

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official Newspaper of the Workers Alliance of America

VOL. 1—No. 1.

20

AUGUST 15, 1935.

PRICE 3 CENTS

DEMONSTRATE AGAINST SLAVE WAGES!

15,000 JOBLESS WILL MARCH IN PORTLAND

Oregon NEWF Completes Plans for Protest Parade

SPECIAL TO WORKERS' ALLIANCE.
PORTLAND, Ore.—Detailed plans have been completed here for a monster mass demonstration on Aug. 17 against the slave wage rates proposed under the works progress administration.

Fifteen thousand bareheaded are expected to mobilize in the Plaza block and then parade through the downtown streets, passing the federal building, the veterans' relief unit, the police station, headquarters of the Multnomah county relief committee and the courthouse. Committees will drop out when passing these buildings to present the demands of the unemployed.

A huge banner will lead the parade carrying the sign: "N. E. W. F. of Oregon, Affiliated Workers Alliance of America, Organized Unemployed, Part Time and Relief Workers Strong. Many other banners will carry the demands of the WAA."

88 LOCAL UNIONS ASSIST.
Each local of the National Economic Welfare Federation will display local banners. At least five other organizations will participate, including 500 unemployed World War veterans, and the Portland Central Labor Council, comprising 88 local unions of all crafts.

More than 250 trucks will be placed in the parade by the Oregon Truckmen's Assn. Fifty thousand handbills have been distributed.

Turn to Page Four, Column First.

Demonstration Plans Arranged at Rochester, N. Y.

SPECIAL TO WORKERS' ALLIANCE.
ROCHESTER, N. Y.—Conferences are being held here with various labor and liberal organizations to arrange plans for a mass demonstration on National Unemployed day, Aug. 17.

A huge protest meeting leading up to the demonstration was held here Aug. 1, with speeches by David Lasser, national chairman of the Workers' Alliance of America, and Jules Korchian, national secretary of the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians. Lasser pointed out that President Roosevelt's so-called security wage not only is far below what his own organization, the NRA, set as a minimum, but also directly attacks the wage standards of all workers.

ALLIANCE PROGRAM INDORSED.

The meeting was sponsored by the above-mentioned groups and the Central Trades and Labor Council, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, Associated White Collar Workers, Socialist party of Monroe county and the Workmen's circle.

The large meeting indorsed the Alliance program for \$30 a week for a 30-hour week, and full cash relief for the unemployed.

Monroe County Relief Workers' organization, affiliated with the Workers' Alliance of America, is co-operating with the Central Trades and Labor Council in demanding a full investigation of relief conditions here and the removal of Commissioner of Public Welfare Frank X. Kelly.

National Chairman



DAVID LASSER

Police Attack Jobless Meet In New York

NEW YORK—Police attacked a meeting of 200 members of the Workers' Unemployed Union, New York city affiliate of the Workers' Alliance, at the city hall last Thursday and drove them from the city hall plaza, injuring two.

The demonstration, held to protest the cutting off of relief allowances, and "demanding" that Mayor La Guardia fulfill his promise of adequate relief, took place after a committee of three consisting of David Lasser, chairman of the Unemployed Union, and national chairman of the Workers' Alliance, George Johnson and Neil Harrison, had visited Mayor La Guardia. The answer of La Guardia to the unemployed delegation's statement that "people were starving in New York City" was, "Aw, nuts, yourself." La Guardia threatened to throw him out of the window.

La Guardia's only answer to the demand for a 40 per cent increase in relief was that the city was doing all it could. "I wish I were back in congress," sighed the "liberal" La Guardia, when confronted with the insistent demand for more relief.

The Workers' Unemployed Union also demanded that "union wages be paid on relief projects." La Guardia, however, is going ahead with his intention to pay the "sub-sistence" rate which is 30 to 50 per cent below union wages.

When the delegation left, La Guardia in disgust and returned to their members to report on the interview, the police at first refused to allow Lasser to speak and tried to pull him from his improvised platform. But the workers surrounded Lasser so effectively that the police were blocked and had to allow him to continue. But when Lasser introduced the second member of the delegation, Neil Harrison, the order was given "Clear them out." Ruthlessly the police began their attack on the unemployed. Men and women were knocked down. One woman, Mrs. Sarah Santer, was left unconscious on the ground, the police refusing to allow anyone to go to her aid. Lasser finally had to break through the police lines to help her to a bench. Paula Argon, a young girl, exhibited a black eye bestowed on her by La Guardia's police.

Recent reports of health authorities in New York City just made public tell that 135,000 children in the city are "slowly starving," and that more than 75,000 children are without adequate clothing. La

Turn to Page Four, Column First.

Purge Relief Rolls to Aid Sweatshops

FERA Tries to Force Jobless to Work At Scab Wages

WASHINGTON—The federal emergency relief administration issued orders recently to "purge" the relief rolls, in an attempt to force the unemployed to work on farms and in sweatshops at wages ranging from 70 cents a day up to \$1.41. Laurence Westbrook, assistant administrator, gave the order.

Work relief was cut off in South Dakota, 19,000 family heads being stricken from the rolls. Nebraska stopped work relief in 28 counties and reduced the allotments to 19 others. Illinois and Iowa halted work in rural areas. North Dakota stopped all but a few projects. Minnesota, Ohio and Kansas took steps to reduce relief rolls.

Reasons given for the "purge" were that relief clients refused farm jobs, despite the fact that investigations of charges that unemployed in New Jersey turned down "berry-picking" jobs were branded untrue by FERA research economists.

No proof has been offered that unemployed refused jobs at reasonable wages. But powerful interests who have long fought the relief system in an attempt to drive down all wage standards have brought up the fact that many unemployed have refused to work on farms for the miserable wage of \$1 a day, to back up their arguments that the jobless are shiftless and should not be helped.

The organized jobless, together with union men who are also threatened by this forced slave-labor scheme, will continue to fight against the copious wage rates proposed under the workers' progress administration and the 70 cents to \$1.41 wages which large landowners would like to set as the scale for harvest hands.

HELP YOURSELF TO A BETTER PAPER!

Here is the 11th issue of The Workers Alliance. How do you like it? Don't you think it's worth your support?

In it you will find news that no other paper carries, news that other papers suppress. We've tried to write it the way you want it, in the way you want it. We have no endowment back of us, no bank balance to help us get started. We were able to print this issue because workers in all parts of the country gave up their pennies and nickels to put it over, and solicited ads from the business men who get their trade.

There are two things you can do to help The Workers Alliance. First, get a bundle of orders. Make sure your local union gets a large bundle every issue. Pass the names around at meetings. Show it to sympathizers of the organized unemployed. The next issue is due Sept. 1. Be sure you get it. Don't wait but send in your orders and ads now. Only with a steady

500,000 UNEMPLOYED AND TRADE UNIONISTS TO PROTEST AUG. 17

Jobless in Mass Demonstrations on National Unemployed Day to Demand Union Pay, Fight \$19 to \$94 Wage Rates

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—More than 500,000 relief workers and trade unionists will vigorously protest against the \$19 to \$94 works relief wage scales in mass demonstrations throughout the United States on National Unemployed Demonstration Day, Aug. 17.

Early reports of preparations that are being made indicate that these demonstrations will be the largest and will cover the widest territory of any organized protests ever held in this country.

Building Trades Planning Works Relief Strike

BOSTON (F.P.)—A strike in the building trades looms as a result of a decision of the Building Trades council of Boston and the Massachusetts State Building Trades council to hold a state-wide conference in Worcester to consider joining five states which already have agreed to strike if the proposed WPA and PWA wage scale is put into effect.

Objecting strenuously to the wage scales and working regulations proposed under the WPA and PWA, the state building trades councils of California, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan and New York have already informed Secretary Treasurer E. A. Johnson of the Boston council that they would resist the wage scale by striking.

A recent conference with State WPA Administrator Arthur G. Reeb and State PWA Administrator Theodore Parker revealed that wages and working regulations were fixed by presidential authority and were out of the hands of local administrators.

stream of bundle orders and subscriptions coming in each week we continue to put out a good lively paper every two weeks. Don't forget that we give 10 free papers with every 100 in bundles of \$20 or more.

Second, you can solicit ads. A commission of 10 per cent is paid in papers on all ads sent in. This is a means of revenue for The Workers Alliance which must be pushed. One local of the Du Quoin local of the Illinois Workers Alliance, really worked on this end of the thing, judging from the returns for the first issue. But merchants and business men who are mainly supported by the unemployed should be only too glad to advertise in the our paper. Ad rates are \$1 per inch. How about selling a few?

Lots of hard work has gone into the launching of The Workers Alliance. More will go into it as time goes on. We'll be glad to do it though, if you'll back us up with your strongest support.

will cover the widest territory of any organized protests ever held in this country.

Under the auspices of the Workers' Alliance of America and its affiliates in 32 states, together with large and important sections of the trade union movement, all the available strength of the American working class will be thrown behind these protests. Telegrams and letters from hundreds of cities and towns will show Harry Hopkins, chief of the federal relief set-up, that the unemployed do not intend either to scab or to starve.

DEMAND UNION WAGES

Chief demand of the unemployed, against time and relief workers will be work for all at union wages, with a minimum of \$30 a week for a 30-hour week. Into the teeth of the reactionaries who claim the unemployed are slackers, the organized jobless will fling this demand for work, honest work at honest wages.

Adequate unemployment insurance for all workers who cannot be given jobs, appeals boards of works projects with representation from relief workers and trade unions to prevent discrimination or arbitrary discharge, and adequate cash relief pending unemployment insurance are other demands which the demonstrations will set forth.

In sounding the call for these mass demonstrations in all parts of the United States, David Lasser, national chairman of the Workers' Alliance of America stated that the feeling of the unemployed is that they would rather have no works program than this program "which will demoralize the working and living stands of American labor."

ABSDUR WAGE LEVELS

"The works program in our opinion," Lasser said, "has become a joke, and a danger. It is supposed to end the depression by putting increased purchasing power into the hands of the unemployed. How can we have increased purchasing power on a \$19 to \$94 a month wage?

"Moreover the program sets up artificial wage levels which are absurd. The two works divisions are the Public Works Administration, PWA and the Works Progress Administration, WPA. Under the former a worker gets the union wage for a 30-hour week, which means that a skilled mechanic may earn as high as \$40 a week for a 30-hour week. Under the Works Progress Administration on the other hand the maximum skilled worker's wage is \$18 to \$20 a week for a 35-hour week. The actual work done might be the same in either case. This is the sort of juggling that is going on in Washington. However there will only be a small percentage of the prized PWA jobs."

Demonstration Day Plans Being Completed in East

Destitution Forcing Hopewell, Va., Unemployed to Act; Picnic Held at Youngstown, N. Y., to Get Committees Functioning.

Special to WORKERS' ALLIANCE.

HOPEWELL, Va.—Under the auspices of the Workers Alliance of America, unemployed in Hopewell are drawing up plans for a huge mass meeting on Aug. 17, protesting the wage standards proposed under the Works Progress Administration and demanding union rates of pay.

Infantile paralysis is sweeping through this section. Starvation and suffering are on every hand.

Defying the NRA and the people of Hopewell the Tulise Artificial Silk Co., chief industry of the town, oppressed the workers until they finally revolted. Then the company locked out all the employees, forcing them to the lowest levels of starvation and beggary.

ORGANIZATION HELPS

Two thousand of Hopewell's citizens who depended on the company for a livelihood are now on relief. Since the formation of the unemployed organization which later affiliated with the Workers' Alliance of America relief conditions have greatly improved. The branch here now has 365 members and is growing daily. In nearby Arlington, 165 Negroes are organized into a strong branch of the Workers' Alliance.

Fighting together in a determined but intelligent way the unemployed can help themselves out of the conditions they're in. Virginia's unemployed are learning to stick!

Youngstown Plans Big Demonstration Aug. 17

Special to WORKERS' ALLIANCE.
YOUNGSTOWN, N. Y.—Plans for National Unemployment Demonstration Aug. 17, are going forward rapidly here. A large picnic was held on Aug. 11 to get committees functioning for the demonstration and to raise funds to help put the protest meeting across.

The Square Deal Assn., affiliated with the Workers' Alliance of America, is taking care of the arrangements. This organization has about 98 per cent of the unemployed in Youngstown enrolled in its ranks. More are coming in many of them sympathizers who are not on relief. The organization was formed last March and has made remarkable progress ever since.

Labor and Unemployed To Protest at Reading

READING, Pa.—A joint mass demonstration will be held here Aug. 17 under the auspices of the organized labor movement of this city and the organized unemployed. The imposition of the coal wage standards of the works progress administration make it necessary for all workers to get together in one, mighty protest against this new American pogrom.

Demonstrations were held here Aug. 7 to voice the immediate demands of the unemployed and force action on measures which the relief authorities had previously refused to act on.

WASHINGTON—More than 20 per cent of American beauty shop employees are paid less than \$10 a week and work more than 12 hours a day, according to the women's bureau of the United States department of labor.

1,500 Jobless March On Miami City Hall

MIAMI, Fla.—More than 1,500 unemployed men and women marched on the city hall here recently demanding an immediate appropriation of funds for the relief of the needy.

They got it! Faced by the determined crowd of unemployed the city commission promptly agreed to release funds for unemployment relief. Unemployed picketers and hunger strikers in this resort city were starving while business boomed for the few who were lolling on the beach and cruised about Biscayne Bay in luxurious yachts. Charging that the chamber of commerce secretary tried to put up a road front to visitors by broadcasting that Miami had no breadlines, John Gavriloff, "Hery" spokesman for the jobless, about-

YOU SAID IT!

Letters for this column should be short and written plainly on one side. Letters can be published in each issue. None can be returned. Please also send your name and address so we can publish your name and address. Address: WORKERS' ALLIANCE, 312 West State St., Milwaukee, Wis.

Pittsburgh, Pa.
EDITOR, WORKERS' ALLIANCE:

The workers' salvation is organization. We can see from past experience that whatever the working class got it was only with the effort of the organized movement. All over the country, in fact all over the world, the best thing is organization. Whenever labor is organized they get a part of what they're entitled to, and where there is no organization—well, it's only too bad!

One reason I think that labor don't appreciate the value of organization and the benefit he can secure through it is publicity. Labor has no means to express itself, no means to find out the real truth of its conditions in general. I think labor needs good labor daily paper which will give him the real news.

This writer didn't lose any time when he got hold of a sample copy of WORKERS' ALLIANCE to make a motion in his Local No. 65 to have the local send the GREETINGS TO WORKERS' ALLIANCE for the first issue, and members with big majority approved the motion.

The writer only wishes this new labor paper a great success and would like to see every member of the UNEMPLOYED CITIZENS' LEAGUE to be a subscriber of the WORKERS' ALLIANCE and also wishes to see the labor paper WORKERS' ALLIANCE in every working man's hands soon.

N. L. GOLLA,
Local 65, Unemployed Citizens' League.

Greater Misery for Jobless; Relief Allowances Reduced

WASHINGTON—Following up on attacks against relief clients the relief administration here reduced the August allotment of direct relief money to 95 million dollars or 25 million dollars less than the amount allotted in June. Officials explained that seasonal employment gains made relief less lighter.

The national youth administration promised 30 million dollars when it was set up, was cut down to 25 million dollars.

Local 4, Workers Unemployed Union of Greater New York

ALBERT MARK
Local 4, WUU, Greater N. Y.

CHARLES MACK, Local 17
WUU, Greater New York

R. E. P., Local 8
WUU, Greater New York

CHARLES BROMHEAD
Local 3, WUU, Greater N. Y.

SOPHIE AMOUR, Local 2
WUU, Greater New York

MRS. BERTHA BUTLER
Local 2, WUU, Greater N. Y.

JEANETTE RALPH
New York City

MARION HAKOUM
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Local 4, Workers Unemployed Union of Greater New York

ALBERT MARK
Local 4, WUU, Greater N. Y.

CHARLES MACK, Local 17
WUU, Greater New York

R. E. P., Local 8
WUU, Greater New York

CHARLES BROMHEAD
Local 3, WUU, Greater N. Y.

SOPHIE AMOUR, Local 2
WUU, Greater New York

MRS. BERTHA BUTLER
Local 2, WUU, Greater N. Y.

JEANETTE RALPH
New York City

MARION HAKOUM
Brooklyn, N. Y.

PROTEST PLANS COMPLETED IN BALTIMORE, MD.

Unemployed will Demand Special Relief Session.

BALTIMORE, Md.—On Aug. 17, National Unemployed day, the People's Unemployment league, in cooperation with Alliance groups in all sections of the country, fires the starting gun in the battle against starvation wages and continued misery for the unemployed.

Plans for the demonstration are already completed. In Maryland as elsewhere, thousands of marching feet will be heard in cities, towns and hamlets. Thousands of demanding voices of the unemployed and their employed brothers will ring out.

In Baltimore, close to the nation's capital, the voices of the People's Unemployment league will be raised in unison with the Workers' Alliance demands and with an additional call for the governor to order an immediate special session of the state legislature to make preparations for bearing the responsibility of caring for the unemployed after Nov. 1.

The demonstration will be held in City Hall plaza and a public pledge will be taken by the unemployed, a pledge that after that date no rent payments will be made to landlords other than that allowed by the relief commission. People's Unemployment league will be asked to pledge support to any one who is threatened with eviction.

The date this pledge is taken falls short by three days of the first anniversary of the league's picketing business which a police ban had determined definite and brought 20 arrests in one day.

Fired by a grand jury later, league members by this action upheld the right of the unemployed to picket relief stations in Maryland. On Aug. 17, for union wages on all jobs. For unity of the jobless and the workers.

New Jersey Unit of "Workers Alliance"

TRENTON, N. J.—A special state convention was held here recently of the American Workers' Union, at which time the name was changed to the Workers' Alliance of New Jersey. Among the important decisions made by the convention were: Unanimous passage of a resolution calling for labor party endorsement of the Hillquit workers' rights amendment. Opposition to the wage scale of the workers' rights amendment; opposition to the wage scale of the works progress administration; opposition to the state sales tax; insubordination to the Workers' Alliance national newspaper, backing the NEB for the national drive and the National Demonstration Day.

T. J. Burns, president of the Mercer County Building Trades council, addressed the convention and pledged the support of the building trades of the Workers' Alliance. Other speakers were Fred McKenna, who spoke for the Workers' Alliance over WTNJ on the anti-salary hour. Telegrams and letters of greetings to the convention were received from Workers' Alliance of Ohio convention, David Lasser, national chairman, and Frank Trager, NEA member.

Local 4, Workers Unemployed Union of Greater New York

ALBERT MARK
Local 4, WUU, Greater N. Y.

CHARLES MACK, Local 17
WUU, Greater New York

R. E. P., Local 8
WUU, Greater New York

CHARLES BROMHEAD
Local 3, WUU, Greater N. Y.

SOPHIE AMOUR, Local 2
WUU, Greater New York

MRS. BERTHA BUTLER
Local 2, WUU, Greater N. Y.

JEANETTE RALPH
New York City

MARION HAKOUM
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Local 4, Workers Unemployed Union of Greater New York

ALBERT MARK
Local 4, WUU, Greater N. Y.

CHARLES MACK, Local 17
WUU, Greater New York

R. E. P., Local 8
WUU, Greater New York

CHARLES BROMHEAD
Local 3, WUU, Greater N. Y.

SOPHIE AMOUR, Local 2
WUU, Greater New York

MRS. BERTHA BUTLER
Local 2, WUU, Greater N. Y.

JEANETTE RALPH
New York City

MARION HAKOUM
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Trade Unions in New York Back Jobless Demonstration

Entire Resources of Organization Mobilized to Build Impressive Section in Parade On August 17.

NEW YORK—With the entire resources of the organization mobilized and in action, the Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York is working to build an impressive section of the national unemployed demonstration of Aug. 17.

Greetings to THE WORKERS' ALLIANCE
Greetings to the new paper. May it prosper, have a long life and let the whole world know. From the Workers' Alliance of New Jersey, County Executive Committee, Camden, N. J., and the Workers' Alliance of New York, Camden, N. J.

AFFILIATED WORKERS OF AMERICA, Camden Unit,
Southwest corner Fifth and Bay St., Camden, N. J.

BUNNEMEDE PEOPLES CLUB
BUNNEMEDE, N. J.

PEOPLES CLUB OF ALBION
ALBION (Berks Co.), N. J.

INTER-BOBO UNIT
Workers' Alliance of New Jersey
RADDOON HEIGHTS, N. J.

PENNSAUXUM UNIT
Workers' Alliance of N. J.
415 Crescent Blvd., Pennsauken, N. J.

LADIES' AUXILIARY, BUNNEMEDE PEOPLES CLUB
Camden Bridge Road
BUNNEMEDE, N. J.

Greetings From Two Churches That Welcome the Unemployed

Christ Presbyterian Church
344 W. 58th St., New York City

Cuyler Presbyterian Church
790 Pacific St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

THE NEW WORKERS' SCHOOL
Greets The Workers Alliance of America on its first issue of a national newspaper.

We invite you to come to 51 W. 16th St., New York City, and see the Diego Rivera Murals. Open everyday but Sunday up 6 P. M.

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 10, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Trade union mobilization is being solicited. Endorsements of the demonstration have already been obtained from the Dreammakers' Joint Board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, including some 100,000 workers; the Cloakmakers' Joint Board of the ILGWU, with some 40,000 members, and the New York Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, with about 40,000 workers. Further union endorsements are confidently expected well before the demonstration. Several unions are conducting active campaigns among their own membership to get a large turnout on Aug. 17.

Demands of the demonstration will be laid before Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia, once touted as the "great liberal", and Gen. Hugh S. Johnson, in charge of the WPA jobs in New York city.

Locals of the Workers' Unemployed union are active in canvassing their neighborhood for signatures to petitions for jobs at union wages. Persons canvassed are acquainted with the organization and with the demonstration plans. The city is being covered with thousands of leaflets, a final batch of 50,000 leaflets scheduled to come turn to Page Four, Column Three.

Fraternal Greetings
Suifcase, Bag & Port-folio Makers' Union
15 East 21st St., New York, N. Y.

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

Local 2, Workers' Unemployed Union of Greater New York

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official Newspaper of The Workers Alliance of America

VOL. 1—No. 2

24

SEPTEMBER 1, 1935

PRICE 3 CENTS

UNION LABOR BATTLES WPA WAGE SCALES

Philadelphia and New
York Workers Out
on Strike

WASHINGTON—Although the works progress administration has scarcely started in most sections of the country, officials here realize they have stirred up a hornet's nest.

Loud and lusty are the protests against the WPA coming in from all parts of the land. In New York, building trades workers on the Astor low-cost housing project walked out, supported by the white collar workers and the unemployed. David Lasser, chairman of the Workers Alliance of America, appeared at the strike committee meeting, offering full co-operation in obtaining relief for strikers. He called upon union leaders to help organize the unskilled workers on the projects so that they might be drawn into the strike.

