPA projects into the fields to pick cotton, plantation owners have begun a drive to halt relief work in this cotton area. Chamber of Commerce officials laid demands before the city, county and state authorities charging that the jobless have "refused to work" in the fields. Conditions concerning on whom the new share of the cotton crop would fall were left open.

### NEGRO RECREATION

**CHATTANOOGA** — Pointing out that the recreational facilities for Negroes here are miserable, a group of interracial leaders plan building a \$50,000 swimming pool for Negroes. The group hopes to build enough pressure to bear to have PWA funds to bear half of the cost, and the city half.

### STUDENT CAMPBONSHIP

**AUSTIN**, Tex.—A group of 100 Negro students from various schools in the state are to meet at the University of Texas on Sept. 15 to protest against the segregation of Negro students in the state. The group is to be headed by Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, Negro author and social scientist.

## Under Workers Rule

**SCHOOL** begins in September in Soviet Russia as it does here. How do school conditions there compare with ours in the South? Here one third of our schools are closed for lack of funds, our teachers are underpaid and many children are too hungry or badly dressed to reach those left open. On September first, in the Soviet Union, 21,000,000 children started the school year. 4,300 new schools had been built for them during the summer.

This fall, too, a million young people in the Soviet Union will enter technical school. The government will support them while they learn to do skilled work and prepare to add to the wealth of the Russian People.

Even a college education is now open to all who want it. The New Soviet Constitution guarantees the right to primary and higher education to all who want it. Children are required to attend school for at least the first seven grades.

Best of all, those who go to school and college in the Soviet Union go with the knowledge that when they are ready there is a job waiting for them. They know that they are building a better world for themselves and their fellow workers. They know there will be a better place for them in the land of Socialism.

### BRIEF FACTS ABOUT THE SOVIET UNION

The total output of Soviet industry during the first six months of 1936 rose 34% over the first six months of 1935.

Russian workers deposited one and a half times as much money in savings banks by June 1936 as they did during the same month in 1935.

Now that there is work for everyone in Russia, crime has dropped sharply. The worst crime in the Soviet Union is a crime against the people, against social property; that is, injuring the worker's government or stealing public property. This kind of crime has dropped 30% since 1935. The number of murders was cut in half. As it has become easier for young people to live an honest, prosperous life, there have been fewer crimes committed by young people.

Two thousand young children met in Leningrad recently with representatives of the cities' trading organization to discuss toys and amusements. The young consumers demanded more variety in toys and were promised their recommendations would be followed.

Clever Soviet engineers have designed two giant windmills which will produce electricity. They are capable of generating 10,000 kilowatts. These windmills will be set up this year in the Caucasus where the wind blows persistently.

The Red Army has been able to increase its strength and morale by the use of radio. It has 100,000 radio sets, and the Red Army has 100,000 radio stations. The Red Army has 100,000 radio sets, and the Red Army has 100,000 radio stations.