Newspapers, paucity because strikers with Lasser's help received relief, featured the victory of the strikers and quoted Mayor La Guardia and Gen. Johnson as saying that it was not a real test case but merely an isolated occurrence. **RESENTMENT INTENSE.**

Despite the fact that the strike situation is outwardly quiet, officials here know that the resentment against the administration's low wage policy is deep and intense. When the program gets under way on a large scale, a major economic upheaval is predicted by many competent observers.

Like the man who saw his first graft, both President Roosevelt and WPA Administrator Hopkins insist in effect that "there's no such animal" as a strike on a relief job. Both are worried plenty, however, as reports continue to come in of WPA workers kicking over the traces.

In Cincinnati, WPA painters have gone on strike against the security wages. Cleveland and Toledo building trades have declared they will strike all projects that pay less than prevailing wages.

Support for the strike of workers on the WPA project at the Philadelphia navy yard has been voted.

Turn to Page Four, Column Three.

Wins Test Case



THOMAS MARTIN

WPA Striker Wins Relief In Test Case

NEW YORK—Despite the fact that President Roosevelt, Harry Hopkins and other relief officials stated that relief would not be given to WPA strikers, Thomas Martin (above), union bricklayer, applied for aid at a Bronx station and got it.

Martin, striking against the WPA wage rates, demanded relief in a test case arranged by David Lasser, national chairman of the Workers Alliance of America. He was given a \$5 check and was told that a rent order for \$23.50 would be issued to him later in the day. His application was granted with the consent of Home Relief Director Catherine Carr.

"WPA men should have no fear of striking, henceforth," Lasser said in halting the test case as a victory for the unemployed and building trades workers.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.—Workers Alliance members were active in supporting the general strike here. One Alliance member shouted "Hitl Hitler!" at the national guard and was arrested for disturbing the peace. The truth often disturbs somebody's peace.

Unemployed From Coast to Coast Unite in Nationwide Protest Against WPA Wages

Workers Alliance of America Leads Militant Fight for Union Wages on All Projects; Protests \$19 to \$94 Scale

Labor shook its brawny fist in the face of Harry Hopkins on Aug. 17 and told the WPA head in plain words what they thought about the \$19 to \$94 wage scales set up under the WPA. From coast to coast telegrams and letters informed Hopkins that the unemployed and relief workers of America, through their organization, the Workers Alliance of America, were ready to fight to the last ditch against any such slave wage system.

Strikebreaker



This is the sickly grin worn by Gen. Hugh Johnson, New York City WPA administrator, when he discovered he couldn't drive building trades and relief workers to starvation wage levels. Striking workers hooded Johnson when he tried to tell them they were better off than before.

From Portland, Ore., to Providence, R. I., and from Tampa, Fla., to northern Wisconsin, Alliance units staged mass demonstrations against the new work relief wage rates. Workers everywhere are roused against the WPA plan, succinctly stated by one relief head "Scab or Starve!"

In New York city more than 10,000 unemployed and trade unionists, led by the Workers Unemployed union, marched in a parade a mile long. The assembled ranks of labor and relief workers cheered loudly when speakers called for prevailing wages on all relief jobs. Gen. Hugh Johnson, WPA administrator in New York city, was denounced as a strikebreaker. One speaker stated that there would never be industrial peace until Johnson was removed.

FOLIOH HALT COMMITTEE. A committee, stepping from the parade at Johnson's office, was halted by a police detachment and informed that "absolutely no one was in the building" to see the committee.

The committee returned to Union square where the parade ended and informed the vast crowd that Johnson had practically "slapped labor in the face." An ominous burst of resentment ran through the assembled marchers at this statement.

The parade was militant and determined. When David Lasser, chairman of the Workers Alliance of America, asked the audience how many would stick it out to the end, a vast sea of hands went up.

Members of the Unemployment Councils of New York also marched in the parade.

10,000 Demonstrate

In Portland, Oregon PORTLAND, Ore.—Ten thousand unemployed, trade unionists, veterans, farmers, part-time and relief workers paraded through the downtown streets here on National Unemployment Day in militant, united protest against the government's proposal to smash American wage standards on relief jobs under the WPA.

The demonstration was sponsored by the National Economic Welfare federation, Workers Alliance affiliate, together with the Portland Central Labor union and the Oregon State Federation of Labor. W. E. Patrick, WAA board member, headed the steering committee.

Resolutions and telegrams of protest were forwarded to Hopkins and other officials. The demonstration was admitted to be the largest and one of the most successful labor events held here in years.

Successful meetings and demonstration were held in Oregon City, Marshfield and many other Oregon cities, according to reports which are still coming in. The workers in the northwest are aroused.

Turn to Page Two, Column One.

Flashes From the Labor World

FORCED LABOR

NEW YORK—Those great "liberals," Harry Hopkins and Mayor La Guardia, think forced labor is terrible in Germany, but here at home they sing a different song. An order has just been approved by them which would not only cut people off relief rolls if they refused WPA jobs but, where the client is the head of a family, would sue them for non-support. The action came as a result of Hugh Johnson's failure to meet his goal of 70,000 persons at work on WPA by Aug. 1. He went into the fourth week of the month 50,000 jobs behind.

TIFF STRIKERS WIN

POTOSI, Mo.—More than 2,600 tiff strikers won a wage increase of \$1.50 per ton after a militant 18-day strike. The miners picketed the tiff company's plant night and day, permitting no one to enter without passes from strike headquarters. The poverty-stricken tiff miners live in misery and want. Yet they fought intelligently but firmly—and won. Attempts by the company to get militia into the area were unsuccessful, no violence of any kind marking the struggle.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif.—The Screen Dancers, organization of chorus boys, have voted to affiliate with the powerful Screen Actors Guild. When a branch of the guild is opened for chorus girls, the guild will include virtually 100 per cent of Hollywood actors. At that time it is expected that the "sexey" guild will join the Screen Writers' Guild in demanding a closed shop in Hollywood studios.

IWA AND UNIONS CO-OPERATE

AURORA, Ill.—Co-operation between the IWA of Aurora and the organized labor movement is gaining ground here. The unions, graded with the unemployed, protesting cooling wages and relief conditions and now have invited the IWA to march in their Labor Day parade.

MADISON, Wis.—Co-operative marketing and consumers' co-operation must be put in Wisconsin law recently passed by the state legislature. The signature of Gov. Phil La Follette is expected to put it into effect Sept. 1. Wisconsin is the first state to prescribe such a measure.

TEMPORARY ARMS EMBARGO

WASHINGTON—A piecemeal sort of arms embargo bill was passed in the closing days of congress. In case of war, the bill provides for a mandatory embargo on arms and munitions shipments to belligerents. The bill is effective until Feb. 29, 1936. Senator Johnson warned the senate, "Don't delude yourself that this resolution will accomplish any great results in the days to come. This resolution will not prevent any war and when the people are told that it will, they are simply being deceived and deluded."

LABOR DAY

The story of the recognition of Labor day parallels the story of most victories labor has won. It started when the old Knights of Labor, meeting in general assembly in New York city back in 1882, reviewed a huge parade organized by the Central Labor union. That was on Sept. 5. The next year a similar parade was held on the first Monday in September.

In 1884, George R. Lloyd, one of the Knights of Labor, proposed that all future parades be held on that day, and that state legislatures be persuaded to set aside this day as a legal holiday in honor of labor.

Colorado was the first state to dedicate this day to the humble hewers of wood and drawers of water. Since then a majority of states have followed suit, although there are still a few that have not officially recognized Labor day. Yet this connection we should like to point out that there is another day that should also be recognized as a day in which to honor labor. And that is Payday.

It is about time that both the federal and state governments realized that every man is entitled to work for a living and to receive a decent wage for his work, a wage that will enable him and his

family to live decently, with a few of the comforts of life which his labor has made possible.

Regular paydays should be a natural right of every worker. And the employers should never contain less than the living wage, even for the humblest servant.

We hear a lot these days about payment on the basis of work. It's a good idea. Every man and woman whose toil is necessary to the health and well-being of the human race (and every man and woman who is willing to work for the human good) should be paid proportionately to the work they do. In that case, the garbage man is worth more than the average banker, the fireman more than the lobbyist.

So saying, we offer this slogan: Honor Labor on Payday as well as wage that will enable him and his

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official Newspaper of The Workers Alliance of America

Vol. 1—No. 3

SEPTEMBER 15, 1935

PRICE 5 CENTS

FIGHTING PROGRAM TO BE PLANNED

Board Hides Out to Vote Relief Funds

Special to WORKERS' ALLIANCE. NEW YORK.—So fearful was Mayor La Guardia of New York of the Workers' Unemployed Union (now the Workers' Alliance of Greater New York) that when he called together the Board of Estimate to vote on relief appropriations for September he held the meeting secretly in his own office instead of in the large public chamber in which the Board of Estimate usually meets.

As usual no notice was given to the public of this important question which affects 1,250,000 people in New York City. Although La Guardia has public meetings and allows plenty of discussion in open on whether a bus line shall go up A street or B street, when it comes to a question of the unemployed, this "liberal" employs secrecy.

Getting a hint that the appropriations would be voted on Tuesday, Sept. 3, David Lasser and Saul Parker, representing the Workers' Alliance of Greater New York, went down to the Mayor's office. The members of the Board of Estimate self-satisfied Tammanyites and Fusionists marched in and a "closed session" was held.

It was announced that an open meeting, required by law, would be held following the closed session.

Turn to Page Two, Column One.

HAVE WE SUNK TO THIS, MEN?



When they cut off relief in Missouri this farmer, Frank Leal, Parkville, took up needlework and made this elaborate bedspread, hoping to be able to sell it for enough to live on a while. But we can't all knit for a living; we'd sooner provide for our families in a normal way.

spread, hoping to be able to sell it for enough to live on a while. But we can't all knit for a living; we'd sooner provide for our families in a normal way.

"No One Shall Go Hungry."—Roosevelt

MOTHER ON RELIEF STARVES TO DEATH

Malnutrition and Diseases Due to Defective Diet Kill Thousands of Others as Fight On Relief Standards Continues.

A poor old mother of three children, sick for more than a year, died of starvation at Effingham, Ill., a few days ago. No medical program is maintained in the relief set-up at Effingham and in several other Illinois counties where the unemployed are not organized.

Mrs. Jessie Davis, victim of an insane system which permits people to starve in one of the richest agricultural states in the union, was denied a proper amount of milk by heartless relief officials, according to a coroner's verdict, which found that she came to her death as a result of an insufficient amount of nourishment. Mrs. Davis was unable to eat solid foods for more than a month prior to her death, but the family's meager relief allowance was not enough to provide the special foods the mother needed.

Murder by starvation is perfectly legal in the United States today. Relief officials from Effingham to Washington stand guilty of murder in the eyes of all enlightened people in the country.

WORKERS ARE STARVING. In thousands of shacks and hovels throughout the land tonight, little children are crying for something to eat, fathers and mothers are denying themselves nourishment to provide a few crumbs for the kids. The father and son of this victim at Effingham told the coroner's jury their hunger went unsatisfied several days a week.

The workers who built this country and all its marvelous factories, homes, skyscrapers, the workers who till the land and provide the nation's food, the workers who dig the coal and mould the steel, these workers are allowed to starve while economists in Washington talk about "rehabilitation" "balanced production," the "gold standard."

Turn to Page Two, Column Three.

Warhs Police Head Against Cop Union

UTICA, N. Y.—Don't let cops get organized to bargain collectively, or they might get some queer ideas about being like our workers.

This seemed to be the fear expressed by New York State Solicitor-General Henry Epstein at the convention of the State Association of Police Chiefs in Utica recently.

"Collective bargaining has no place in the affairs of relations of a government to its servants," Epstein stated, warning the chiefs against unionization of their men. Workers employed by the government stop being workers and become servants, and servants apparently have no rights.

PAINTERS SIGN CONTRACT. SAN FRANCISCO (F.P.)—A two-year agreement has been signed by the Sign Painters Union with Foster & Kleiser Co. of San Francisco.

The contract covers the firm's activities in San Francisco and Alameda counties, and provides a wage scale of \$10.80 a day for painters, and \$7.20 for helpers. This is the first time the workers have won an agreement with the company in several years.

Boost The Workers Alliance!

This is the third issue of The Workers Alliance. So far we have a record to be proud of. We owe no money; our paper is appearing regularly, but in order to continue to do so, we must have large steady orders. Many branches of the WAA have done remarkably well in keeping their orders coming in. Many others could if they would try. The initial spirit is over; we want to consolidate our gains and keep our paper coming out regularly.

We want to urge each and every branch to keep their orders coming in steady. A small order every issue is much better than a large order now and then. News that you can't afford to miss will feature our future issues. On page four a reader shows how to boost The Workers Alliance. There are hundreds of other ways. We need your steady and continued backing. You send us twice a month. Send in those orders now. And don't forget to tell us about what's going on in your neck of the woods. We have to depend on our many correspondents for our news. Make yourself one of these. News, and orders should reach us not later than the 7th and 23d of each month.

Boost The Workers Alliance!

NEW STRIKE CALLED.

CLEVELAND.—Less than a month after their strike was settled by Assistant Secretary of Labor Edward F. McGrady, employees of the Industrial Rayon Corporation voted to strike again because of the company's refusal to reinstate 18 active-strikers, including union officials.

NEB Meets at Pittsburgh Sept. 27-30 to Consider Future Action for WAA

Executive Board Faces Vital Questions of WPA Wage Crisis, Federal Relief Stoppage Nov. 1 and Alliance Expansion.

With attacks on relief standards coming thick and fast, the meeting of the National Executive Board of the Workers Alliance in Pittsburgh Sept. 27-30 promises to be one of the most vital gatherings of its kind ever held in America.

Three chief problems face the board members at their meeting: 1.—The crisis in WPA wage rates and the policies the WAA will adopt toward future action against the present

scab pay scale. 2.—The threat by national relief officials that all Federal aid will be stopped Nov. 1, throwing the unemployed back upon local and state agencies. 3.—Expansion of the WAA into new territory and the unification of existing unemployed groups.

These three problems must be faced and decisive action taken on them. Many other important matters are scheduled for discussion, too, and the board will have three full days of momentous work.

FUNDS NEEDED.

Methods of increasing the income of the national office must be worked out. Many affiliates have not taken seriously their responsibilities either on the national drive or on the purchase of dues stamps and membership cards. As a result, much of the activity of the national office has been crippled for lack of money. Organizers have had to go out on their own hook, depending on sympathetic friends for support. The national secretary has been pinched for postage and routine expenses.

The first three issues of The Workers Alliance will be studied and criticized and plans to maintain the paper and extend its scope will be drawn up. Within as short a time as possible the paper must be expanded into a six or eight-page publication. The means of doing this and of improving the paper's content must be planned. Reports on the National Demonstration will reveal the weaknesses and strength of these protests and a careful program of more effective future action along this line must be drafted.

IMPORTANT SESSION.

The election of a committee to attend the convention of the American Federation of Labor early in October is another important question to be discussed.

From this brief summary it will be seen that the NEB is facing a session of paramount importance, a session that may directly affect the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. The Roosevelt administration is facing a similar situation.

Turn to Page Two, Column Two.

STRIKE OF ALL DAY LABOR COTTON WORKERS IS CALLED

Pickers Demand Wage Boost to One Dollar Per Hundred Pounds.

MEMPHIS—A strike of all-day labor cotton workers in the Arkansas-Texas-Oklahoma area has been called by the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, militant farm organization.

The strikers demand \$1 per 100 pounds for picking cotton. The growers offer from 75 cents down. The difference means that many children of the tenant farmers will be able to live through the winter, when otherwise they would starve.

We are going to face death perils, one of the strikers told a

meeting of the executive board. "But if we die, we do so that others may live. The planters are going to organize nightriders to beat and kill us, burn our houses and churches; shoot up our homes. They have done it before and they will not hesitate to do it again. They will try to starve us out. We must have a strike relief fund. All of us must give so much—5 cents for each member who can raise it will be of great help, but dollars are needed as well as nickels."

Naomi Mitchell, famous widely-traveled English novelist, said last spring that there was more suffering and starvation in northeast Arkansas than she had ever witnessed in famine-stricken China.

Funds for the strikers should be sent to H. L. Mitchell, secretary, 2527 Broad St., Memphis, Tenn.

CHICAGO—Although WPA projects in Cook County are just getting started, an intensive drive to organize all WPA workers in this territory has been launched by the local unit of the Illinois Workers Alliance.

In an effort to sharpen the burning resentment against the low wage scales under WPA, the House of Delegates, governing body of the county organization, has drawn up a special leaflet for organizing WPA workers. Locals pledged funds to help put out the leaflet and pay carfare for organizers going out to projects. The leaflet, distributed through the 25 locals of the Alliance in Cook County, stressed the points in the organizing drive, as follows:

1. Election of three WPA organizers in each local.
2. Regular discussion of WPA organizing activities at each local meeting, with reports of members on each project.
3. See that every member of the Alliance wears an IWA button all the time.
4. Appointment of a regular newspaper agent in each local to push THE WORKERS ALLIANCE.

The newspaper will be absolutely necessary for informing members as to the status of other WPA organizing activities throughout the country. DO NOT BE MISLED BY THE HEADLINES OF THE DAILY NEWSPAPERS IN CHICAGO—only your own paper tells the truth about Labor!

5. Weekly street meetings by each local to inform outsiders of the activities of the Alliance and to enlist new members in the fight for a decent standard of living.

6. Send a local member to the County Speakers Bureau for information regarding WPA organizing.

Turn to Page Three, Column Four.

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official Newspaper of The Workers Alliance of America

Vol. 1—No. 4

OCTOBER 2, 1935

PRICE 5-CENTS

LABOR WINS CUT IN HOURS ON WPA JOBS

First Victory in Fight
on Scab Set-up; Hugh
Johnson Quits.

NEW YORK—The first victory in the fight against the WPA wage scale has been scored by organized labor and the unemployed with the announcement from Washington that hours to be worked on WPA projects would be left to the local administrators.

In New York, a militant upsurge of labor caused this change to be made. In effect, it means that where the unemployed and the industrial workers are organized they can force the authorities to pay prevailing wages but where they are unorganized the same old scale will apply.

Gen. Hugh Johnson, who was sent here to put the WPA program over, because his blustering tactics were considered sufficient to handle the situation in such a strategic place, has "resigned." The general says he wants to go out and make some money. Interested observers know that wasn't why he quit, but the real reason was he couldn't stand the pressure brought by labor, coupled with the sight of poverty stricken people facing the wages he was trying to force on them, and his altercations with Park Commissioner Moses, all combined to make the general back track.

The administration expected resistance to its program here, so it sent Johnson, known for his strike-breaking, anti-labor tactics, to smash that resistance.

He failed. WPA never really got started. "Crack Down" Johnson became "It's the Other Guy's Fault" Johnson, blaming the breakdown of the program on everybody and anybody except on his own inability to get workers working at the Roosevelt wage.

Then the administration yielded. It has told organized labor that skilled workers will get the prevailing wage, that the 120 hours they will get an average of \$1.50 an hour, with a \$60 minimum a month. This, it was stated, will necessitate hiring double the number of skilled workers.

Victor Ridder, anti-labor publisher of the New York Journal of Commerce succeeds Johnson. Labor will still have to fight, still have to organize, to get justice. The WPA needs to be junked and an entirely different setup, paying prevailing wages and having a few people who know what the unemployed face to administer it. Only the organized pressure of the workers can bring this about.

WPA PROVES TO BE A MONSTROUS FRAUD

WASHINGTON (FP)—The relief situation is in the worst mess it has ever reached.

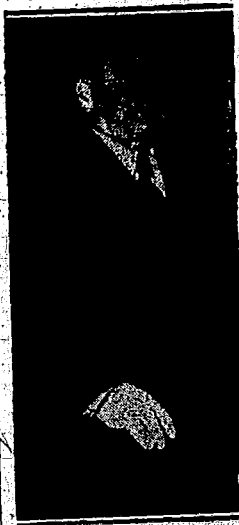
Last winter there was a works program under way and operating fairly smoothly. Then the president asked for 4.8 billions and announced that by summer he would have 3 1/2 millions off the dole and on jobs.

There are probably fewer relief recipients working today than there were when the bill was introduced.

The first announcement was that the three and one-half million would have jobs by July 15 and that the home relief recipients would be passed back to the states on that date. Now the date set is Nov. 1 and it doesn't mean any more than July 15 meant.

And worse from the New Deal standpoint, the failure is squarely on the White House doorstep. It was Roosevelt who set the \$18-to-\$24 wage for 120 hours a month, and it was Roosevelt who surrendered when the right to shorter hours was passed to state administrators as a result of labor's fight for prevailing wages. It was Roosevelt who ordered that no family, however large, should be allowed to have income beyond \$18-to-\$24 wage. Now even the Wash-

FRAMED



TOM MOONEY.

Tom Mooney's Hopes Pinned On N. Farber

Tom Mooney's charges that he was framed in the Preparedness day bombings in San Francisco needs only a few finishing touches to complete the record on which the labor leader hopes to win freedom.

Nathan Farber, a new figure in the famous case, probably will provide what the defense considers the clinching argument of their attempt to prove that San Francisco prosecutors persuaded witnesses to testify falsely against Mooney and Warren K. Blinnings.

Farber was brought into the habeas corpus proceedings instituted by Mooney through the testimony of Israel Weinberg, Cleveland manufacturer.

Weinberg said the mysterious Russian came to him in a San Francisco jail and offered, in behalf of District Attorney James Fickert, to give him \$10,000 or \$15,000 if he would help in convicting Mooney of the bombing charges.

When Farber's testimony is written into the record, the Mooney case probably will be complete.

N. E. B. PLANS PROGRAM OF ACTION TO MEET THREAT AGAINST THE UNEMPLOYED

THE JOHN H. COCHRAN
LABOR RESEARCH LIBRARY
302 STERLING HALL

Flashes From the Labor World

HOLLYWOOD, Cal.—Word from Washington is that the whole WPA program will be incorporated into a film, to be made by film workers on relief rolls, through a motion picture record division similar to that of the signal corps in the World War. Wonder if the numerous WPA strikes will be filmed?

PEACE PLAN REJECTED

CLEVELAND, O. (FP).—The much heralded peace plan being pushed by Assistant Secretary of Labor Edward F. McGrath, was "indefinitely postponed" after a four-hour conference between representatives of the Cleveland Federation of Labor and the Chamber of Commerce. Although details of the conference were not given out, it was learned that both sides had grown cold to the idea of settling up what would amount to a compulsory arbitration board.

NEW YORK—Local strikes wherever former code provisions are violated will be sanctioned by the United Textile Workers of America, the executive council announced.

PHARMACISTS TRY FOR NEW CONTRACT

NEW YORK (FP).—The Pharmacists' Union of New York has begun negotiations with drug store proprietors for a new contract. The clerks are asking \$37.50 minimum for a 15-hour week for registered pharmacists, the closed shop and an unemployment fund created by employer contributions of 1 per cent of the payroll. A city-wide meeting of organized labor and consumers has been called for Sept. 19 to urge participation in drug stores and to organize support for the union if strike becomes necessary.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Recommendation of a state-wide strike has been voted by 45 delegates of 17 locals of the United Textile Workers of America in Rhode Island. Strike sentiment has been aroused by the employers' refusal to recognize the collective bargaining clause of the Wagner act, union officials explained.

CUT OFF RELIEF

VANCOUVER, B. C. Canada (FP).—Mrs. Arthur Wynns, wife of the leader of Canadian relief camp workers in the recent anti-militarist March on Ottawa, and her family, have been cut off city relief. Relief officials explained that the city council has ordered her name to be dropped from the lists.

Check for Million Reported Missing

CHARLESTON, W. Va.—State relief officials here are trying to locate a check for \$1,250,000 allotted to the state of West Virginia by the Federal Emergency Relief Commission. Allen administrators, assistant in Washington, said the money should have arrived here several days ago. So far it hasn't arrived here. The unemployed will suffer—not the officials!

Great National Protest Against Cutting Off of Relief by Federal Government Will Be Undertaken Before Thanksgiving

Meeting in a three-day session in Pittsburgh, as guests of the Unemployed Citizens' League of Allegheny County, the National Executive Board of the Workers' Alliance of America prepared a striking program of action to meet the new threats directed against the unemployed.

Chief among the decisions of the NEB was the planning of a great national protest this winter against the threat of the Federal Government to cut off direct relief. A gigantic mail campaign of "thanksgiving" postcards to be sent to President Roosevelt will be started, and it is hoped that 1,000,000 post cards sent by our affiliates will flood the White House at Thanksgiving to remind the National Administration that the seventh winter of the depression finds the unemployed with little to be thankful for.

Fights Gougers



Carl Dietz (above), veteran Milwaukee alderman, has started a move in the Common Council to combat the constantly rising cost of meat. He proposed to have the city open meat markets in order to curb profiteers.

The local affiliates are also being sounded out on their view of a great national demonstration this winter to demand jobs at living wages, continuance of federal relief, raising of relief standards to a decent scale and unemployment insurance.

ALL PARTS REPRESENTED.

Present at the meeting were National Board members from the South, East and far Northwest. W. Workers' Alliance of America and Workers' Alliance of America and president of the N. E. W. F. of Oregon reported on the splendid co-operation developed between his group and the Labor movement of Portland and Oregon State. Through his efforts the Western States are being opened up and Workers' Alliance groups, will soon dot Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, Montana and other states. From the south, D. M. Benson of Florida, and Hilliard Bernstein of Virginia, reported not only growth in their own states but assistance from organizations ready to be formed in South Carolina, Louisiana, Tennessee and Alabama.

The national secretary, Paul Rasmussen reported on the sweep of the Workers' Alliance with powerful state organizations having been built up in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Oregon, New Jersey and many other states and a flood of requests for information from unemployed groups throughout the nation. The secretary reported affiliated groups in 14 states, with the likelihood of affiliations in five or

Turn to Page Two, Column One.

WORKERS ALLIANCE ACTIVE IN TOLEDO LABOR PARTY CAMPAIGN

Tim McCormick, National
Organizer, Is Named
As Candidate.

TOLEDO—Tim McCormick, Jr., national organizer and member of the National Executive Board of the Workers' Alliance of America, was one of seven candidates to be selected by the Toledo Organized Labor movement to represent labor in the city council election this fall. A Political Labor party, composed of two delegations from each union, Railroad Brotherhood and the Workers' Alliance of Lucas county has been established to conduct the municipal campaign next November. Regular weekly meetings are held every Saturday in the Central Labor Union Auditorium with an elected executive committee to formulate plans and to act as a steering committee. Full power of action rests in the delegated assembly called the Lucas County Labor Congress for political action.

At the meeting last week a platform was drawn up to which all candidates subscribed before being considered for the nomination. The

planks included among other things the following important labor pledges: That all candidates agree to work for the principal of production for use instead of for profit. That the city police will never be used as strike breakers. That, in the event that Toledo is forced by the federal government to resume the care of Toledo's unemployed, all will be adequately provided for, that immediately upon election, the labor candidates will initiate a housing program so as to provide decent homes for Toledo's workers within the income they can afford to pay. Free speech, freedom of assembly, and a free press will be maintained.

Candidates for school board have also been selected. Jack Taylor, chairman of the Workers' Alliance of Lucas county and president of the Office Workers Union is one of two selected for this office. The Labor Congress within a few days. Several thousand dollars has been pledged to cover the expense of the campaign. "Vote Labor," will be the slogan of the Congress and Toledo will be covered with a barrage of speakers, posters, broadcasts and house

Turn to Page Two, Column Three.

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official Newspaper of The Workers Alliance of America

Vol. 1—No. 5

SECOND OCTOBER ISSUE

PRICE 5 CENTS

Workers Alliance Plans Fight Against Cutting Off Relief

Gigantic Nation-Wide Protest Planned With a Postcard Barrage on President Roosevelt and a Series of Mass Meetings.

BY DAVID LASSER.

National Chairman of the Workers Alliance.

Faced with the announcement that the federal government intends to ruthlessly cut off all federal relief by December 1, the Workers Alliance of America has swung into action. Gigantic protests are planned throughout the country centering on a post card campaign to get 1,000,000 Thanksgiving post cards to President Roosevelt. Furthermore a series of mass meetings will be held on Thanksgiving eve. And finally a committee from the Workers Alliance of America will go to the White House on Thanksgiving day.

Upon returning to Washington from his cruise, President Roosevelt has stated definitely that the federal government is stepping out of the relief picture on December 1. Despite the fact that many local communities are bankrupt and will not be able to carry the relief load, the President is proceeding with his plans to "balance the budget" by cutting off hundreds of thousands of families from the federal relief rolls.

"We must meet this threat to our lives and security," David Lasser, national chairman of the Workers Alliance said, "by immediate, effective and nationwide protests. The five and nationwide protests have gone through in the past will be small as compared with what we must face when federal relief is stopped. WRA is proving a flat failure. Its wages are far below a living standard, and in many cases is at scab rates. The fight for a union wages has been won in New York and a few other centers, but in most places the miserable security wage is still being paid.

ORGANIZE AGAINST HARD WINTER.

"Now the time has come when we must organize a tremendous nationwide protest against a winter of terrible suffering. Thanksgiving is coming, the seventh Thanksgiving of the depression. We know that we will have little to be thankful for on November 28th. Turn to Page Three, Column Five.

San Francisco Wins Prevailing Wages on WPA

SAN FRANCISCO — WPA authorities have given in to the demand of San Francisco labor that prevailing wages be paid on all WPA projects in the city.

The agreement came at a conference between labor officials, city officials and Frank X. McLaughlin, state WPA administrator.

Previous to the conference, Edward D. Vandevoort, president of the California State Federation of Labor and of the San Francisco Labor Council, asserted that labor "would not stand for security wage scales."

SAN FRANCISCO (F.P.) — The strike of 800 San Francisco auto mechanics has forced the cancellation of the annual automobile show, scheduled for November.

3,000 Buffalo WPA Workers on Strike Against Scab Wages

Militant Upsurge Brings Women and Children Onto Picket Lines With Their Men; 7,000 Others May Join Walkout.

SPECIAL TO THE WORKERS ALLIANCE.

BUFFALO, N. Y.—In another militant upsurge against the scab wages under WPA 3,000 Buffalo relief workers have gone out on strike and 7,000 more in this vicinity are on the verge of joining the walkout.

Flying squadrons have been organized to speed from project to project, asking those still on the job to join with their fellow workers in one huge protest against the starvation standards being imposed on the unemployed by the New Deal administration.

Already many concessions have been gained by the strikers. Despite intimidation and threats of relief officials the strikers have forced Administrator Streeter to issue orders that no case worker shall order any striker out of the lists because he refuses to work. This was hailed as a major victory since the first order that met the strikers was "Work or Starve!" Another concession granted the unemployed was that no reinvestigation would be made of clients who had refused to work at the scab WPA rates and had applied for direct relief again.

WOMEN AND BABIES HELP FIGHT.

Women, some with babies in their arms and children joined their men on the picket line as the strike swept into full force, showing a solidarity that drew favorable comments from all sides.

Five strikers were arrested for their activities. The American Civil Liberties Union entered the situation with an offer of all necessary legal aid to those arrested in upholding their rights.

The Rev. Rodney Heckman, pastor of Trinity Evangelical church, stated publicly that "it would be better to get fewer men on work relief, paying them an honest wage, and put the rest on home relief. The wages being paid are reacting to lower wages generally."

PASTOR DEFENDS STRIKERS.

At Sunday morning's service in Turn to Page Two, Column Four.

Mail 1,000,000 of These Cards to Pres. Roosevelt

President Franklin D. Roosevelt,

The White House,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

At the start of the seventh year of the depression, I could have something to be thankful for had you supported the program of the WORKERS ALLIANCE OF AMERICA for:

1. A REAL works program providing decent wages at trade union rates, instead of the miserable "security" wages.

2. A standard of relief on which the unemployed could live in decency. (It is difficult to be thankful with federal relief being cut off on December 1.)

3. The passage of the 30-hour work week law for industry with no reduction in pay.

4. The passage of the Workers Rights Amendment to the U. S. Constitution.

5. The passage of a real unemployment insurance bill such as the principles of the Lundeen bill.

As it is, I have little to be thankful for on Thanksgiving, 1935.

Very truly yours,

Name

City and State

The cost of these cards sent to your group PARCEL POST PREPAID is:

30c a hundred for the first 400

25c a hundred from 400 to 1,000

20c a hundred from 1,000 up

Place your cash order for these cards with the national secretary, Paul Rasmussen, Workers Alliance of America, 312 West State Street, Milwaukee, Wis.

Surprise Witness Backs Alibi Plea of Tom Mooney

SAN FRANCISCO—In a sudden dramatic move the defense for Tom Mooney introduced into the testimony at the habeas corpus hearing here positive proof that Mooney was on top of the Biller building, a mile from the scene of the 1917 Preparedness Day bombing for which the famous labor leader was convicted and sentenced to die, but later remanded to life imprisonment.

Charles A. Griffin, former San Francisco court reporter, testified that Mooney and his wife were on top of the building when the bomb exploded. Griffin arrived there at about 1:45. Mooney was still there, Griffin stated, when a policeman came to the roof and ordered everyone to go to the street, since someone was throwing bombs off a building down the street.

This is the first time direct testimony in support of Mooney's alibi has been offered. Previously a picture taken from the roof and showing Mr. and Mrs. Mooney was the only evidence offered to back Mooney's contention of innocence. Griffin stated that he had not come forward before because District Attorney Fickert, the man who prosecuted Mooney, had blocked his attempt to testify in the original trial and had encouraged him to leave. Griffin and Mooney hope that this sensational development will lead to the release of the famous labor martyr.

Alliance in Hot Eviction Fight At Des Moines

DES MOINES, Ia.—The Des Moines County Alliance took up the eviction case of Harry Peterson, unemployed worker who with his family of 10 was thrown out of his home for non-payment of rent in one of the most flagrant cases of injustice in this state.

The case worker insisted that Peterson store his furniture in one room and place his children with others, folks who are also on relief and almost as bad off as Peterson. County Supervisor Sourwine offered to take Peterson and his family to a hotel the first night after the eviction. The case worker, however, directed him to two shacks which he rightly refused to take. When the matter of his refusal to take these houses was referred to the Mayor he inspected the houses and is reported to have said that neither was fit for a dog to live in. He recommended that one of the houses be condemned.

The case worker had the nerve to threaten to have Peterson arrested for vagrancy because he slept on the street for three nights to guard his few sticks of furniture.

The Alliance made arrangements for placing Peterson in a suitable house and demanded that an official investigation of such actions on the part of relief officials be taken. Workers here are learning to stick together in fighting the attacks of the organized owning class.

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

With this issue for the first time since the Workers Alliance was started we were unable to pay the printer our entire bill. It means that many locals that owe us for papers must make every effort to get the money in. It means that we must do more with ads, ads and greetings. It means that bundle orders must be made steady and payments turned in promptly. It means work for all of us. Some few Alliance members have really worked at booking the paper. We are grateful to them for it. A few locals have sold ads and greetings, remembering that they get a bonus on each sale paid in paper and have been able to keep their members in papers.

BUT WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

The Workers Alliance is going to be much better from now on. Fresh live news from the front line trenches. Split and dash. Features you can't afford to miss. Careful layout and attractive appearance. Your paper—a paper of which you can be proud.

Get behind and push. A thing that isn't worth fighting for isn't worth having. But the Alliance is worth all the fight we can put into it. Let's go!

IWA Unit Fights For Union Wages At DuQuoin, Ill.

DUQUOIN, Ill.—Workers in DuQuoin met the first attempt of relief officials to launch the WPA program here at scab wage rates with a militant strike which not only brought the women and children into the streets and onto the picket lines with their men but also brought many new members flocking into the DuQuoin unit of the Illinois Workers Alliance.

Dissatisfied workers on the project who had not signed up with the IWA before were amazed at the spirit and action when the Union really started fighting for its rights.

District investigators were sent down from St. Louis and tried to induce the strikers to go back to work, telling them that wages were set in Washington and could not be altered out here. Charles Ross, state chairman of the IWA and a member of the DuQuoin unit, showed them a telegram from Nels Anderson, assistant to Harry Hopkins who is now sojourning in Southern waters, in which he stated that any wage adjustments would have to be made by the state WPA office.

The strikers all returned to work in a body when representatives of the labor board agreed to present a program for reduction of hours and payment of the prevailing scale of 67½ cents an hour. The strike stirred up a lot of interest and was beneficial in gaining concessions from the relief authorities, getting publicity for the IWA and also in strengthening the position of the organization.

Jobless Army Greater Than One Year Ago

WASHINGTON—At the bottom of the depression, we produced enough to maintain the standard of 1893; since then we have recovered to the level of 1905.

That is the picture of America's return to normalcy drawn by the October Monthly Survey of Business bulletin of the American Federation of Labor.

While unemployment has shown some decreases in Europe, in the United States the present 11,000,000 jobless outnumber the unemployed of a year ago, the bulletin's statistics show.

Figures for the first eight months of 1935 are no more encouraging, and frequently repeated predictions of coming prosperity are without material basis, the bulletin finds. An 8 per cent rise in production in the first two-thirds of the year brought no increase in employment and buying power, and a 5.9 per cent upturn in wages was more than offset by a 5.9 per cent jump in the cost of living.

In the present upturn in business production, the lack of a firm foundation of workers' buying power is seen as the weak link in the chain leading to future prosperity. "Such an expansion," the bulletin forecasts, "when it greatly exceeds buying power, can only end in collapse, even if the downturn is postponed for several years."

Hoosier State Opens Organizing Campaign

WORKERS ALLIANCE OF INDIANA STARTS DRIVE FOR 100 LOCALS

INDIANAPOLIS.—Sweeping the state, with 22 new locals organized in the past two months, the Workers Alliance of Indiana began a drive this month to reach a total of 100 active locals with 50,000 members before the end of the year.

State Organizers Hugo Rasmussen and Ray Chaplin are speaking to large unemployed meetings throughout the state. Plans are under way to place two more organizers in the field this month.

At the first District Conference to be held in the state, at Brazil, Oct. 6, the Alliance locals in that part of the state voted to present a working agreement to relief officials demanding shorter hours, increased wages, fuel and clothing for winter and that all trustees be instructed to work in conjunction with authorized grievance committees of the Alliance.

Clinton Workers Alliance won a hard-fought strike recently and gained the six-hour day on WPA projects with an increase in wages. In Princeton, the relief workers won a 50 per cent increase and a protest demonstration forced the trustee at Franciscan to grant a 25 per cent increase there. Other locals were successful in forcing their officials to grant demands.

George Maxwell, militant District Organizer for the Alliance, was dismissed from his WPA job in Booneville for his activities with the W. A. I. Organizer Rasmussen and Chaplin appeared on the scene and succeeded in having the district administrator reinstate him and remind the foreman. Local newspapers gave front page publicity to this Alliance victory.

German Capital Profits, Workers Income Declines

BERLIN (R.I.S.).—The economic magazine "Wirtschaft und Statistik," published by the German Reichs Institute for Economic Research, presents a preliminary report on Germany's national income in 1934, which sheds a revealing light on real economic conditions in Hitler's domain.

Total is estimated at \$2,500,000,000 marks, an increase of 6,000,000,000 or 12.5 per cent over the figures of the preceding year. It is interesting to note, however, that the income from wages, salaries and social insurance pensions increased only 7 per cent, while the increase in the income of big business, commerce and capital amounted to 24 per cent.

The discrepancy is even more pronounced when it is considered that millions of German workers have supposedly found new employment since Hitler's accession to power.

ALLIANCE DEFEATS ATTEMPTS TO RUIN ORGANIZATION IN ROANOKE

ROANOKE, Va.—The Workers Alliance of Roanoke County has been able to check every attempt of the local relief officials to break up the organization. Two of the local members, Reed and Nora Hunsinger, were arrested for deportability to the Roanoke County Poor Farm but the Workers Alliance beat the case in court.

These same two members were re-arrested under another law and fined \$50 each by the local police court justice.

The case has been appealed and will be heard in higher court on Nov. 4. All members of the WAA in Roanoke have adopted the slogan "They shall not be moved." S. A. Moore, president of the County central committee, says: "This is no mere slogan but a united determination. They'll move the Hunsingers but they can no longer be moved."

Relief officials have tried to frighten WAA members by cutting them off relief on every sort of pretext, but the Alliance continues to grow. The officials recognize a small communist group in order to discredit the WAA. The WAA members are angry enough to go out and get more new members and also force the local relief ad-

WE WANT

Stories and articles on relief conditions in your town, whether or not WPA has started and what the wages are, if the men are satisfied, what provisions are made for those not on WPA, tales of hardships and suffering of relief clients, true stories of graft, cruelty and inefficiency on the part of relief officials. We want those details and any others you think may be of interest for our feature article "Frontiers of Famine," which will appear in our second November issue.

We also welcome criticism of all kinds and suggestions as to how we may improve our paper. We like to hear from you folks in the field at all times, whether or not we are able to use your material. Thanks.

WPA STRIKERS BEAT SCAB PAY AT ALLENTOWN

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (F.P.).—A 40 per cent increase in wages and a reduction in hours from 40 to 30 have been won by striking WPA workers in Pennsylvania.

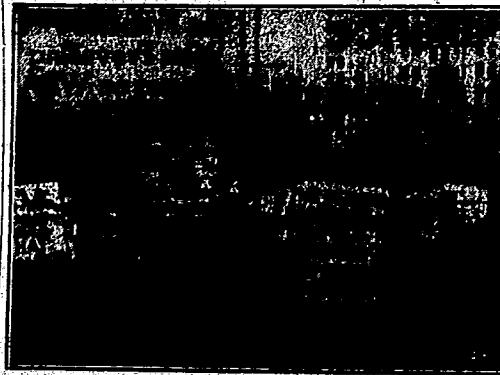
The strike began in Allentown Sept. 11 and spread quickly throughout the state. The entire labor movement of Allentown rallied to the support of the strikers and formed a Joint Labor Council for the WPA. Project Workers to fight the Roosevelt wage of \$55 a month.

Authorities attempted to frighten the strikers back to work by threatening them with loss of relief. A federal investigator was sent in to survey the situation.

When all attempts at coercion failed, the government yielded. Recognition of grievance committees and seniority rights were granted. The strike was conducted by leaders of the Lehigh County Unemployed League, the Keystone Workers Assn. and the Citizens Welfare League. The strikers have voted to organize under the supervision of the Joint Labor Council of Lehigh County.

STUDENTS FIGHT WAR. NEW YORK.—Aroused by the international war crisis, leaders have issued a call to students for a mobilization against war on Armistice Day. Organizations (issuing the proclamation) include the National Student Council of the Y. Y. C. A. and Y. W. C. A., the National Student Federation of America, the Student League for Industrial Democracy, the American Youth Congress, the National Student League and the Students' Division of the American League Against War and Fascism.

St. Louis Jobless March



Over 1,000 unemployed marched through downtown St. Louis to relief headquarters to present their demands for higher payments and against stoppage of direct relief before the PWA begins to operate.

Jobless Hold Huge Parade In St. Louis

ST. LOUIS.—Over 1,000 unemployed marched through downtown St. Louis to relief headquarters and the mayor's office to present their demands for higher relief payments and against the stoppage of direct relief before the PWA begins to operate.

They were cheered by thousands along the line of march. About 1,000 attended the mass meeting on the City Hall Plaza after the parade.

The relief administration has refused to pay out heat and electricity except in extreme emergency cases and generally has cut the food allowance 10 per cent.

The parade was held by the American Workers' Union Jobless group, which has been putting up a stiff fight for more relief here and in St. Louis county. At the demonstration, unemployed workers were brutally beaten by police and dispersed. This time they paraded with a permit. Protests by liberal and labor organizations against police oppression have resulted in at least temporary recognition of the rights of the unemployed to demonstrate.

The jobless demonstration was a contrast to the famous May Day parade and society ball held annually under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce. Thousands of dollars are spent on this affair.

First Wagner Labor Disputes Test to Be Tried in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH (F.P.).—The first test of the powers of the new Wagner Labor Disputes Act will be tried in Pittsburgh.

This was assured when the National Labor Relations Board served summons on the Pennsylvania Greyhound Lines. Hearing is set for Oct. 22.

The complaint was filed by Local 1063, American Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees of America, and aimed at company discrimination against union bus drivers. The union charged that the company fired nine drivers because of union affiliation and brought pressure on other workers to keep them from joining the union.

Unionists also charge that the company violated the act by financial support to a company union called the Employees' Association of the Pennsylvania Greyhound Lines.

TWO KILLED IN STRIKE

MINNEAPOLIS (F.P.).—Two boys were killed and 50 injured as a result of an attack by Minneapolis police, using guns and tear gas bombs, on some 4,000 strikers and sympathizers. The two dead men were both under 21. Workers have been striking against the Flour City Ornamental Iron Works for union recognition, higher wages and better working conditions.

not relief before the PWA begins. They were cheered by thousands, and held a huge mass meeting under the auspices of the American Workers' Union.

3,000 Buffalo PWA Workers Out on Strike

Continued From Page One.

Salen Evangelical church, the Rev. Herman J. Hahn declared that, "in offering resistance to the wage-cutting tactics of industry, these dedicated strikers are rendering a real patriotic service to their country." He added, "the only way this depression can be licked is by increasing the consuming power of the laboring masses. Reducing living standards aggravates the evil."

A collection was taken at the church service to be turned over to the strike committee.

The strike committee consists of William Sidman, chairman; Robert Leonard, Sargeant Johnson, Anton Antoniewicz, John Metelcar, Thomas Jones and Ernest Klejner.

A strike headquarters has been set up at 354 Elliott St., Buffalo. A central labor council, after hearing a committee including Robert Leonard, Anton Antoniewicz and Michael Costa, emphatically endorsed "All efforts, by whatever group, to resist the lowering of the wage scale."

FAIL TO ENDORSE STRIKE

However, this specific strike was not endorsed. President Patrick J. O'Brien of the council said that the labor movement cannot afford to allow a condition to continue which may result in the wages of all workers in the city being reduced.

Telegrams fired to Washington by the strikers begged assurances of an investigation of the situation in Buffalo. The strikers also protested against activities of local police in hindering and intimidating pickets. One picket was arrested because he didn't have his automobile driver's license with him at the time, but he found the license in one of the car pockets later. Steel pigeons were placed on all projects to spy on the WPA workers and report the activities of any who favored strike. Police were also charged with ripping picket badges off of strikers and with scolding scabs to the projects.

Other demands to single men in an effort to break the strike, but they failed.

The strikers are demanding 75 cents an hour for not less than 160 hours a month, or a monthly wage of \$120. Under the program here unskilled labor will receive \$55 a month with the scale for skilled workers ranging up to \$94.

OTHER DEMANDS. Adequate safety and first aid measures; placement of workers according to their qualifications; and supplementary relief when necessary were other demands the strikers made.

One of the first groups of unskilled workers in the country to fight against the "security" wages, the Buffalo Alliance unit is dozens of miles where the full vicissitudes of the WPA program is not yet well known.

Their fight is our fight; injury and fight is now!

New Jersey WAA Holds Convention

TRENTON, N. J.—At the annual state convention of the Workers Alliance of New Jersey held here recently the following officers were elected: State Chairman, Ray Cooke, Mercer county; First Vice Chairman, Edward Lowndes, Camden county; Second Vice-Chairman, H. M. Good, Essex county.

Powell Johnson was retained as state secretary, William Harbridge was elected financial secretary and James Pender was named treasurer.

A youth movement was inaugurated, the state organization and four state on the executive board have been allotted to the youth group.

National Secretary Paul Rasmussen is spending two weeks in New Jersey. He spoke recently at Unit 10, Bordertown; Unit 1, Hamilton; Unit 6, Lawrence, going to all three meetings on the same night. All meetings were well attended and much enthusiasm shown by the members in the message brought by the national secretary. Arrangements are being made to have Rasmussen speak at mass meetings in Camden, Mercer, Atlantic, Burlington, Essex and Warren counties in the near future.

The organization in New Jersey is progressing very nicely, building up good locals on firm foundations. Several new units have affiliated within the past month and several contacts are being worked, promising good results with a little action and organization.

Promised 250,000 WPA Jobs; Provided 7,000

CHICAGO (F.P.).—Two months ago the Illinois WPA promised to have 250,000 men at work by Oct. 1. On Oct. 1 there were actually 7,000 at work but it was promised that there would be thousands more by Nov. 1.

WPA has been marking time to how organized labor's fight against the Roosevelt security wage scale would turn out in New York. It resulted in a complete victory for the union hourly rate but the number of hours worked per month were correspondingly cut down.

In Illinois practically no construction jobs were started by WPA because the pay offered was only about half the union scale.

One Out of Every Four On Relief in Buffalo

BUFFALO, N. Y. (F.P.).—Of Erie county's 762,000 population, 23.8 per cent are on welfare relief, while in Buffalo 22.7 per cent are on relief, according to the municipal research bureau, an employers' group.

In Buffalo, \$509 families, or 130,226 persons are on relief. "This does not include those receiving public support through the state old age relief the state child welfare agency, the county lodging house, the county home and hospital or the patients receiving in private hospitals, not those aided by other private institutions and agencies," the report states.

W. A. A. Members! Do You Want More Buttons?

All secretaries are requested to contribute official notice on orders for buttons from our affiliated groups. This will be a great help to the WAA. Buttons are being made and will be sent out as soon as possible. The cost of these buttons is 25 cents per dozen. National Headquarters. Cash orders please place your orders at once. President, PAUL A. RASMUSSEN, National Secretary-Treasurer.

to one is injury to all. Support this Buffalo workers in their struggle for justice. Ready in many places across the labor movement has put up stiff opposition to the Roosevelt starvation wages, the WPA wage scales have been changed to conform to the prevailing rates. Such concessions can be forced from officials in all parts of the country when the workers unite and stand solidly together for their rights. And the time to unite and fight is now!

MOONEY

SAN FRANCISCO have been District Attorney, Prosecutor, Edmer Police Lieutenant in the original Mooney.

The prosecution to keep Fickert ostensibly assisted. The district attorney a derelict, warden tickets for customers to be barrooms for dis is understood that though he also only a few even appeared in courtroom—he was to testify, and him into retirement. There is a story under severe conditions might break down workings of his. Every effort will be by Mooney's court stand.

Two important ing Frank Oxman Woods and B. C. mery connected railroad, have r San Francisco t ere has theretof for counsel to g Cheyenne, the take their deposi Billings will not torneys.

Woods, a state kee, Ore., wrote day after Mooney to put Fickert t man for \$2,500. agent for the C Railroad and Nav when Oxman o a perjurer who pany in a suit a

The most start evidence was th an exhibit of th of the Byrns Calif, for July Oxman's registra claimed he came straight from F Mrs. Hatcher of Oxman had visit the bombing, wit to testify that O which reached S the bomb explosi

Simmons Becomes Put In

SAN FRANCISCO 350 workers are San Francisco pl mons Co, nationa facturers of beds The plant is shut down for a week recognition. Pick thrown around th geitly by the Board that the d rated was accep Workers Union, was rejected by th

Tradition

"ATLANTIC CITY waves of oratory he only the waves of kept upon this sho

The five hundred departed, and the next convention Federation of Labor mentions in its lit to a stormy close.

Yet the issues w sharpest debate in the old times are were voted upon, y servatives rolled t lites.

The advocates of ionism represented members who a Federation whic have built the new international union sand new federal radio, aluminum, cellulosic industru who have brought these unions of hile need a more wa alert enough to m the organizing oppo past two years.

Partly Success

They wanted suc authority to orga unions in the mass dustries. Then man all wanted a ha amendment to the fe tion along the line Workers' Rights an aggressive action t and Fascism. They were only pa

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official Newspaper of the Workers Alliance of America.
Published the first and fifteenth of each month in the interest
of unemployed, part-time and relief workers.

EDITORIAL BOARD

David Lasser New York
W. K. Patrick Oregon
D. M. Benson Florida
Arthur Jackson Nebraska
Earl Hamann Wisconsin
Frank McCulloch Illinois
Loren Norman Managing Editor
W. K. Patrick Western Editor
Bette Naysmith Norman Business Manager

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

1 Year, \$1-5 Months, 50 Cents
Bundles of 50 or More-3 Cents Per Copy
Address all communications to THE WORKERS ALLIANCE,
512 W. State St., Milwaukee, Wis.

Starvation and Misery Haunt Relief Clients Turned Back to States

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.
WASHINGTON, D. C.—Evidence of severe hardship and suffering among that section of the relief population turned back upon the responsibility of States and local communities, particularly among the so-called unemployables, is accumulating at Federal Emergency Relief Administration headquarters here.

The situation has become so grave that it is one of the first matters which will be brought to the attention of President Roosevelt when he returns from his fishing trip. Confidential reports have been made by FERA investigators showing the desperate plight of the relief population in several areas where, in accord with administrative orders from Washington, the burden of caring for the relief load has been passed back to the localities.

WORKS PROGRAM HAS FAILED

In view of the President's mandate of last January—the straight relief, the dole, must and relief of officials are more or less helpless. The works program, it is increasingly apparent, has failed to absorb the unemployed on the relief rolls. There is a growing faction within the FERA which insists that a long-time plan for taking care of the relief load must be worked out. At present the FERA is making minimum allocations on a two-week basis, drastically cutting appropriations on the theory that the load is being absorbed by the works program. This day-by-day policy, it is argued, is working serious hardships on a considerable part of the relief population. The effort of officialdom all down the line, with outstanding exceptions, is to comply with the President's mandate and pare the relief rolls.

SUFFERING IN GEORGIA

A group within the FERA is preparing a long-time relief plan which they hope to be able to put before the President on his return. They fear, however, that the political consequences of acceptance of their plan, involving a retreat from the mandate against direct relief, may jeopardize consideration of it, and they are prepared to argue that it could be carried out quietly without public disavowal of the earlier stand.

The most detailed study of the suffering of the relief population cut off from Federal aid has been made in Georgia. A thorough study

was made of the plight of more than 100 cases in Macon, Ga., revealing that all but six were in deplorable condition.

NOT ONE CASE CARED FOR

"In anticipation of the works program," a preface to the report states, "an effort was made, during the spring and early summer of 1935, to withdraw support of Federal funds from 'unemployable' relief cases in the State of Georgia. It was assumed that these cases would be transferred to State or local agencies for their care. The present study was undertaken in order to determine whether, in fact, successful transfer was accomplished and to describe the living conditions which clients removed from Federal relief rolls actually faced."

"The most striking fact," the report says, "revealed by this study is that in Macon not one of the 110 cases closed for administrative reasons was provided with adequate care by another welfare agency."

CONDITIONS MUCH WORSE

Ninety-four households out of the total studied report that their condition is now "distinctly worse" than when they first received relief and "much worse" than when they were cut off from the relief rolls. One person was quoted as saying:

"They won't give us work cards. We may be too old to work, but we are not too old to be hungry or too old to starve. I don't like to see winter coming."

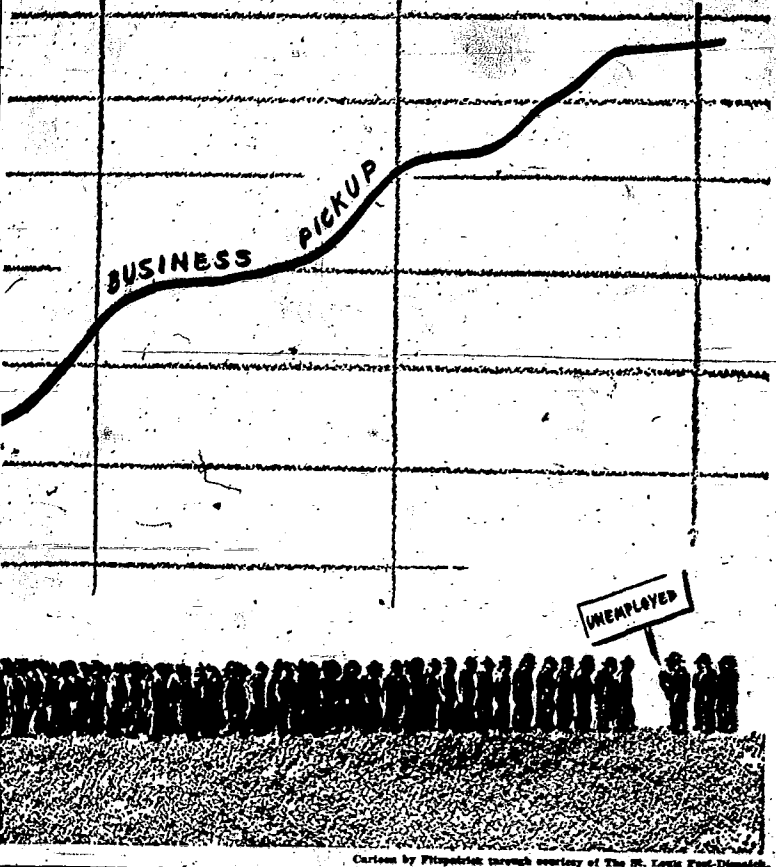
About one-third of those studied had averaged less than two meals a day. Five reported four meals in three days and 18 reported five meals in three days. Fifty-one reported two meals a day and only 12 reported three meals a day.

DESERATE SITUATION

Excepting seven persons who were boarding, one person on forced diet, and four persons who ate at their places of employment, the report says, "the usual answer to the question concerning the amount of food consumed during the month from July 15 to August 15, compared with the last full month of relief was 'less—much less.' The physical appearance of practically all of the 60 persons who called at the study headquarters for interview convincingly supported that answer."

Other confidential reports are coming in from other areas. These, it is said, confirm impressions that the so-called unemployables turned back upon the States face in the majority of cases a desperate situation.

"Where Does Our Line Fit Into the Chart?"



Cartoon by Fitzpatrick through courtesy of The St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Relief Bureau Employees Threaten Strike Against Dismissal of 1,800

New York City Case Workers and Clerks Turn To Workers Alliance for Help; Dave Lasser Assures Them of Backing

Faced with the dismissal of 1,800 of their members, the Association of Workers in Public Relief Agencies, consisting of investigators, clerks and guards in New York City relief agencies, has turned to the organized unemployed for help.

In an address to 6,000 relief bureau employees, David Lasser, national chairman of the Workers Alliance of America, stated that despite past conflicts the investigators with relief clients, the unemployed are willing to let bygones be bygones and help the relief bureau staffs to keep their jobs.

"We extend the hand of brotherhood to you," Lasser said, "in the hope that in the future you will recognize as we do that an injury to one is an injury to all. When a relief client comes into your office remember that he is a possible ally and a possible enemy. It depends on you which he becomes. I assure you that the organized unemployed will assist you in your struggles as you should assist us in ours."

THREATENED

This new alliance between the unemployed and the home relief staff came at a time when a stoppage of all bureau work had been threatened by the Association of Workers in Public Relief Agencies. The strike was postponed when Emergency Bureau officials hastily agreed to hold a conference with the employees. The Association, however, stated the stoppage would go into effect immediately if their demands were not met.

At the hearing the unemployed as well as the bureau employees were to be given an opportunity to testify that no reduction in bureau staffs should take place and that instead, each employee should be given fewer cases to handle so that better service could be given.

The outcome for the Federation in this case is that the 1,800 women workers of the bureau played out by the bureau have been transferred to WPA

and therefore the relief staff is not necessary.

ADOPT JOBLESS DEMANDS

The home-relief bureau employees are coming to support the unemployed by adopting the demands of

the Workers Alliance of New York for a 40 per cent increase in relief, for continuance of federal relief and trade union wages for all WPA work.

Representative Marcantonio, lawyer, representing the bureau employees, in a fiery speech to the assembled employees, defied Mayor LaGuardia, his former partner, and declared that if the demands of the employees were not met "we shall have a stoppage, we shall go on the picket line and I shall be with you."

THE LAST WORD —Belongs to the Women

DO WE NEED THE RICH?

In every discussion of the extravagances of rich people someone always chimes in with this remark: "When rich folks buy expensive things they are making work for people like us."

Down in Pennsylvania, the Secretary of Labor and Industry investigated one of these firms which caters to the rich and found the following amazing facts. A fashionable Philadelphia shoppe selling hand knit suits at \$100 each and up, pays its home workers the "minimum" wage of 8 cents an hour, and to encourage speed and industry, docks them 25 cents if they deliver the garments one minute later than the specified time. Three hours wages lost if they are one minute late!

WAGES TELL THE STORY

Another Philadelphia firm employs women to crochet baby booties at home. Of the 1,500 women workers, not one makes more than 5 cents per hour.

When a rich person buys an expensive article, where does the money go? Certainly not in the pockets of the women who crocheted the garment, but in the bank account of the person who owns the plant.

The owning classes are like the people of that mysterious island where the folk live by taking in each other's washing. One change of high priced underwear pays for everything but labor. We live

just the guys who do the work. "Back in the days of slavery, it paid to keep a slave well-fed, because the owner had to pay an initial price and if the slave died of starvation, it was a loss of money to the owner. Nowadays that isn't necessary. We have worked so well and invented so many appliances that they don't need all the workers to provide a good living for the rich and a scant one for the workers."

WE WANT THE WHOLE LOAF

But to provide a good living for all of us, it would take all the man power we have; just to provide decent homes for workers, proper foods for children and good clothing for all. And that would be indecent in the eyes of the rich. If the prices were set low enough and the wages paid were high enough so the workers could buy back even part of what they produce. But to do that profits would have to be eliminated. And that would be indecent in the eyes of the rich.

The American Liberty League thinks it quite constitutional to go hungry and naked, but when you speak of taking the profit out of industry that you are draining the life blood of the nation. So it is easy to see why the employed and unemployed must fight together, today for a crust of bread, tomorrow when they must have been won for the whole loaf. And so it goes. We must learn to stand the O.C. system. Capitalism.

SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE
512 W. State St., Milwaukee, Wis.

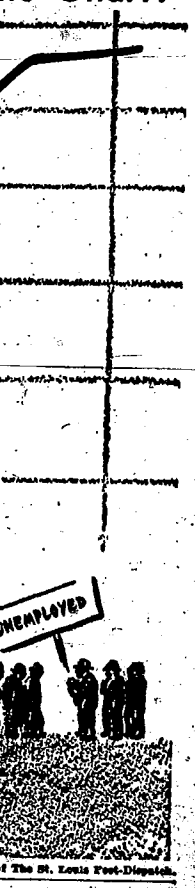
Enclosed find..... for which please send me

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE for.....
(1 Year, \$1-5 Months, 50 Cents)
(Bundles of 50 or more, 3 Cents each. Send over 100 or more
10 extra copies free for each 100 papers ordered.)

Name.....

Address.....

City..... State.....



Threaten
of 1,800

Alliance of New York
cent increase in relief,
unions wages for all

RD
the Women

who do the work
the days of slavery, it
up a slave would be, be-
down and to pay an
and if the slave died
n, it was a loss of money
r. Nowadays that isn't
We have worked no
invented so many appli-
they don't need all the
provide a good living
and a scant one for the

THE WHOLE LOAF.
provide a good living for
would take all the meat
ave; just to provide de-
for workers, proper
children and good cloth-
ing. But to do so would
set low enough and the
old pay back even part
of its produce. But to do
would have to be elim-
that would be indecent
of the rich.

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official-News-Organization of The Workers Alliance of America

Vol. 1—No. 6

NOVEMBER ISSUE

PRICE 5 CENTS

ALLIANCE FIGHTS RELIEF STOPPAGE

WORKERS STORM WPA OFFICE FOR OVERDUE CHECKS

Direct Action at Niles,
Mich., Forces Payment
Of Back Wages

Special to The Workers Alliance.
NILES, Mich.—Direct ac-
tion by Alliance members
brought results here, when
200 WPA workers stormed
the relief office and held the
bureau employees prisoners for over
four hours, until definite assur-
ances were made that their WPA
checks, a week overdue, would be
issued the following day.

Gnawed by hunger and want,
with no sign of their hard-earned
money in sight and faced with the
endless red tape which only the
relief bureau knows how to place
in the paths of desperate men and
women, these workers took mat-
ters into their own hands, and won
their point.

**WOMEN
RELEASED.**
Women employees of the relief of-
fice were released after three hours
but the men were held until James
Bryant, Berrien county relief ad-
ministrator, telephoned that the
checks would arrive the next day.

No violence occurred. Mayor John
Ames sought to disperse the crowd
with promises of credit but the offer
was turned down. Men who have
worked don't need promises. They
want wages. And the WPA
employees here got theirs!

Since affiliating with the Work-
ers Alliance the Square Deal Labor
Council here has signed no more
than 50 new members with others
coming in daily. Workers in Niles
are learning that in union there is
strength!

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill. (AP).—
Allies are just now entitled to
relief from the Illinois Emergency
Relief Commission as citizens. Sen.
Wilfred S. Reynolds of the commis-
sion told the Illinois Conference on
Social Welfare here.

This is a sound position both in
law and in social planning, he ad-
ded.

Learning From Their Clients



New York city social workers,
who've been many picket lines
of unemployed around their of-
fices, showed the city officials
they'd learned well their lesson
when they paraded around the

MEN STARVE AS AUTO CZARS COIN BLOOD INTO PROFITS

DETROIT.—It seems to me there is something wrong
when the automotive industry makes \$200,000,000 profit this
year, and there are 12,000 former automotive workers on
relief in Detroit alone.

"Any social order that deprives man of his right to earn
a livelihood is unsound, and any
industry that does not pay its work-
ers an adequate wage has no right
to exist in America."

These statements by Bishop Ed-
ward Blake of the Methodist Epis-
copal church were typical of the
general attitude displayed by res-
pectable average folk groups across
the country at sessions of the
Industrial Relations Conference
held recently under the auspices of
the Detroit Council of Churches.

After exhibiting a chart to show
how industrial employment has de-
clined since 1929, and pointing
into the general time area, in the
past five years, a sign that read
"Public Welfare" was displayed.

"It is the damnable and inhuman
method in our factories that turns

thousands of men into production
for a short time and then suddenly
lays them off. We don't work a
harder way. We use him only
when we need him, but we feed him
when we don't.

SCHOOL KIDS MARCH

CHARLESTON, W. Va.—Singing
"We're going to get free school
books" we shall not be moved,"
about 500 school children from 25
towns in Kanawha and Fayette
counties paraded in trucks through
Charleston, W. Va., to demand free
books from Gov. Harp. Denied
a permit to march, the children
marched to the capitol in trucks.

Protests Order to End Federal Aid

Condemned to starvation by the federal government's
order cutting off all direct relief Dec. 1, hundreds of thou-
sands of unemployed and their friends will "thank" President
Roosevelt in a huge Thanksgiving Day postcard protest bar-
rage launched by the Workers Alliance of America.

GORMAN BACKS LABOR PARTY

NEW YORK.—"The new job
for labor is the political arena."
That was the message of Vice
President Francis J. Gorman of the
United Textile Workers of
America at the annual confer-
ence of the New York Women's
Trade Union League in New York
city.

Charging that the New Deal's
claimed benefits to labor are
largely fictional, Gorman regretted
that the American Federa-
tion of Labor convention, in his
opinion, had given less attention
to the Labor Party issue than it
deserved.

"Labor must face the fact and
face it bravely that the adminis-
tration cannot settle the basic
questions between capital and
labor," Gorman maintained. "La-
bor's new job, then, is the Labor
Party. The last while hope has
disappeared and we must turn
to our own people, to the promo-
tion and development of a strong,
militant, national Labor Party."

BURLESQUE GIRLS STRIKE

New York.—Six burlesque the-
aters were closed here recently fol-
lowing the first strike of burlesque
girls in history. The strikers have
a national union, with membership
of about 1,000. One burlesque the-
ater signed up with the union and
continued running. The girls de-
manded one day off in 14 and weekly
wages of \$25 on the road and
\$22.50 at home.

Support Roanoke Relief Strikers!

We have just received several
urgent appeals from the officers of
the Workers Alliance of Roanoke
County, Virginia. Our people there
are putting up a wonderful fight
against wholesale evictions and
against the scab standards of the
WPA. Hilliard Bernstein, National
Organizer for the W. A. in that
territory, wires us a desperate ap-
peal for help. They are threatened
with jail sentences and are starving
starvation in the face. The Na-
tional Office has sent them the very
last dollar left in the cash box.
All locals in Pennsylvania, West
Virginia, Maryland and New Jer-
sey are asked to get busy im-
mediately. Non-perishable food or
canned goods should be sent to
these people or better still send
them funds. The situation is really
a crucial one and a victory here
means the establishment once and
for all of the Workers Alliance as
the powerful defender of the op-
pressed Virginia workers. Their
fight is your fight! Please do
everything in your power to stand
by them in their hour of crisis and
need. Funds and food should be
sent to Hilliard Bernstein, Sec-
retary, Virginia Relief and Defense
Fund, 405 Campbell Avenue, S. W.,
Roanoke, Va.

Nine states already have fallen
under Harry Hopkins' ax, having
been completely cut off from all
federal appropriations for direct
relief. Moreover, the federal mis-
ery makers are going ahead with their
vicious program of ending what
Roosevelt calls "this business of
relief" by Dec. 1, for 20 other states
will receive no more relief allot-
ments after Nov. 15.

The Works Progress Adminis-
tration designed to remove the need
for relief has failed miserably. Red
tape, poor preparations for projects
and the scab wage rates set for
this work by the Roosevelt adminis-
tration all combined to slow up
this work.

So dismal has been the progress
of employment by WPA that in the
seven days from Oct. 19 to Oct. 25
only 12,718 persons were trans-
ferred from relief to the
WPA in the entire United States.

MUCH SUFFERING
This would have forced Hopkins
to employ more than 100,000 per-
sons a day for November if he
hoped to reach the goal he set for
himself after revealing his former
announcement that the "dole"
would be ended Nov. 15. This shows
the depths to which the relief czars
have descended in their figures.

Many aged, crippled and other-
wise "unemployable" persons have
faced unemployment since being
kicked off federal relief. Reports to
FERA headquarters show that
mass starvation among this group
exists in Georgia.

In New York city 13,000 residents
of municipal lodging houses faced
mass eviction as Mayor La Guardia
announced last week that all such
shelters could no longer be sub-
sidized with city funds. All trans-
ient aid has also been ordered
stopped, thus forcing thousands of
homeless and unattached men and
women into the streets again to
beg, steal, borrow and starve.

WAA FIGHTS BACK.
Against this inhuman and de-
fensible policy the Workers All-
iance turns to Page Three, Column Three.

Orders Mass Starvation!



HARRY HOPKINS
Who is proceeding to carry out
Roosevelt's orders to end relief
by Dec. 1, forcing misery and
starvation upon thousands of
unemployed workers. And still he
smiles!

Alliance Forces Payment of Relief Until WPA Checks Come

BY LAURENCE GIBB.
SIOUX FALLS, S. D.—The
Workers Alliance of Sioux
Falls won a big victory here
recently when they forced the
relief officials to provide di-
rect relief to men assigned to WPA
work until the men received their
first checks. Before, on being as-
signed to WPA men often went a
month without any relief or money,
their children hungry at the relief
czar's order.

persons and plant on a huge scale
obstructions were placed in the way
morning the relief office opened
work cards were issued and work
started immediately.

The local here has been contact-
ing other groups in the state so
that a state-wide body may be
formed that will be able to bring
effective pressure on relief of-
ficials. A committee composed of
Art Peters, Jim Clark, Laurence
Gibb, E. R. Evans, all officers of the
Workers Alliance, and Fred
Gosard, president of the local bar-
bers' union, recently addressed a
mass meeting at Mitchell. A new
alliance local has been couched
there in the near future as en-
thusiasm for our movement is run-
ning high.

When relief was shut off in
South Dakota during the harvest
season, a big rally was held in Li-
berty Park here, attended by 2,000

held remained shut down in all
of South Dakota, except here in
Minneapolis. County where the
workers are strongly organized. We
know it pays to organize!

BOOST YOUR PAPER!

Plenty of news but no money.
This sums up the story of the
late appearance of our paper.
Stories of fights already won, and
fights in the making waiting to be
told to you but no way of doing it
without your help.

To keep the paper going we must
have steady orders, even though
they are but for 10 or 15 papers an
issue. If half the locals would send
in a small but steady order we
could keep going without the aver-
aging realization that many of the
unemployed do not realize just
what is happening to the rest of
the organization.

Ads sell at the rate of \$1 per
column inch. Locals will have the
choice from now on of either hold-
ing back 10 per cent of the cash
taken in for ads, or getting 10
copies of the paper for every dol-
lar's worth of ads sent in.

If the advertiser will take three
or more insertions in a row, he gets
a 25 per cent reduction in price.
Why don't you appoint an ad-
vertising representative in your
local?

If the locals that got papers on
credit would make an effort to
pay, we would not be forced to put
this issue out on credit.

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official Newspaper of The Workers Alliance of America

Vol. 1—No. 7

FIRST DECEMBER ISSUE

PRICE 5 CENTS

SERIOUS CRISIS FACES JOBLESS, WPA WORKERS

BY DAVID LASSER

National Chairman, W. A. A.

A crisis is arriving in unemployment relief. This was made very clear by the cold reception the delegation of the Workers Alliance of America received in Washington from important officials at WPA headquarters; by the fact that we were refused admission to the White House; and in light of the recent statements made by public officials.

The time has come for the membership of the Workers Alliance to become aware of the seriousness of the situation. The warnings that we have issued have not been taken seriously enough. Unless we become aware of the intensive drive being made against the miserable living we now have, we are going to be driven within a short time deeper and deeper into starvation and misery.

Here is the situation:

1. The federal government has cut off all direct relief and is turning that back to the cities and states. Many cities and states have not the money to solve the problem, many legislatures will not meet for many months; some state constitutions do not allow for the raising of funds for unemployment relief except by sales tax. That means that the 8 million unemployed not given WPA jobs face reduced relief standards.

2. The WPA itself will probably end in spring, 1935, with the 4 billion dollars exhausted. What will happen next there are some of the predictions by prominent government officials:

Bosses Are Active.

Chairman Buchanan of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee states that he will try to limit appropriations for relief next year to 1 billion dollars. This means that next year the federal government will spend for Work Programs only one-fourth of what has been spent this year. Chairman Buchanan realizes that this may mean mass protests on the part of the unemployed. He is not afraid. He says: "They talk of a convention when relief is stopped. The sooner we have it and get over with it, the better for this country."

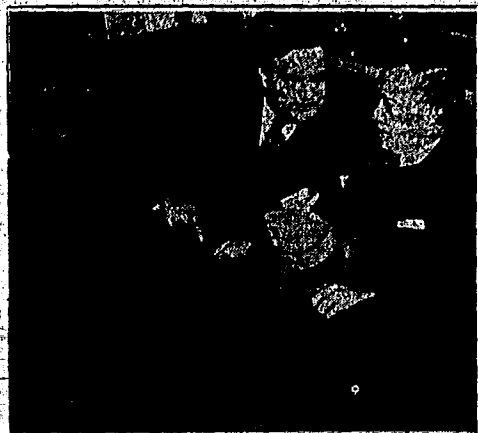
The National Association of Manufacturers and the American Liberty League have been conducting an active and continuous drive for the cutting off of relief. They have, unfortunately, been more active than the unemployed. They have been gaining headway with the government officials. Their program calls for the use of federal funds only where private, state or local funds are absolutely exhausted, and cutting off entirely all Work Programs.

It is their pressure which has

Turn to Page Two, Column Four.

Tampa Police Aid Gangsters in Brutal Beating of 3 WAA Men

Whispers for Two



Heads together in a cozy little corner, Mayor Fiorello La Guardia of New York (left) and Relief Administrator Harry Hopkins are shown discussing the city's jobless situation. At the same time, Florida was issuing secret orders back home to slash relief expenses and Hopkins was preparing to cut off federal aid.

BITTER FIGHT GOES ON IN ROANOKE DESPITE TERRORISM

Special to The Workers Alliance.

ROANOKE, Va.—Members of the Workers Alliance of Roanoke county have been carrying on a bitter fight for the right to organize and to maintain their constitutional rights of free speech and free assembly.

A WPA strike was called on Nov. 18, but the Fascist tactics of police, 3 stool-pigeons scattered the Workers Alliance pickets, closed meeting places, and deprived two strike leaders of their liberty by holding them in jail on trumped-up charges.

Hillard Bernstein, national organizer of the Workers Alliance, was also given six months, but his sentence was suspended. He was warned not to speak or agitate among workers.

The present fight has been centered around freeing the two men in jail and maintaining civil rights. Several members prominent in the strike have been denied the right to work on WPA. The Workers Alliance of Roanoke is forced to care for these people until they have been replaced on jobs.

Bernstein has been warned to get out of town by the police and his life was threatened by two unidentified men. His answer to this was a trip to New York to bring back David Lasser, national chairman of the Workers Alliance.

Working together for two days Bernstein and Lasser reorganized

the scattered forces of the Workers Alliance and the members are ready to carry on the fight. An appeal is being made to all groups and individuals to send funds or food to Hillard Bernstein, Central Y.M.C.A., Roanoke, Va. This will be necessary for the next few weeks or until the units there have recovered their lost ground.

The Workers Alliance of Roanoke county wishes to thank the national officers and those groups who have given assistance to the Roanoke relief fighters in this crisis.

Further word from Roanoke indicates that Bernstein, who sent in the above item, did not tell of his own sacrifice for the strike. On one occasion he pawned his overcoat to get money for food. For months he has been working against heavy odds organizing the unemployed in Virginia, and at last has succeeded in welding the Negro and white workers into a strong fighting organization.

Florida Alliance Organizes Broad Fight Against Terror; 15,000 Circulars Printed

TAMPA, Fla.—A widespread campaign to fight vigilantes and gangsters who last week kidnapped three WAA members, drove them out of town where they were tarred, feathered and beaten almost to death, is being organized here by the Workers Alliance.

D. M. Benson, NEB member from Florida, is now addressing liberal groups on the true story of the gangster attack which received police support; 15,000 leaflets are being

SURPRISE!

WASHINGTON (F.P.)—Case workers, many of whom may themselves be on the relief rolls before long, were the first group to make an organized protest against the 25 per cent cut in relief ordered in the District of Columbia by Commissioner George Allen.

At a specially called meeting of the Federation of Social Workers, Edna Kury declared the cut will leave many families on the verge of starvation; that the elimination of most payments will hurt landlords as well as relief clients; and that the reduction in the staff of case workers will bring suffering to those on relief and in the end cost the District more money.

Besides protesting to the federal and district authorities, the social workers decided to circulate a petition against the cut. Allen has warned that relief may have to be cut even more than 25 per cent before the winter is over. Some 10,500 relief clients are affected by the cut, which results from the ending of federal direct relief.

Denver W Starts With Victory

DENVER, Colo.—Special to "The Workers Alliance." The Colorado Workers Alliance got under way here last week with a smashing victory against discrimination on a WPA project. Two men, who had been ordered to work on the job, refusing them to stand in water, refused to do so because both had colds. One of them, a Negro, was discharged, but not without an immediate meeting of 300 WPA workers, who immediately struck the job. The discharged man was reinstated at once. This display of the power that lies in organization resulted in a tremendous influx of new members in the Workers Alliance. Gus Patterson, Chicago leader of the Alliance, in co-operation with J. Austin Beasley and others, has succeeded in already starting four or five Colorado locals. This is a new state for the WAA. Colorado workers announce that they intend to set the pace among the western states. Watch 'em.

Demonstration

We come not
To meekly stand
With head bowed down
And hat in hand.

We come not
So mutely dumb
To silently
Accept a crumb.

We are here
To plainly show
That is the truth
The workers know.

We are here
To stand and fight
For that which we
Believe is right.

BY D. W. BLANKSLER
BY D. W. BLANKSLER

printed and distributed from door to door during the attack and an indignation mass meeting is being planned for the near future.

STORY OF ATTACK

Joseph Shoemaker, E. F. Poulnot and Sam Rogers, all active in the Workers Alliance, were taken to a woods outside of Tampa, severely beaten with chains and rubber hose, and then tarred and feathered. They were stripped of their clothes and left lying on the ground with orders not to move for five minutes.

Before leaving, the gangsters struck Shoemaker below the left ear with the butt of a gun. He had made the mistake of telling one of the vigilantes that he had been recognized.

When they were able, the three Alliance members started to walk to town. Shoemaker, who died since, gave out and urged the others to go on. Poulnot and Rogers trudged on alone and finally came to an all-night filling station where they talked fellow into driving them to town. There they called Shoemaker's brother and he and Rogers went back to look for the injured man.

FOUND LYING ON GROUND

After a four-hour search they found him near the spot where he had been lying with scarcely any clothes on throughout the night. He was taken to the Spanish hospital, but has been unable to talk, the blow with the gun butt having injured his vocal chords.

Poulnot, who was beaten and broken up like a piece of raw beef, is at home, but has to have a nurse all the time. The doctor says he may not be able to walk for two more weeks.

Rogers is in the City hospital and is expected to recover if the politicians who control the City hospital don't kill him first, fearing he will tell what he knows.

POLICE FLOT

The three victims had gone to attend a meeting of the Modern Democrats, a coalition of liberal groups in the city and a rising threat to the two old parties. Police invaded the home where the meeting was held and took six men to headquarters for "questioning." The police said the WAA was a "Communist" organization and they were going to break up all the meetings and "teach these damned radicals a lesson."

When Poulnot went to the door of police headquarters after being released, an officer told him to get into a car and they would take him home. He replied that he could walk home and a voice from the car snarled: "Don't argue with that s-o-b-j bring him here."

BITTER FIGHT

Realizing what was up Poulnot hit the cop nearest him, but six men swarmed out of the car and overpowered him. One of the cops told the crowd that gathered around that everything was all right, they were just taking a "cray man to the county jail."

Rogers and Shoemaker were kidnapped on the street after they left the meeting. Then they were driven to the woods.

Sentiment here is running high against this cowardly crime. See

Turn to Page Four, Column Three.

WHITE HOUSE CLOSED TO JOBLESS; OFFICIALS STRADDLE WPA ISSUE

Special to the Workers Alliance.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—About 175 representatives of the WAA and supporting organizations visited the nation's capital on Nov. 26 to protest the withdrawal of federal direct relief aid and attack the vicious policies of WPA "security" payments.

Headed by David Lasser, national chairman, the delegation presented a six-page brief scoring administration policies to Jacob Baker, who received a group of 25 in the absence of Harry L. Hopkins. Baker was told that "President Roosevelt may make his peace with reactionary business interests of the country—he may make breathing spells—but the organized unemployed refuse to be made the victims of this political trade."

After Dave Lasser's presentation various members related the conditions existing in their own communities and at the termination Jacob Baker accepted an answer which can be summarized by saying that there are no major changes to

be expected in the WPA program nor the decision to end the federal relief aid.

MANY QUESTIONS

An avalanche of questions descended from several delegates and Baker stated that he had a luncheon engagement and could not be detained further. While the main delegation was meeting with Baker, other small groups brought special problems before the respective all

Turn to Page Four, Column One.

No Happiness For 3 Million Young People

WASHINGTON — Millions of young Americans are growing up with no more to look forward to than a miserably small relief dole, that too is not taken from them. About 3,750,000 youths, between the ages of 16 and 25, were either members of relief families or recipients of relief themselves as of May, 1935, according to Director Aubrey Williams of the National Youth Administration.

"In ordinary times," he said, "it is safe to assume that most of the 800,000 youths of high school age on relief would have been in school, and most of the 2,000,000 older youths would have been attending college or engaged in productive enterprise of one sort or another."

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official Newspaper of The Workers Alliance of America

THE JOHN C. WEAVER
LABOR RESEARCH CENTER
102 STERLING HALL

Vol. 1—No. 10

WASHINGTON, D. C., MARCH 1, 1936

PRICE 5 CENTS

NATIONAL CONVENTION APRIL 7-10

New York Cops Brutally Attack Jobless Parade

NEW YORK—Brutally attacking a demonstration of 25,000 unemployed and WPA workers in Madison Square Park, 400 New York cops attempted to break up a proposed march to the WPA offices a few blocks away.

Despite this vicious, un-American assault on defenseless men and women and the arrest of 12 of their leaders, more than 10,000 of the demonstrators reformed their lines and streamed through the city streets to the WPA offices. Chanting "Get rid of Ridder" (New York WPA administrator), the marchers formed a solid wall of pickets around the block-square building, set up a loud speaker and held an even noisier demonstration than before.

Jobless Fight Back.

For a few breathless minutes while the attack was on, wildest disorder reigned. Forming flying wedges, the cops again and again charged the unemployed, pounding blackjacks and clubs on the heads of old and young alike. The unemployed stood their ground, hurling ice chunks and flailing about them with the sticks on which their banners were tacked.

One poor old man, knocked to the icy sidewalk by a blow from a burly policeman's club, was carried away by four fellow workers, blood streaming from a gash in his forehead.

Arrested for holding a peaceful meeting and parade were David Lasser, national chairman of the Workers Alliance of America; Michael Davidow and Willis Morgan of the National Unemployment Council; Joseph Gilbert of the Project Workers' union; fiery, plaited Vito Marcantonio, congressman from New York, and seven others.

Fascist "Custody."

Borrowing a leaf from the book of bloody Hitler of Germany, the cops, acting under orders from Police Commissioner Valentine and "liberal" Mayor La Guardia of New York City, held the leaders under "protective custody" until it became evident that a tremendous public clamor for their release was crystallizing. This Fascist tactic of holding "leaders" until trouble blows over, which Valentine indicated would be used in the future

"Protected"



David Lasser, national chairman of the Workers Alliance of America, who was arrested during the New York Madison square unemployed parade and held without charge under a new ruling by Police Commissioner Valentine that labor leaders may be taken into "protective custody" until the excitement dies down. Another step toward Fascism.

against labor, brought a storm of protest rolling in from radical and liberal organizations throughout the country.

Permission had been granted for a meeting in Madison Square park and another at WPA offices, but a permit for a parade from one point to the other was denied because the streets were "too icy."

New Parade Planned.

"We'll furnish 1,000 men to clean those streets," Lasser told the dumfounded commissioner. The offer was not accepted.

The demonstration, participated in by a united front of six unemployed, WPA and ERB organizations, was called to demand the removal of Administrator Ridder, expansion of the WPA, 50¢ a month minimum wage for laborers, abolition of racial discrimination and a 40 per cent increase in relief.

Fearless in the face of bitter opposition from the enemies of the workers, the joint relief committee is planning another parade in the near future. The viciousness of the attack shows how the Tories fear aroused labor movements. Organize and build the battalions of labor for the iron days ahead!

NO FOOD ORDERS!

TRENTON, N. J.—In a thrilling display of mass solidarity, more than 3,000 unemployed and WPA workers staged a huge demonstration here, protesting the refusal of the food order system of relief and demanding improvement of WPA conditions and wages.

Under the auspices of the Workers Alliance of New Jersey, the enthusiastic demonstrators marched through the main streets of Trenton, with banners flying and red flares, marking the path of the marchers. From the Laboratorium the parade moved to the state capital building. While the crowd surged around the building, Ray Cooke, state chairman of the Workers Alliance, addressed the state assembly from the speaker's stand. John Spain, executive board member, was in charge of the demonstration.

Demands Approved.

The demonstration climaxed a series of conferences with Gov. Hoffman, the Trenton city council and the Mercer County Freeholders, all of whom endorsed the Alliance resolution against the return to food orders. The resolution was introduced into the legislature by the Mercer county delegation.

The Alliance delegation, Powell Johnson, James Flinder, John Spain, William Schroeder and Ray Cooke, presented the Alliance stand on new taxes, when Gov. Hoffman suggested the sales tax to raise relief funds. They favored higher income and inheritance taxes, stamp taxes on stock transactions and checks, corporation taxes and amusement tax.

Militant action by the Workers Alliance of New Jersey is bringing unemployed and WPA workers flocking into the WA. From 100 to 150 sign up every meeting night in Trenton.

MAY SECEDE.

WASHINGTON (F.P.)—The National Radio and Allied Trades, claiming 48 per cent of the workers in the radio industry, has turned thumbs down on the offer of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers that its members join that union as "Class B" members. Formation of an industrial union outside the American Federation of Labor seems indicated as the next move of the radio men, who now belong to A. F. of L. federal unions.

Wide Campaign of Support Launched

On to Washington!

This will be the slogan of approximately 1,000 delegates from unemployed groups in all parts of the country, as they prepare to attend the second annual convention of the Workers Alliance of America in Washington April 7-10.

ORDER NOW!

It is vitally important that THE WORKERS ALLIANCE appear regularly from now on. Feature news of our coming convention and other labor highlights scheduled for the new few issues make our newspaper something you can't afford to be without.

Locals should place their orders for the next issue now. Pay up your back bills! Send in news from your district. Sell ads and greetings. Get your friends to subscribe. Let us all push forward. "United we eat; divided we starve." Show us your stuff; now's the time!

Ohio Alliance Wins 10 Per Cent Wage Boost

TOLEDO—Within 24 hours after a strike threat had been issued by the Ohio Workers Alliance, the state WPA office granted the demands of the workers for an immediate 10 per cent increase in wages.

A committee of 100 delegates from various locals presented the demands for a minimum of \$60 a month, not more than 30 hours per week, and granting of time lost because of conditions beyond control of the workers. The victory means approximately 1 million dollars a month more in the pockets of 180,000 Ohio WPA workers.

Pekin, Ill., Workers Win General Strike

PEKIN, Ill. (F.P.)—Sticking union workers at the Pekin plant of the American Distillery Co. backed by a three-day general strike of all organized labor in the city, won a smashing victory. The company had previously scorned the distillery workers' demands, and a tear-gas attack on their picket line had precipitated the mass walk-out. Re-hiring of three discharged unionists, together with granting of workers' demands on wages, hours, overtime and seniority were included in the settlement.

To put the convention across as it should be, a tremendous campaign building up to the convention has been launched by the National Executive Committee. This includes not only local struggles leading up to a gigantic send-off for the delegates from the various towns, but also a huge postcard campaign demanding that congress enact a four-point legislative program to relieve distress and provide security for the toilers of America (see page 3).

Plans Drafted.

Plans are being made for an open hearing before liberal sections of the senate and the house of representatives, at which the terrible poverty and pressing needs of the unemployed and WPA workers will be explained by folks who have been through the mill.

Special Convention Stamps are being issued as a means of raising funds both locally and nationally. Committees are at work on the problem of housing the 1,000 expected delegates, truly a monstrous task. The convention call is being sent out as this issue goes to press. Registration blanks are being prepared. National Convention Offices, opened at 1502 14th St., N.Y., Washington, D. C., are a beehive of activity.

The possibilities of a Workers Rights Congress to be held in conjunction with or immediately following the convention with labor, farmer, fraternal and unemployed organizations participating, were at first considered by the National Executive Board of the Workers Alliance but were rejected because it was felt the convention should receive the undivided attention of all attending it.

A historic convention is assured. Vital issues will be threshed out and important policies for future action outlined. Be sure your delegates get there—On to Washington!

Jobless Fight Use of Arms on WPA Project

CLEVELAND (F.P.)—Threats of 100 WPA workers to quit work on outdoor projects in sub-zero weather were greeted with a display of arms by police and orders to return to their jobs. The Cleveland city council and numerous labor organizations have protested the close tie-up of the local WPA administration and the city police forces, headed by an ex-G man.

Boost Our National Convention!

ONE THOUSAND JOBLESS MEN AND WOMEN REPRESENTING A MILLION organized unemployed will converge on the nation's capital April 7 to 10 for the big SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION of the Workers Alliance of America. During the past year the growth of our organization has been one of the outstanding events in the American labor movement.

This year our convention will be five times larger than it was in 1935. Expenses, always a big item for any unemployed organization, will be more than doubled. With this problem in mind we are offer-

ing a plan that will aid our units in getting their representatives to the convention and will also help build the national newspaper, THE WORKERS ALLIANCE, and the vitally necessary convention fund.

Here's what to do: SOLICIT GREETINGS TO OUR NATIONAL CONVENTION!

With a little effort every local can sell a few of these greetings to labor unions, fraternal bodies, farm organizations, co-operatives, religious groups, doctors, lawyers, merchants and others whose interests lie with the organized unemployed. These greetings will appear promptly in the pages of THE WORKERS ALLIANCE. The price is \$1 per column inch and cash must accompany order. Appoint a local committee to can-

vas your town. As you sell the greetings send the money to us. Every dollar we receive will be divided as follows:

Twenty cents to the local that gets the ad.

Forty cents to the convention fund.

Forty cents to our national newspaper, THE WORKERS ALLIANCE.

Don't sell a one-inch ad if you can sell four or five inches. Larger greetings attract more attention. And your local gets more money too. All greetings must be sent in on the handy blanks which we provide. These blanks (sample on page 2) contain a receipt which the Alliance representative who solicits the ad gives to the person who takes the ad, a certificate signed by the person who takes

the greeting saying who he paid, the size of the ad he wants and the amount he paid. It also shows a sample one-inch ad.

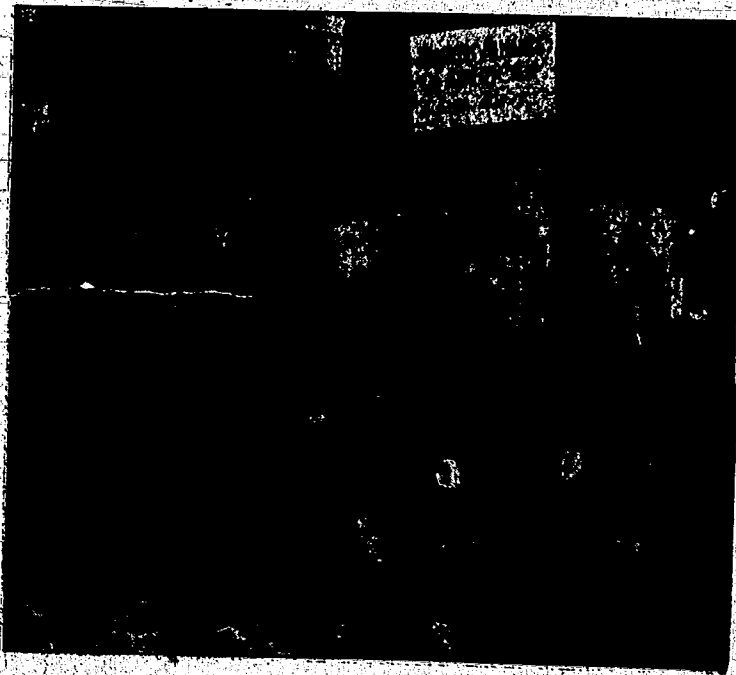
Drop us a card at once telling us how many of these blanks your local wants. Here's a chance to kill three birds with one stone. Show us you can do your part!

BOOST OUR NATIONAL CONVENTION!

Send all orders and money to: THE WORKERS ALLIANCE, Bette Naysmith Norman, Business Manager, 1502 14th St., N.W., Washington, D. C.

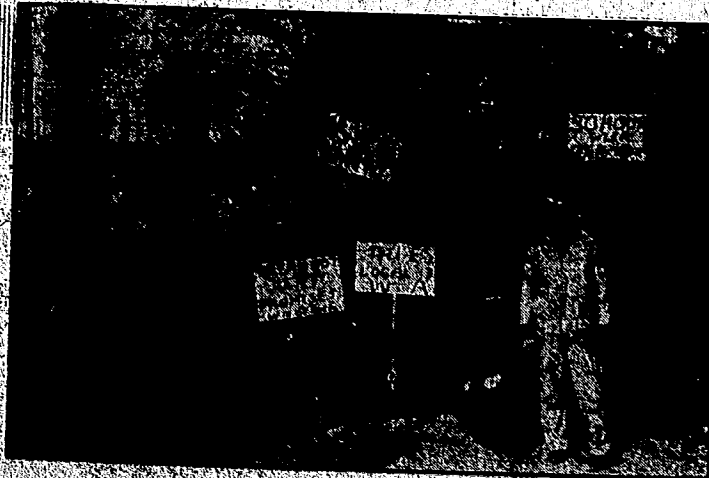
WELCOME DELEGATES

MARCH ON CAPITOL TO PROTEST FOOD ORDERS



The Workers' Alliance of New Jersey recently staged a mass march on the State House at Trenton, demanding immediate relief action and the rescinding of an order to return relief clients to food orders. While several thousand Alliance members marched through the streets lighted by flares, Ray Cooke, State chairman, told a night session of the Legislature to act like American citizens, not like a bunch of bureaucrats, and provide jobs at decent wages for the unemployed. Above is part of the huge march, showing the delegation from Hamilton township, Unit No. 1, Workers' Alliance of New Jersey.

WPA WORKERS STRIKE AT NILES, MICH.



Five hundred WPA workers went on strike at Niles, Mich., recently. Sending flying squads to strikers are carrying on in militant style. They demand increased pay activities.

Lasser Stresses Need for Unity And Political Party of the Workers

In a stirring, dramatic speech, National Chairman David Lasser, to serve as a warning to the reactionaries that we are determined to carry on the struggle and to serve as a magnet to attract the millions of unorganized unemployed and WPA workers.

"In order to accomplish our de-

(Continued on Page Two)

WHEN EAST MEETS WEST



The broad scope of the Workers' Alliance of America is here shown as W. K. Patrick, of Oregon, national vice chairman of the W. A. A., greets David Lasser, of New York, national chairman, following Patrick's 3000-mile jaunt across the country to attend the second annual convention of the W. A. A. Patrick is an unemployed railroad dispatcher, and Lasser a jobless civil engineer.

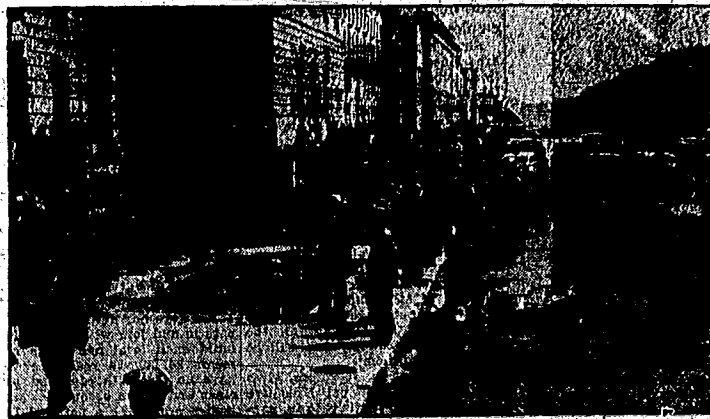
A FRIEND INDEED



WPA workers building dikes to protect Richmond, Va., from floods. While they are needed to keep the river away from the man's door, they have jobs, but they are not employed.

MIGHTY CONVENTION LAYS BASIS FOR GREATER WORKERS ALLIANCE

WORKERS ALLIANCE PARADES TO WHITE HOUSE



Part of the large demonstration of Workers' Alliance members that paraded to the White House on Saturday following the WAA convention. Demands of the WAA for jobs and security were presented to Secretary Marvin McIntyre. The marchers then proceeded to the Capitol, where a like petition was presented to the Speaker of the House and Vice President Garner.

FIGHTING PROGRAM OF ACTION ADOPTED BY 700 DELEGATES

With a rousing demonstration through the streets of the nation's capital, seven hundred Workers' Alliance delegates climaxed four days of hard work on convention details and laid the basis for a greater and stronger Workers' Alliance.

Preceded by an American flag and the huge blue and white banner of the Workers' Alliance of America, the delegates marched from the swanky Labor Department Auditorium, where the convention was held, past the back side of the White House and down Constitution ave. to the capitol, where, after a brief meeting, the delegates dispersed. Some of them went to "kiss their congressmen goodbye," while a committee presented Vice President Garner with a petition which called for an appropriation of six billion dollars for relief next year and charged the Democrats with selling out the unemployed.

"I resent that," Garner snarled, his face purpling.

"WE WANT JOBS"

While the marchers halted near the White House, a committee visited Marvin McIntyre, secretary to the President, and presented him with a similar petition. The delegates sang "Solidarity" and cried "Give the bankers home relief! We want jobs!" as they marched. One leather-lunged delegate chanted "Help us get rid of public enemies Nos. 1 and 2—hunger and starvation."

The parade was augmented by seventeen busloads of delegates from New York and other nearby cities, who arrived after the parade had started.

The convention approved a fighting program of action which called for a \$5000 fighting fund drive to gain 300 new locals, 300,000 new members, to completely equip and staff the national office, finance a general organizer and nine district organizers, improve and expand the Workers' Alliance and help put out 250,000 pieces of educational literature.

FIGHTING PROGRAM

An intensive drive for enactment of the Workers' Alliance five-point legislative program was also approved.

Unemployed Will Not Submit to Forced Idleness, A. F. L. Warns

"American workmen will not submit forever to enforced idleness and public support," the American Federation of Labor declares in its monthly survey of business, in which it points out that production and profits have boomed during the past months but the number of unemployed still remains above the 12,000,000 mark.

Industrial figures cited by the A. F. of L. to show that prosperity is ahead for businessmen are that 1490 industrial corporations reported a 49.7 per cent rise in profits in 1935 and earned 6.7 per cent on their net worth in 1935, as against 4.3 per cent in 1934; dividend payments increased by \$105,000,000 in the first quarter of this year, compared to the same period last year; industrial production was up 14 per cent; orders for machine tools exceeded last year by 100 per cent, and General Motors sales in the first quarter of this year reached an all-time high.

"The present is no time for temporizing," the survey declares. "Either we must make the transition from government support to private employment by increasing wages, shortening hours, and putting the unemployed to work, or we keep a standing army of the unemployed with discontent."

Jobs at decent pay. Already the unemployed are organizing, and recent demonstrations show that American workmen will not submit forever to forced idleness and public support.

"For capacity production and an adequate living for all, industry must raise production of automobiles by 2,000,000; clothing by 500,000; outer garments, houses by 500,000; new homes and health services by \$1,000,000,000 worth, the survey says.

"It is unthinkable that the American people have not among them the intelligence, experience and technical training to use their industrial equipment, put the unemployed to work and create the goods and services they need," according to the A. F. of L.

In the meantime, however, increased wages and shorter hours are the means of...

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD LAYS DOWN RULES FOR LOCAL AND STATE UNITY; PLANS \$5000 FIGHTING FUND

Swinging into action immediately after the rousing demonstration which concluded the second annual convention of the Workers' Alliance of America, the new National Executive Board doggedly set about the task of completing physical unification of all organizations participating in the convention.

Out of the discussion on affiliation methods, the following policies were agreed upon by the NEB:

"That where we have a State now operating under a WAA State charter, the groups who were in this convention wishing to affiliate shall make their application to the State Board of that WAA State organization in the usual way, and that we request of all these applying groups that they send a copy of notice of such application for affiliation to the national office. We recommend to our affiliates that shorter fees be reduced or waived wherever possible.

"That where there now is a local or county affiliate of the WAA in a State not now operating under WAA State charter, application for such situations shall be made to the local or county affiliate of the WAA. The NEB recommends that its affiliates strive to reduce the charter fees wherever possible.

"That where there is now no WAA charter of any kind, in such situation all applications for affiliation shall be made directly to the national office in the usual way.

"That in States where there now is a WAA State charter, and there are also other State-wide or regional organizations which have been in existence under previous national charters.

or district bodies now affiliated to the WAA through this convention the NEB recommends to the State organization of the WAA involved that they hold an immediate conference with the central offices of the other State-wide or regional organizations for the purpose of expediting and completing the physical unification. This to be done in co-operation with the national office.

"That where the WAA now has a town or city affiliate, but no county-wide organization, and where there is in such cases also an independent branch or local of one of the organizations liquidating at the 1935 national convention, and where such units wish a unit charter, the NEB recommends the formation of and will supervise the formation of a county organization under an affiliate charter.

"That, with the exception of the American Workers' Union in the Midwest, all affiliations shall take place before June 1, 1936. All affiliations after June 1 shall be considered as new affiliations, and not part of the unity agreement.

ELIGIBLE GROUPS

"That any and every bona fide group whose principles, program and constitution do not conflict with the principles, program and constitution of the WAA shall be eligible for affiliation to a local, county or State affiliate of the WAA, or directly to the national organization. In cases where such application for affiliation is denied, the NEB shall call upon the affiliates to slow good cause."

A sub-committee, consisting of Lasser, Cooke and Benjamin, with Paul A. Rasmussen as an ex-officio member, was elected to set on foot of the NEB on details of unification in various localities, where difficulties were met.

The NEB elected Ray Cooke as secretary-treasurer. Cooke is chairman of the Workers' Alliance of New Jersey, was formerly an actor, and has been the National Executive Board.

Removal of Florida WPA Head Demanded

Orlando, Fla. (APLNS).—The 36th annual convention of the Florida State Federation of Labor here unanimously adopted resolutions urging the immediate removal of E. A. Pynchon as State WPA Administrator.

It was charged that Mr. Pynchon had imposed a wage rate of 53 cents per hour for skilled labor employed on WPA jobs and refused to reduce the hours so as to conform with the union scale because of his claim that such action would jeopardize the interests of the phosphate, turpentine and citrus industries.

MISSOURI JOBLESS MEET

Jefferson City, Mo. (FP).—Missouri's "right-to-live" convention of organized jobless and WPA workers' delegates mapped new tactics in their battle for relief and voted to form a State Farmer-Labor Party. With Federal relief cut off and State funds at new lows, Missourians predict "something very serious" ahead unless a legislative session is called and new appropriations granted.

tion, and is known as the militant leader of successful demonstrations against relief cuts in New Jersey recently.

Herbert Benjamin, unemployed machinist, of New York, was elected to the new post of organization secretary, and Paul A. Rasmussen, former secretary, was made general organizer. Loren Norman was re-elected editor of The Workers' Alliance, and Bette Naysmith Norman as business manager of the paper.

FIGHTING FUND

A special campaign to raise a \$5000 fighting fund was authorized by the NEB, in line with the convention's approval of such a step. This drive will be under the direction of the organization secretary and will help equip a staff of trained organizers, set up a smoothly running national office and expand the Workers' Alliance.

In order to properly conduct the national office, it called for information on all activities of the organization and make the best planned use of its funds and organizers, the NEB ruled that all affiliates and new groups must notify the national office at least thirty days in advance of any proposed State conference or State conventions, and that no definite date for such conferences be set without the consent of the national office.

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES OF THE WORKERS ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

On Page 4

In our next issue we will carry the new National Constitution and platform of the officials of the W. A. A. Order your bundle of papers now!

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official Newspaper of the Workers Alliance of America

Vol. 1—No. 15

WASHINGTON, D. C., FIRST JULY ISSUE

PRICE 2 CENTS

Recognition Won!

PREVAILING WAGE RATE TO BE PAID ON WPA PROJECTS

Chalk up another tally for the Workers Alliance of America.

Prevailing wage rates from now on MAY be paid on all WPA projects. This ruling, which took effect July 1, was contained in Administrative Order No. 41, issued by WPA Chief Harry Hopkins.

The W. A. A. has been fighting for prevailing wage rates since WPA started.

However, there's a catch to it, an usual.

Just what the prevailing wage is may be determined by the state WPA authorities.

This is where the Workers Alliance again enters the picture.

Every local should take immediate steps to fix the prevailing wage rates for various types of work.

Trade union wage rates should serve as a basis.

Locals, therefore, should consult with the trade union organizations in their community and together work out the schedule on hours, wages, minimum monthly earnings and so forth.

Where no unions or union rates exist, the Alliance locals themselves must fix the rates and fight for their adoption.

Consult your local WPA administrators at once. Find out what the plans are. If not satisfied, demand a change.

And if your demands are not met, prepare to back them up by picket lines, demonstrations, supporting resolutions and other actions by unions and interested groups, and finally, if necessary and possible, by strikes.

Remember, that an agreement on hourly wage rates is not enough. Insist that you be guaranteed sufficient hours of work to insure a sufficient monthly minimum wage.

MIDDLETOWN, CONN.—James H. Raud, Jr., president of Remington-Union, Inc., has announced the re-opening of the Middletown plant on the basis of the return of 22 of 911 striking workers. The plant has been closed by strike for four weeks, and will remain closed until the demands of the workers are met, strike leaders said.

First Alliance Convention Held In Tennessee

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Thirty delegates representing ten branches of the W. A. A. formed since February attended the first annual convention of the Tennessee Workers Alliance here recently.

Immediately after the convention a delegation met with state and WPA officials to discuss a wage scale for the new works program.

"A starvation wage will not be accepted," was the notice served on the officials by the delegation, when it became apparent that no agreement could be reached.

Speakers at a big mass meeting during the convention included ministers and local A. F. of D. officials.

Resolutions passed by the delegates strongly supported the national office of the W. A. A. and condemned the starvation wages in the South.

Frank Lynch, Chattanooga, was named state chairman; David Engels, Nashville, secretary, and J. M. Curtis, vice-chairman.

The new executive board consists of John Corbin and Ted Wellman, Chattanooga; R. C. Weaver and F. Hamilton, Lenoir City; J. B. Nawl, James Dobbie and Robert Owens, Nashville; Laurent Evans and Tom Fowler, Knoxville; Hyland Stinnett and Ellis Smith, Maryville, and Robert Quick and J. L. Sullivan, Memphis.

The Tennessee Workers Alliance is holding a big Fourth of July rally in the country near Antioch. Many advance tickets have already been sold. This rally will mark the beginning of a real drive to organize every county in the state for the Alliance.

In Danger



Angelo Herndon

FIGHT TO FREE HERNDON FROM CHAIN GANG

NEW YORK—Tall, stalwart Angelo Herndon again faces 20 years on the Georgia chain gang.

Immediate steps to appeal the decision of the Georgia Supreme Court upholding the sentence against Herndon, second vice-president of the Workers Alliance of America, have already been launched by the International Labor Defense.

Application for stay of execution pending appeal has been filed.

Herndon was convicted under an "insurrection" law passed before the Civil War and was sentenced to 20 years on the chain gang—a death sentence for the young Negro.

His crime was trying to organize the terror-ridden exploited workers of Georgia.

Judge Hugh Dorsey had declared the "insurrection" law unconstitutional in a ruling on Herndon's appeal. It was this decision which the Supreme Court recently overruled.

Herndon's case is the case of every working man.

For the entire labor movement must take up the fight to gain his freedom. Locals of the Workers Alliance, particularly, should do everything possible to broaden and increase the protests against this injustice, and aid the defense in every way they can. Let your voices ring out!

Alliance Victorious In New York, Detroit

Groups Gain Right to Represent WPA Workers in Collective Bargaining — New Jersey Wins Similar Concession

FLASH!

Recognition of Workers Alliance job stewards on WPA projects and assurances that he "would see what could be done" about placing an Alliance representative on the national WPA policy board were given officials of the W. A. A. this week at a conference with Aubrey Williams, assistant WPA administrator.

Smashing victories in which the Workers Alliance of America won recognition as representing WPA workers in collective bargaining have been scored in New York, Detroit and New Jersey.

This immense step forward has been made possible only by constant protests and struggles.

All W. A. A. affiliates should take prompt steps to secure such recognition—and what is more important, see that it is enforced.

Appoint or elect Job Stewards on all WPA and other public projects. See that these Stewards take up and act on all grievances that arise on the job. Arrange for regular Job Stewards meetings where WPA problems can be fully discussed and acted upon.

After a New York delegation traveled to Washington to demand recognition of committees and dismissal of Administrator Victor Riddick for discrimination, Assistant Chief Aubrey Williams addressed a letter (copy of which appears on page 2) to Henry Bourke, organizer for the Workers Alliance of Greater New York, overruling Riddick's decisions and granting recognition to the W. A. A.

New Jersey Follows Up

Following up this statement with prompt and vigorous action, the Workers Alliance of New Jersey secured similar concessions and now have 766 Stewards to handle all grievances.

The following bulletin was issued by Superior of Operations L. R. Hoffman, granting similar recognition in Detroit:

"I have been advised that the Administrative Officials of the District Office have agreed with WPA Local Union 830 that it would deal with regularly accredited job stewards who wish to present requests and complaints of the men on the jobs upon which the stewards are working, during working hours at reasonable intervals, and within reasonable limits of time.

"The stewards shall take up such matters with his General Foreman and endeavor to settle them mutually or in consultation with the supervising officer over the foreman.

"If unable to settle the question on the job, the steward and the foreman shall refer the matter for readjustment to the Arbitration Board, of which Mr. Heuser is chairman.

"If a satisfactory result cannot be accomplished through this means, then the job steward shall get in touch with his local Union, and the foreman shall further contact the Board to the end that a meeting in joint session a committee of workers from the job not to exceed five to seven members in order that full arbitration of the question may be had. Such committees sent for by the Board shall not be deemed as 'to pay'.

"Please see that all your job superintendents and foremen are notified accordingly."

This bulletin was followed by another which stated:

"Each one of you is hereby definitely instructed to see that each one of your superintendents or foremen, wherever is in charge of each

ards who wish to present requests and complaints of the men on the jobs upon which the stewards are working, during working hours at reasonable intervals, and within reasonable limits of time.

"The stewards shall take up such matters with his General Foreman and endeavor to settle them mutually or in consultation with the supervising officer over the foreman.

"If unable to settle the question on the job, the steward and the foreman shall refer the matter for readjustment to the Arbitration Board, of which Mr. Heuser is chairman.

"If a satisfactory result cannot be accomplished through this means, then the job steward shall get in touch with his local Union, and the foreman shall further contact the Board to the end that a meeting in joint session a committee of workers from the job not to exceed five to seven members in order that full arbitration of the question may be had. Such committees sent for by the Board shall not be deemed as 'to pay'.

"Please see that all your job superintendents and foremen are notified accordingly."

This bulletin was followed by another which stated:

"Each one of you is hereby definitely instructed to see that each one of your superintendents or foremen, wherever is in charge of each

ards who wish to present requests and complaints of the men on the jobs upon which the stewards are working, during working hours at reasonable intervals, and within reasonable limits of time.

"The stewards shall take up such matters with his General Foreman and endeavor to settle them mutually or in consultation with the supervising officer over the foreman.

"If unable to settle the question on the job, the steward and the foreman shall refer the matter for readjustment to the Arbitration Board, of which Mr. Heuser is chairman.

"If a satisfactory result cannot be accomplished through this means, then the job steward shall get in touch with his local Union, and the foreman shall further contact the Board to the end that a meeting in joint session a committee of workers from the job not to exceed five to seven members in order that full arbitration of the question may be had. Such committees sent for by the Board shall not be deemed as 'to pay'.

"Please see that all your job superintendents and foremen are notified accordingly."

This bulletin was followed by another which stated:

"Each one of you is hereby definitely instructed to see that each one of your superintendents or foremen, wherever is in charge of each

ards who wish to present requests and complaints of the men on the jobs upon which the stewards are working, during working hours at reasonable intervals, and within reasonable limits of time.

"The stewards shall take up such matters with his General Foreman and endeavor to settle them mutually or in consultation with the supervising officer over the foreman.

"If unable to settle the question on the job, the steward and the foreman shall refer the matter for readjustment to the Arbitration Board, of which Mr. Heuser is chairman.

"If a satisfactory result cannot be accomplished through this means, then the job steward shall get in touch with his local Union, and the foreman shall further contact the Board to the end that a meeting in joint session a committee of workers from the job not to exceed five to seven members in order that full arbitration of the question may be had. Such committees sent for by the Board shall not be deemed as 'to pay'.

"Please see that all your job superintendents and foremen are notified accordingly."

This bulletin was followed by another which stated:

"Each one of you is hereby definitely instructed to see that each one of your superintendents or foremen, wherever is in charge of each

ards who wish to present requests and complaints of the men on the jobs upon which the stewards are working, during working hours at reasonable intervals, and within reasonable limits of time.

"The stewards shall take up such matters with his General Foreman and endeavor to settle them mutually or in consultation with the supervising officer over the foreman.

"If unable to settle the question on the job, the steward and the foreman shall refer the matter for readjustment to the Arbitration Board, of which Mr. Heuser is chairman.

"If a satisfactory result cannot be accomplished through this means, then the job steward shall get in touch with his local Union, and the foreman shall further contact the Board to the end that a meeting in joint session a committee of workers from the job not to exceed five to seven members in order that full arbitration of the question may be had. Such committees sent for by the Board shall not be deemed as 'to pay'.

"Please see that all your job superintendents and foremen are notified accordingly."

This bulletin was followed by another which stated:

"Each one of you is hereby definitely instructed to see that each one of your superintendents or foremen, wherever is in charge of each

ards who wish to present requests and complaints of the men on the jobs upon which the stewards are working, during working hours at reasonable intervals, and within reasonable limits of time.

"The stewards shall take up such matters with his General Foreman and endeavor to settle them mutually or in consultation with the supervising officer over the foreman.

"If unable to settle the question on the job, the steward and the foreman shall refer the matter for readjustment to the Arbitration Board, of which Mr. Heuser is chairman.

"If a satisfactory result cannot be accomplished through this means, then the job steward shall get in touch with his local Union, and the foreman shall further contact the Board to the end that a meeting in joint session a committee of workers from the job not to exceed five to seven members in order that full arbitration of the question may be had. Such committees sent for by the Board shall not be deemed as 'to pay'.

"Please see that all your job superintendents and foremen are notified accordingly."

This bulletin was followed by another which stated:

"Each one of you is hereby definitely instructed to see that each one of your superintendents or foremen, wherever is in charge of each

ards who wish to present requests and complaints of the men on the jobs upon which the stewards are working, during working hours at reasonable intervals, and within reasonable limits of time.

"The stewards shall take up such matters with his General Foreman and endeavor to settle them mutually or in consultation with the supervising officer over the foreman.

"If unable to settle the question on the job, the steward and the foreman shall refer the matter for readjustment to the Arbitration Board, of which Mr. Heuser is chairman.

"If a satisfactory result cannot be accomplished through this means, then the job steward shall get in touch with his local Union, and the foreman shall further contact the Board to the end that a meeting in joint session a committee of workers from the job not to exceed five to seven members in order that full arbitration of the question may be had. Such committees sent for by the Board shall not be deemed as 'to pay'.

"Please see that all your job superintendents and foremen are notified accordingly."

This bulletin was followed by another which stated:

"Each one of you is hereby definitely instructed to see that each one of your superintendents or foremen, wherever is in charge of each

ards who wish to present requests and complaints of the men on the jobs upon which the stewards are working, during working hours at reasonable intervals, and within reasonable limits of time.

"The stewards shall take up such matters with his General Foreman and endeavor to settle them mutually or in consultation with the supervising officer over the foreman.

"If unable to settle the question on the job, the steward and the foreman shall refer the matter for readjustment to the Arbitration Board, of which Mr. Heuser is chairman.

"If a satisfactory result cannot be accomplished through this means, then the job steward shall get in touch with his local Union, and the foreman shall further contact the Board to the end that a meeting in joint session a committee of workers from the job not to exceed five to seven members in order that full arbitration of the question may be had. Such committees sent for by the Board shall not be deemed as 'to pay'.

"Please see that all your job superintendents and foremen are notified accordingly."

This bulletin was followed by another which stated:

"Each one of you is hereby definitely instructed to see that each one of your superintendents or foremen, wherever is in charge of each

HUNGER and STARVATION

Stalk Thru New Jersey as Local Relief Agencies Break Down

A tale of brutal misery and hunger resulting from the failure of the state of New Jersey to provide relief for unemployed since federal aid was withdrawn, is revealed in a 13-page report prepared by the Workers Progress Administration.

Starvation stalks the state. Municipalities have effected sharp reductions in relief costs and the number of cases.

In Hoboken the number of relief clients were cut from 2,000 to 90; in Hammonton, from 600 to 95. Actual relief given to individual families has been cut in half.

The Liberty League and Tories, in bulk hold parties up New Jersey as an example of what can be done by turning relief responsibility back to the communities. They point to the figures to back up their contentions.

But behind the inhuman figures lies a human tale of stark misery and destitution, a story that only the pen of a Hugo or a Dickens could tell.

"The baby in the Downings family died two weeks ago from lack of milk," the WPA reports on one case history. "Their fifteen-month-old child has whooping cough now. With a mounting drugstore bill and no money on hand, the Downings don't know where they will get further medical supplies or medical care. The mother of this family of 13 is ill of heart disease, complicated by stomach trouble. The children complain of constant hunger as a result of constant supply provided by the local relief agency. For looking (see) they have whatever the boys can collect from dump heaps, 'old rubber inner tubes and old shoes, for the most part. Flies from a nearby swamp swarm in through broken windows of their house, on which taxes have been unpaid for seven years."

Thus, in calm, matter-of-fact tones, disgrace of a nation is held up before our very eyes!

Thus does the Works Progress Administration reveal the effects of the open handiwork. For it was the WPA policy of cutting its rolls and the policy of the Roosevelt administration in withdrawing from the relief picture (a policy defended by WPA officials), which led to this stark human suffering!

For the purposes of the investigation made by WPA, approximately 1,200 cases which received their final relief grants from the New Jersey

Emergency Relief Administration the first two weeks in April were chosen for study. They were picked in 13 representative communities.

Many of the extreme cases revealed that no clothing or medical aid was given, and food allowance permitted the clients to buy only the cheapest and least nourishing of foods. Consequently, the health of the clients, already endangered by months of undernourishment on restricted rations, broke down and disease ran rampant among the forgotten men and women caught in this vicious economic trap.

Almost unbelievable conditions for a so-called civilized nation to harbor within its boundaries were revealed in the WPA report.

A few typical ones follow:

Only Dry Bread To Eat

Mr. Desoto of Atlantic City is 75

years old, pitifully thin and emaciated, and it takes great effort for him to hobble about the yard to tend his small vegetable garden. Old and infirm as he is, he is the sole support of his 77-year-old wife, who is a hopeless cripple and unable to leave her chair without assistance.

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

years old, pitifully thin and emaciated, and it takes great effort for him to hobble about the yard to tend his small vegetable garden. Old and infirm as he is, he is the sole support of his 77-year-old wife, who is a hopeless cripple and unable to leave her chair without assistance.

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

Coffee constitutes their breakfast, and for lunch they have only a dry meal of bread. At night, they eat beans and potatoes from the garden, provided they have fuel to cook with. The ERA relief supplied them with kerosene for the cooking, in addition to food, milk, medical assistance and clothing. But since the kerosene and the other state aid have stopped coming, they are at some days unable to prepare what little food they have because Mr. Desoto is physically unable to chop wood. The

HAUTE SEATS 3 ELEGATES

HAUTE — The Alliance of Vigo succeeded in getting external delegates to the Vigo County Union.

expects to have two delegates seated with hope to have full delegate in future.

and on organized labor and draw all working men together. Warren H. Lowman, official A. J. Clerk, Union, and A. J. of 1, organizer, warned by police to

men, member of the live Board of the and Roy Lanciau member from in a mass meeting here to intel and terror organization.

ified organization workers on direct g planned by the Federation. A this be inaugurated the ng of leaflets at the ng pointing out, the nization and invit- relief to attend logn about the nce and its pro-

only at which over were given free din by the Vigo County ty. Over 2,000 per- ple and heard. line speakers who vices to the affair. the soft drinks netted over \$70.

—HUGH LEEKA.

ISCO — (FP) — Capt. wanted for ques- Pan Francisco police, and also as a the Mooney heard. Supposed to be to the Panama n is out for a wom- is alleged to know

ion

said his children's hering them since a this meagre diet, afford to take them Under her ERA the order of \$18, and three quart of

ly Help come

an Italian- nearly 80 years kee from the peing Raining, financial secretary; Harvey Weiner, treasurer; and Ray Klotz and Anthony Miton, sergeants-at-arms.

Workers Alliance units in Bethle- hem, Easton, Northampton and Norweth are lending a fight for the recovery of back wages for a large number of men who were forced to work without pay on the State high- ways in Northampton County, dur- ing the years 1930 to 1934, while their families were subsisting on pol- ity welfare orders.

Revel Shuey and Sophie Ahlum, members of the Bethlehem unit, have maintained a persistent vigil in the State Capitol at Harrisburg, and have secured the introduction of

ALLIANCE PICKET LINE

AIDS MICHIGAN WORKER

HAMTRAMCK, Mich. — A picket line was effective in forcing Super- intendent Berry to arrange with the city gas company to have the gas turned on for Brother Papadinos, whose family was left without any- thing to cook for two days while the Workers Alliance manned the picket line about the relief station.

The picket line attracted the atten- tion of Councilwoman Mary Zuk, who interceded in behalf of the Workers Alliance and Brother Papadinos. After a two-hour conference, the gas company was notified to turn on the gas and the pickets were withdrawn.

is, typical of hen- cases, are enough recent men's blood

Workers Alliance launching a drive ute. That is why unemployed seek to fighting fund. A must all plify in must stand united. It must boost the of America. It is or death.

Du Pont Denies Tax Bill

WASHINGTON. — Henry T. du Pont, of the munitions and Liberty League du Ponts, denied before the Tax Board of Appeals that he owed the government back taxes of \$204,140.

Detroit Alliance Wins Relief For Single Men

Other Grievances Settled Also When Pickets Force Action

—DETROIT—A smashing victory for the fast-growing Workers Alliance of Detroit was scored here recently, when single men were granted food allowances and several individual grievances were settled satisfactorily.

Single men prior to this had been sent to "Hoover Lodge" for the county infirmary where unemployed men are forced to live together like so many sheep in a corral.

"We are sorry, but we cannot recognize your committee," deplored Intake Supervisor Slack when a Workers Alliance committee headed by Organizer Wayne Kelley attempted

to present grievances.

A picket line was thrown around the relief station three days later, armed with signs demanding recog- nition. It wasn't long before the relief officials agreed to see the com- mittee.

Supervisor Florence Pivott said she would have to consider the cases brought up and would not be able to report until the next day.

"The picket line stays until you do something," was the determined answer of the workers.

Next day when an even bigger picket line marched around the station, relief officials agreed to supplement the food granted to Brother Griffin and his family of seven, to provide relief for Sister Johnson and her baby, and to grant food allow- ances to the single men.

The fight of the Detroit Alliance now goes on for room rent for single people and a general increase in the starvation relief budgets.

Pennsylvania Notes

A special meeting of the executive board of the Federated Trades Council of Reading was recently called to hear the official policies of the Workers Alliance of America outlined by General Organizer Paul A. Rasmussen. Plans for practical co- operation between the trade unions and the unemployed organizations were discussed.

A proposal for unity of the Taxpayers Protective League, large independent organiza- tion of long standing, and the Keystone Workers Union, WAA affiliate, met with en- thusiastic response from Charles F. Stamm, leader of the T. P. L., and Harry Brown of the K. W. U.

The Workers Alliance of Bethle- hem has completed a merger with two former branches of the National Unemployed League, and is growing steadily in membership and popular- ity among the workers. New quar- ters have been leased to house the expanding organization.

New elected officers of the Beth- lehem unit include: Charles M. Saw- wick, president; Horace Hontz and Victor Nowak, vice-presidents; John Hendricks, corresponding secretary; Earl Hess, recording secretary; Ira Raining, financial secretary; Harvey Weiner, treasurer; and Ray Klotz and Anthony Miton, sergeants-at- arms.

Workers Alliance units in Bethle- hem, Easton, Northampton and Norweth are lending a fight for the recovery of back wages for a large number of men who were forced to work without pay on the State high- ways in Northampton County, dur- ing the years 1930 to 1934, while their families were subsisting on pol- ity welfare orders.

Revel Shuey and Sophie Ahlum, members of the Bethlehem unit, have maintained a persistent vigil in the State Capitol at Harrisburg, and have secured the introduction of

House Bill No. 198, which would ap- propriate \$75,000 to compensate the victims of forced labor in Northamp- ton County. The bill has been re- ported favorably by the House Ap- propriations Committee.

Paul Rasmussen, General Orga- nizer of the WAA, addressed a large and enthusiastic meeting of unem- ployed and project workers in the Central Labor Union Hall at Easton. The meeting was called to celebrate the merger of the Easton Unemployed Citizens League and the WPA Work- ers Protective Union. The united organization will be known as the Easton Workers Alliance, affiliated with the WAA.

More than 200 persons were pres- ent. Twenty-three new members were accepted. Seventeen subscrip- tions were obtained for The Work- ers Alliance. Paul Cotton, militant leader of the Easton Workers Alli- ance, was chairman.

A BOOSTER

General organizer Paul A. Rasmus- sen is going great guns in Pennsy- vania. During the three weeks fol- lowing the Special Prize Name Con- test announced in THE WORKERS ALLIANCE, Rasmussen sold more than 70 subscriptions. If everyone boosted our paper like that we'd soon have a 64-pager. Why not try it?

Rasmussen, incidentally, was in- vited by the Central Labor Union of Reading, Allentown and Easton, to address their meetings. Union need for closer cooperation between the trade unions and the unem- ployed.

Former Alliance Leader Flogged By Arkansas Mob



CLAUDE WILLIAMS

EARLE, Ark. — Claude Williams, former secretary of the Arkansas Workers Alliance, and Miss Willie Sue Bladen, Memphis girls, were brutally flogged by an Arkansas mob when they tried to investigate the death of a Negro sharecropper, killed in the cotton choppers' strike that is gripping eastern Arkansas.

Gov. Futrell refused to investigate the flogging because "the constitu- tion prevents me." Sheriff Curhan of Crittenden County said he was too busy to look into the matter.

The Governor blames the strike on "agitators," although the cotton choppers' life in worse than slavery, receiving the for a hard day's work in the field.

Dayli, Besnon, Workers Alliance organizer who arrested and assessed a fine of \$1,000 for leading a strikers' picket line will be tried in the Fall term of court.

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE.

WISCONSIN AND OREGON HAIL UNITY

The Oregon Workers Alliance, and the Wisconsin W. A., two of the affil- iates voting against unity at the Washington convention, have enthusiastically endorsed the convention decisions and are now busy carrying them into effect.

One hundred delegates of the Wisconsin Workers Alli- ance, representing nearly forty thousand unemployed and relief workers voted unani- mously at its state convention held in Green Bay, to endorse the action of the national convention of the Workers Alli- ance of America in uniting all of the unemployed organi- zations into the Workers Alli- ance.

This action is of particularly sig- nificance, since only three groups at the national convention opposed unity. Of these, the Oregon Work- ers Alliance at its convention in May voted 38 to 2 to endorse the action of the national convention. With the endorsement of unity now by the Wisconsin organization only the Allegheny County Unemployed Citizens League has not yet acted favorably.

With the action of the Wiscon- sin organization, one of the most powerful in the W. A. A., a loyal united organization is assured. As evidence of the spirit of unity which prevailed at the conven- tion, many differences of opin- ion, which expressed themselves on the first day, were overcome and the convention accepted unanimously a slate of a har- mony committee for a new state executive board.

Evidence that Wisconsin Workers Alliance plans an aggressive orga- nizing campaign on the economic and political field were seen by the adoption of resolutions in support of the Farmer-Labor Political Federation and support of organized labor through the Wisconsin Federation of Labor. The Wisconsin Workers Alli- ance is one of the nine main orga- nizations composing the Farmer-Labor Political Federation and it has one of the nine members of the state ex- ecutive board.

Harlin Fenske of Sheboygan was elected state chairman; Julia De- jewski of Milwaukee, vice-chairman; and Rudolph Koller of Milwaukee, secretary-treasurer.

Great enthusiasm was shown by the delegates from 20 counties who cheered fighting speeches by David Lasser, national president, and Her- bert Benjamin, organization secretary of the Workers Alliance of America.

LIBERTY LEAGUERS DOING QUITE WELL

NEW YORK — Who says prospe- rity isn't here? Boyd's City Dispatch, oldest agency selling lists of names, offers to furnish you with a list of 1,652 American multimillionaires, another list of 16,488 with wealth of more than \$1,000,000, and another list of 28,625 with \$500,000 and over.

Re-elected



W. K. Patrick first vice- president of the Workers Alliance of America, who has been re-elected chair- man of the Oregon Work- ers Alliance.

WEST VIRGINIA JOBLESS HOLD UNITY SESSION

CHARLESTON, W. Va. — Throw- ing a bombshell into the legislature here, a delegation from the prelimi- nary state convention of the unem- ployed marched into the capitol chambers, demanding decent relief standards, unemployment, insurance and the prevailing wage scale on re- lief and WPA projects.

The delegation was led by David Lasser, president of the Workers Alliance of America, who addressed the legislators. It was a job to the startled solons to see honest work- ers marching into their sacred pre- cincts demanding justice.

The convention, called for the pur- pose of uniting the former Unem- ployed League groups with the W. A. A. and to map out plans for bring- ing together all the jobless organiza- tions in West Virginia, voted to call a state unity convention within six to four months.

Unity Committee Named — A state committee elected to serve until this convention includes Brant Scott, well-known mine union leader and leading spirit in the West Vir- ginia Unemployed Leagues, who is chairman; Joe Blakenhip, Hunting- ton, secretary; Lawrence Conway, George Glass, George Harris, Joe Blakenhip, L. G. Dean, Roy Taylor, Secc, Vickers, Earl Panning, Tom Riley, Malcolm Dayton and Frank Toland.

Four other members of the com- mittee are to be elected from the eastern Panhandle region and five from independent groups.

A vigorous resolution demanding freedom of Angelo Herndon, second vice-president of the W. A. A., was adopted.

Other resolutions called for pass- age of the Marchand Relief Stan- dards Act, the Frazier-Lundeen bill, the American Youth Act, for a Far- mer-Labor Party, for heavy tax on all incomes exceeding \$500, and selection of all WPA workers from the administrator down from relief rolls.

WANTED

RESPONSIBLE young woman of character, or act as nursemaid for small child. No other need ap- ply. Write Mrs. J. C. Johns, 500 Second Ave., New York City.

Favoring the unification agreement worked out at the Washington W. A. A. conven- tion by a vote of 38 to 2, dele- gates to the Oregon Workers Alliance state convention in Portland backed all other con- vention decisions 100%, en- dorsed the Farmer Labor Party and set up machinery to start building a party for the workers of Oregon.

W. K. Patrick, stating first vice- president of the W. A. A., was re- elected state chairman.

Harry Stone of Oswego was elected vice-president; W. I. Fisher, Port- land, secretary, and A. B. Lepper, Portland, treasurer.

State executive committee consists of W. H. Ward, Moscow, president; P. H. Hays, Boise, Earl Smith, WB- ham A. Stratton, C. A. Hader, and Neil Hall.

NEW YORK CUTS RELIEF ROLLS

NEW YORK — The gridlock is working full blast on New York City's relief clients.

Efforts roll on the Emergency Re- lief Bureau's drive against "suspi- cious" cases, against "duplication" of cases, and against "suspicious" cases.

All qualifications are being probed or otherwise, have been discarded and a policy of cutting the rolls to the bone, regardless of the human suffering involved.

If you have ever peddled on the streets of New York, for instance, you can expect your rate to be closed promptly.

"It is hard to believe," says a let- ter sent by a supervisor to his in- vestigators, "that if a man peddled for a number of years, made sufficient to live on and then applied for relief, he has entirely given up his chosen profession."

Also bootblacks, taxi drivers, summer resort employees, restaurant workers, entertainers, longshoremen, to whom the same logic applies.

Clients who apply at the relief of- fice for their checks will be dropped, as will clients whom the relief in- vestigator has not found at home in three visits.

Investigators have been officially notified to drop a minimum of five cases from their lists. Unofficially, however, they have been told politi- cally but firmly that if they fail to drop at least 11 their jobs will be in jeop- ard.

"It has been felt," the supervisors have written their investigators, "that wherever a child has left his family through economic reasons, the case may automatically be closed."

The slightest discrepancy in resi- dence requirements will be cause for closing a case, according to orders sent out. Anyone "listed" indicated on one or more visits, will be trans- ferred to the Local Homeless unit, which means no more relief.

Cases under care for more than a year should be carefully scrutinized for an excuse to close them, investi- gators have been told.

LABOR COLLEGE PLANS UNEMPLOYED COURSE

MEXA, Ark. — The first American labor college specializing in the problems of organizing the un- employed, will begin at Commercial College during the Fall term. The course, called "Organization of the Unemployed," will be taught by Loren Perkins, former member of the Workers Alliance at Commercial College. The college will also teach at Commercial College. Both have been active in Workers Alliance in New York.

Perkins, after second week in Aug. a discussion of the unemployed, the problems of unity and the role of the Workers Alliance.

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official Newspaper of the Workers Alliance of America

Published every other Saturday in the interest of unemployed, part-time and relief workers.

Foren Norman Managing Editor
W. K. Patrick Western Editor
Hette Norman Business Manager

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

1 Year, \$1—6 Months, 50 cents
Bundles of 10 or more—2 Cents Per Copy

Address all communications to THE WORKERS ALLIANCE,
Room 510 — 817 Fourteenth St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

The Right To Vote

Another huge step toward denying all unemployed workers the right to vote was recently taken by the Federal court at New Orleans in refusing citizenship to otherwise qualified foreign-born workers merely because they are jobless and must seek relief.

Big business interests have time and again urged the disfranchisement of relief workers and in a number of localities attempts to deny WPA workers the right to seek office are now being made.

The New Orleans decision, therefore, attempts to give judicial sanction to a policy which would deprive a large part of the American population of its democratic rights.

The foreign-born workers in this country were brought here by the very interests that now seek to incite nationalistic hatred against them. These workers contributed by their labor to the enrichment of this country. They are willing to continue in useful and productive labor if given the chance to do so. This is true of all the unemployed in America.

As the nation-wide spokesman for the unemployed and relief workers, the Workers Alliance of America is fighting vigorously any attempt to encroach upon the democratic rights of the unemployed, whether they be native or foreign-born, Negro or white. We do not intend to let those who have deprived us of the right to work to deprive us also of our democratic rights as Americans.

We therefore call upon all other organizations to join us in preserving and extending the principles of democracy laid down by the men who founded this country. A nation-wide fight must be built to over-ride this court decision and defeat the onslaughts of fascist forces in our midst.

\$25 For A New Name

Have you entered THE WORKERS ALLIANCE prize name contest? Well, there's still plenty of time.

It's very simple. We need a new name. It must be short; it must fit our kind of paper, it must not have been used before. We also need subscriptions. Therefore, in connection with this contest we are also offering special bargain subscriptions to the Workers Alliance. Six months for 25c. You can't beat it!

The following cash prizes will be given for the suggested name considered best by the National Executive Board.

First prize—\$15.
Second prize—\$5.
Next five prizes—\$1.

Rules of the contest are as follows:

1. Any Alliance members are eligible.
2. Every name submitted must be accompanied by a six months subscription to the paper. This subscription may be either for yourself or for someone else. Cash must accompany order.

3. Contest closes August 1.

4. Any number of entries may be sent in by one person but each suggestion must be accompanied by a six months subscription.

The winning names will be chosen by the NEB at their August meeting. The new name and the contest winners will be printed in the second August issue of THE WORKERS ALLIANCE.

Now show us what you can do!

PRIZE CONTEST ENTRY

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE,
510 Birchall Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

I ENCLOSE 25c for a six-months' subscription to THE WORKERS ALLIANCE. Please send the paper to

My suggestion for a new name for our paper is:

Name.....

Address.....

City.....

(Please print name and address fully. If subscription is for another person attach their name and address to this coupon.)

Alliance Drives To Stop WPA Cuts

Pointing to the dire misery and starvation that has followed the action of the administration in withdrawing federal relief, the Workers Alliance of America has called upon all its affiliates to launch a determined drive against layoffs.

New Jersey today presents a terrible picture as a result of this condition. When responsibility for caring for the needy was dumped into the state's lap, it in turn dumped it onto the cities. In few instances have they been able to even approach a decent job.

That this information should be broadcast among sympathetic people everywhere, we are reprinting as fully as possible the WPA report on New Jersey conditions.

Plan of Action
If this condition is to be kept from spreading immediate steps must be taken by the Workers Alliance of America.

Your national officers urge that the following action be taken where similar conditions are likely to exist:

1—Organize systematic house-to-house canvasses to find the families who have been cut off the relief rolls. Find out how they fare. Accumulate a number of cases; every day take them to the relief authorities with demands for immediate relief. In cases where relief is given but is inadequate, press demands for the specific needs of the particular families. (Additional food, milk, rent, medical care, clothing, etc.)

2—On the basis of such cases or descriptions of conditions where relief has already been stopped or curtailed, organize a mass meeting in the neighborhoods to arouse the indignation of all the people in the community. Delegations should be elected at such mass meetings to visit local aldermen, County Commissioners, State Assemblymen, etc., and to lay before them on demands for immediate, adequate action to provide relief funds and assure an extended relief program.

3—Such local and neighborhood action should be followed with larger actions on a city or county wide scale and where necessary and possible on a statewide scale.

Build Our Forces
4—In the course of these actions, we should strengthen our organization, recruit new members, form new branches and locals and in this way build the forces that must be organized for the sharp and bitter struggles before us.

5—Emergency Conferences should be called and broad supporting committees set up from among trade union, civic and other friendly organizations. These to back up our immediate as well as more general demands.

We cannot emphasize too strongly the importance of vigorous and militant action at this time. Our enemies claim that they are justified in their relief cutting program that no serious suffering is caused, otherwise there would be serious mass protest actions. It is clear therefore that unless we go into action, the relief cutting program will be continued and extended everywhere.

What have you done toward boosting the \$5,000 Fighting Fund drive?

The \$5,000 Fighting Fund Drive which the second annual convention of the Workers Alliance of America instructed its officers to launch could not have come at a better time.

With starvation and misery spreading throughout key states such as New Jersey and Tennessee and looming over New York, Ohio and Illinois, with renewed drives being made by WPA officials against the foreign-born, with vicious attacks being made on our organizers, with recognition of the W. A. A. as the collective bargaining agency for WPA workers in New York, New Jersey and Detroit, with the new Work Project set-up whereby state WPA officials are to set prebidding wages with all these things staring us in the face, the need for a firm, strong, wide-spread organization becomes a thing of vital importance.

With only one million relief and WPA workers organized in its ranks, the Workers Alliance cannot stop. The entire thirteen million unemployed and the millions more who are not thus workers must be brought into our ranks.

To do this we need the \$5,000 Fighting Fund Drive. That's why you must do your utmost to put it over. Materials and directions have been prepared by the organization committee. A detailed plan of what to do and how to do it may be had by writing to Herbert Benjamin, organizing secretary, who is actively in

Conference On Relief Crisis Planned By IWA

Raps Horner



Charles Rossio

missioners, State Assemblymen, etc., and to lay before them on demands for immediate, adequate action to provide relief funds and assure an extended relief program.

3—Such local and neighborhood action should be followed with larger actions on a city or county wide scale and where necessary and possible on a statewide scale.

Build Our Forces
4—In the course of these actions, we should strengthen our organization, recruit new members, form new branches and locals and in this way build the forces that must be organized for the sharp and bitter struggles before us.

5—Emergency Conferences should be called and broad supporting committees set up from among trade union, civic and other friendly organizations. These to back up our immediate as well as more general demands.

We cannot emphasize too strongly the importance of vigorous and militant action at this time. Our enemies claim that they are justified in their relief cutting program that no serious suffering is caused, otherwise there would be serious mass protest actions. It is clear therefore that unless we go into action, the relief cutting program will be continued and extended everywhere.

May—Call. Another Mass Hunger March, Says Rossio

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—The Illinois Workers Alliance plans to call a conference of unemployed, WPA workers and trade unionists, to take action against the failure of the state legislature to meet the relief crisis.

Charles Rossio, chairman of the I. W. A. and third vice-president of the Workers Alliance of America, said here recently.

Rossio, David Poindester, a representative of the Chicago Federated Council for relief, and local delegations from various sections of the state, were refused permission to address the House of Representatives by Speaker Diefen.

Rossio said the Alliance conference would seriously consider the organization of a huge hunger march similar to the one held here a year ago.

The state relief situation is acute, thousands being laid off of WPA and no attempt being made by the legislators to meet the situation.

Charging that Gov. Horner is advancing his political career ahead of the interests of the people of Illinois, Rossio said:

"Horner is opportunistically catering to the pressure of downstate political groups who oppose adequate governmental aid to the destitute."

"Gov. Horner is badly mistaken when he refers to Illinois' unemployed 'wrecking' state," said Rossio, "for he is wrecking the state with his negligence in responsible relief work."

"When any government fails to provide employment for its people," he continued, "and at the same time fails to take adequate measures to meet the emergency relief situation, that government has already been wrecked."

OTTAWA, Canada.—(AP)—Canadian nickel-producing companies produced 17,000,000 lbs. more nickel during the first quarter of 1933 than for the same period a year ago.

FIGHTING FUND DRIVE Needed Badly As Relief Attacks Continue

charge of the drive.

Upon receipt of this plan, every affiliated state, county or local organization shall set up a Fighting Fund Campaign Committee of at least three members.

This Campaign Committee shall elect a chairman who will be in contact with the National Committee either through the campaign committee of the next higher organization.

The first task of the committee will be to work out a plan of campaign in line with the national plan and to order an initial supply of campaign materials.

In cities or counties where this can be done, an enlarged conference should be organized where representatives from all our locals and from trade unions, fraternal and other organizations, as well as prominent individuals who wish to aid in the campaign will map their campaign, divide the work, organize friendly competition and plan for special actions.

The committee in charge must see to it that all trade unions, all friendly fraternal organizations and individuals are either addressed by mail or visited and their donations solicited.

The members of our locals should be enlisted for the work of visiting organizations; merchants, WPA workers and all other places where contributions may be received. Every active member should be urged to carry a book of stamps and to sell them

wherever people congregate. Regular house-to-house canvassing of neighborhoods can be organized in the course of the campaign.

In order that each local of our organization may secure a certificate for itself, it should arrange an affair such as a picnic, block party, etc., 70 per cent of the profits of which are to go to the National campaign.

The National Committee will then issue a certificate in the amount of such contribution to the local. The member that this campaign is of concern to the unemployed and their organization, you should therefore set an example by your own contribution and eagerness to display a certificate for a substantial amount.

It is recommended that you make a sort of calendar plan in the following way: One week is set aside for canvassing neighborhoods; another for visits to merchants; still another for visits to unions; to fraternal organizations, etc. etc. Of course you can vary this according to local conditions using two or three weeks in some cases.

It must always be remembered that the fund is intended to help us in our struggle and in the effort to organize and build our organization. When canvassing, we should have literature, application cards and other organizational supplies to hand. We are prepared to explain the purpose of our organization and to recruit new members from among those with whom we come in contact.

It is recommended that you make a sort of calendar plan in the following way: One week is set aside for canvassing neighborhoods; another for visits to merchants; still another for visits to unions; to fraternal organizations, etc. etc. Of course you can vary this according to local conditions using two or three weeks in some cases.

The members of our locals should be enlisted for the work of visiting organizations; merchants, WPA workers and all other places where contributions may be received. Every active member should be urged to carry a book of stamps and to sell them

National Office Plans To Back Locals In Crisis

Story on Page Two

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official Newspaper of the Workers Alliance of America

Vol. 1—No. 16 WASHINGTON, D. C., SECOND JULY ISSUE PRICE 5 CENTS

Relief Crisis Spreads

Workers Alliance Demands Action As State Aid Flops

WASHINGTON—A first-class relief crisis is brewing that threatens to engulf the entire country within four or five months, according to David Lasser, president of the Workers Alliance of America.

Lasser made this prediction following a six-week tour of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia and Maryland. "It is the sort of thing we predicted when the federal government threw direct relief back to the states," he declared.

Direct relief clients are being shunted from the federal government to the states, to the localities, and finally back into the face of the unemployed themselves, Lasser asserted.

Promises Broken

Two conditions were ascribed by Lasser as responsible for the deepening relief crisis. One, he charged, was the failure of Pres. Roosevelt to keep his word when in May, 1935, he promised that the three and one-half million persons would be taken off relief rolls and placed on WPA.

At no time, Lasser claimed, did WPA take 3,000,000 persons off relief rolls. Since then WPA rolls have been cut and there are now only 200,000 persons on WPA projects from relief rolls.

The second reason for the growing crisis is the inability of the states to care for their own needy, Lasser said. These states were barely able to carry on before having the additional load of direct relief thrown on their shoulders.

Demanding Action

"Relief has been cut to the bone and there seems to be a drive to liquidate the relief problem without liquidating the unemployed," Lasser charged.

The Workers Alliance, according to its president, will continue fighting in the states for more relief. Hunger marches on capitol and statehouses will be continued. "One people are demanding action," Lasser announced, "and we're not telling them to hold back. We are going to use mass action to secure our demands."

The national hunger march on Washington, authorized by the last convention of the Workers Alliance, will take place "when the crisis becomes intolerable," Lasser said.

"We are sitting back and waiting and when our people want us to we will come to Washington and lay the whole business at the doorstep of the president."

11,000,000 STILL WITHOUT WORK

WASHINGTON—More than 11,000,000 persons were still without normal work in industry and agriculture during May, the American Federation of Labor reports in its monthly survey of employment.

In the three years and two months since the bottom of the depression in March, 1933, to May, 1936, net decrease in unemployment has been only 4,400,000. During this time 6,500,000 have gone back to work but the number seeking gainful work has increased by 1,000,000, the A. F. of L. says.

Politicians Stall As Hunger Stalks Thru Many States

Widespread starvation and suffering sweeping through the western states in the wake of the drought, coupled with serious relief crises which came to a focus in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Illinois during the past two weeks, added up to a staggering total of misery for millions of poverty-stricken American workers.

Workers Alliance Members Camp in Ohio Senate



Members of the Ohio Workers Alliance who camped in the state senate chambers while that body passed a stop-gap relief measure appropriating \$1,500,000 to be loaned during the next three weeks to Ohio counties. Standing, left to right are: Lee Morgan (in white suit), president of the Workers Alliance of Cincinnati; Ben Gray (in rear), NEB member from Cleveland; Nelson Meagley, NEB member from Toledo, and David Sallame, Yellow Springs, member of the Workers Alliance state executive board.

In Ohio, where relief has been cut repeatedly, a new relief bill awaiting action of the state senate provides from \$3 to \$12 a month per family. THIS SUM IS LESS THAN THAT PROVIDED FOR DOGS IN THE CLEVELAND CITY POUND!

In New Jersey, well-fed officers of Chambers of Commerce said there is no starvation or scale suffering in the state.

Pennsylvania Compromise

In Pennsylvania, where widespread suffering developed after relief was cut off entirely two weeks ago, wrangling Republicans and New Deal senators agreed on a compromise measure appropriating \$45,000,000 for relief until the end of January, while hundreds of jobless men and women thronging the galleries howled and jeered at the compromise.

During the 10-week impasse, Democrats and Republicans walked over the bodies of the stricken unemployed to blame each other for the stalemate. While Republicans assailed Gov. Earle, he dispatched a telegram to Andrew Mellon, E. T. Weir, Senator Grundy and Joseph Pew, oil executive, calling on these "economic royalists" to "release your senators and let them vote for the best interest of the people who starved today."

The governor had asked for \$35,000,000 while his Republican opponents said not more than \$45,000,000 was needed. The unemployed, thronging up the capitol steps carrying banners which read "Tax the rich and feed the poor" and "Stop playing politics with human misery," shouted their demands for \$100,000,000.

Workers Alliance leaders are calling another conference at Harris-

(Continued on Page Two)

Workers Alliance of New Jersey Wins Fight Against Forced Labor

Men Refuse to Accept Coolie Wages on Farm Jobs

By JOHN SPAIN, JR.

TRENTON, N. J.—The Workers Alliance of New Jersey can definitely and proudly record some recent victories, despite the vicious cutting off of relief in this state.

In Burlington county, for instance, we had a number of men that were laid off. This county is one of the most important agricultural centers in the state, specializing in the raising of truck produce. The farm workers working for the big concerns

and corporations owning the land are getting an hourly wage of from ten to twenty cents. At this rate of pay it is, of course, easy to understand that there was a shortage of farm labor.

All of a sudden a number of men were laid off from WPA. Well, you can draw your own conclusions. We drew ours and stated that there was a conspiracy between WPA officials and farm owners to provide cheap labor for the farms.

"We immediately started a picket line. You fellows that believe that women aren't important in our organization, listen to this: The women came out to picket right along with the men. They brought their children along and for seven days they

Women Join Husbands on Picket Line in Struggle

marched with their picket signs up and down in front of the WPA office. When the police wanted to break the effectiveness of the picket line by shunting the pickets off into a private alley and away from the WPA office, it was their militant stand together with the men that forced the police chief to issue an order over the police radio to leave the pickets alone.

Finally it was the militancy displayed by the women and men together on the picket line which won a complete victory over the WPA officials. The picket line was not with-

(Continued on Page Two)

Girl Held For Theft To Feed Hungry Family

ROBOKEN, N. J.—Starvation set 10-year-old Anna Loren into jail here, on charges of larceny and forgery.

Leaving her destitute home, where five other children were crying for something to eat, Anna was attracted by an envelope sticking out of the mailbox of a neighbor, Mrs. Margaret Glavovich.

Taking the letter, Anna found a \$25 government check sent by Mrs. Glavovich's son, who is in a CCC camp. Forging Mrs. Glavovich's name to the check, Anna cashed it at a drug store, bought a five pound meat and \$4.50 worth of groceries for her family.

Oregon Alliance Wins Big Victory; Jobs Reopened

Story on Page 3

A MESSAGE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE WORKERS ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

By **TRES, DAVID LASSER**

At the time of our second national convention in April this year your officers predicted that the relief crisis would become worse throughout the country, and that the reactionaries in this country would intensify their drive against us.

These predictions have turned out to be true. Evidence that we now have in conclusive that the great financial and industrial interests of this country together with their political allies are going to try to drive the unemployed of the country to the wall. They plan to liquidate all relief without liquidating the thing that causes relief—unemployment.

The battle cry against us has been sounded. We must take up the challenge and not only fight back against any reduction in our

living standards of even one penny—but we must take up the offensive and drive forward for increased standards.

We can see plainly the handwriting on the wall. In New Jersey relief was cut to the bone. Death by starvation was reported in several communities. In Pennsylvania the Republicans demanded cuts in relief and the Democrats yielded to one compromise after another.

In Ohio a new relief bill calls for a maximum of \$8 to \$12 a month per family. In Illinois all relief was cut off throughout the state and when it is restored it will be on a reduced basis. The drive against us is to wipe out all of our gains of the past three years.

We cannot stand by and watch this happen. We cannot wait until the

relief cut actually hits us. We must at once sound the call for the mobilization of all our forces, intensify our membership drive, awaken the unemployed of every community to the disaster that threatens them if they stand by and do nothing.

Your national office stands ready to help in your fight.

The battle cry must be sounded. "No Compromise With Reaction." In Washington we are going to make a demand that a fund of \$1,000,000,000 be set over from last year's appropriation be made available by President Roosevelt for those who are still on direct relief. This money should be used to either provide WPA jobs for those on relief, or else be given to the states as direct grants.

Roosevelt can use this money. When the drought struck the West several hundred million dollars for relief of the farmers. That is good. But how about the "drought" which has affected the ones of 2,500,000 families on direct relief for years? How about the two million WPA workers who have had the "drought" of starvation wages?

You can count on us to do our part. You must do yours. This means we must awaken out of our sleep and get into immediate action. This action means canvassing all of the unemployed in our community bringing the message "No Compromise With Reaction."

It means getting up mass meetings to organize the fight against ruthless reaction. It means getting up con-

ferences of the labor unions, and all progressive groups in your community to form a fighting united front against the united front of reaction. It means letting your political office-holders and would-be office-holders know what is going to happen to them in November if they fail to back up our demands.

This is no time for pessimism or inaction. The unemployed are willing to fight. They have shown that in Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey, Illinois, Oregon, St. Louis and a dozen other places in the last few months. All they need is our leadership. Let us go into action today for a mighty drive for jobs at living wages, decent relief, unemployment and social insurance.

CRUEL RELIEF CRISIS STALKS THROUGH MANY STATES

(Continued from Page One)

burg to decide on what future action the organization shall take.

"London, oh, London, when do we eat? We are so hungry."

This was the song of 85 Jobless men, their women and children, delegates of the Kansas Allied Workers who assembled in Topeka to petition the governor-president candidate to stop starvation throughout the state.

In answer London gave the pickets a \$20 donation, denied them the right to appear before the special session of the legislature and called out 85 state cops and militiamen to "keep order" in the capital.

Ohio WA Camps In Senate Chambers

By NELSON MEAGLEY

Ninety-two members of the Workers Alliance attended a general relief conference at Columbus to consider the serious relief crisis.

After a meeting was held at the Central Labor Union we adjourned to the galleries of the Senate where the amount of relief to be given to the unemployed was being discussed. We were opposed to this bill naturally and our aim was to defeat the bill. We were to support a stop gap measure to give relief in the state for thirty days in which time we would have time to mobilize support for a better bill.

After the Senate adjourned, the Workers Alliance stayed in the chamber. We held our own session of the House in the galleries, which are on the same floor as the chamber, and at this time passed legislation which was favorable to the unemployed. We stayed in the chamber all that night.

"We'll Stay"

We demanded of the Speaker of the House the next day that a session be called to act upon the emergency measure passed unanimously by the Senate. He refused to take action at this time. We told him we intended to stay until the House was called into session.

At 11:30 the Chief Deputy of the House arrived and demanded that we leave. We refused. At about 12:30 the Chief Deputy, a number of policemen, deputized State House employees came and told us to go. We felt that it was futile to stay so we left.

The Workers Alliance left the chamber singing Solidarity and the Anthem of the Workers and held a meeting in the City Council hall. It was then decided to return to our homes and prepare to return when the House met the following Monday.

In the meantime, 10,000 copies of a leaflet were ordered containing the story of the eviction to be circulated throughout the state.

Alliance Voters' Day When the House met, they defeated a motion to suspend the rules so as to permit the stop-gap emergency bill to come upon the floor. The Alliance delegates applauded the "yes" votes and their applause was met with howls from the members of the House.

At the next meeting of the House the following day the emergency bill was definitely defeated and the Senate then passed an amended House bill which was easily passed on to the original bill which we had fought so bitterly.

Within a few days relief will be discontinued in many parts of the state and within few weeks it will be cut off from all parts. It is only being maintained at the present time through arrangements with merchants to carry the load until action is taken by the Legislature.

IWA Fights For Continued Relief

By HERBERT PASSIN

With some 100 workers present, the IWA House of Delegates recently met at Chicago to consider the urgent relief crisis. During this day over 1,000 unemployed had gathered at the City Hall at the call of the IWA to press their demands for action on the local politicians. The pressure of the workers compelled the granting of some provisional arrangements to ease the sharpest point of the crisis.

The factional struggle in the state Democratic Party has resulted in a complete deadlock with the unemployed workers as the victims. The Kelly-Nash and Horner factions seek to shift both responsibility and blame from one to the other. In the meantime the unemployed starve. The politicians pay at the expense of the state the unemployed, their wives and children. The relief situation has been closed since July and no provisions have been made for the hundreds of thousands out of work and on relief.

The only hope held out to them by the Kelly city administration was that the matter would be taken up at the state legislature meeting August, nearly a month away. Until then the unemployed must patiently starve while Gov. Horner vacillates.

Demonstrate

Against this prospect the unemployed demonstrated today, letting the politicians know that they were not going to sit idly by while they dallied, procrastinated, evaded and vacillated. And before this grim determination, manifested in parades, picketing, heckling in the City Council chamber, singing, and shouting of demands the City Council finally yielded in some measure, providing for a \$3 mill tax and memorialization for the immediate convocation of the state legislature.

Despite attempted police provocations from time to time, the workers held their lines admirably and unoppressed upon the policemen that they wanted action and wanted it right.

The IWA House of Delegates, the authoritative representatives of the unemployed, met to plan further actions, and demonstrations, arrest greater concessions from both the city and state administrations, and plan further combined dignified actions until emergency relief comes. A communication protesting the refusal of the City Council to hear the IWA committee was sent to the Mayor and several aldermen. Continued daily picketing of the City Hall and local relief stations is planned. When on July 18th there was a large demonstration, pickets to the IWA where the IWA will present the demands of the unemployed.

PAUL ALTON, Cal. (FP)—"Fundamental liberties of America are being destroyed. The end of the 19th century." GEORGE S. COOPER, Columbia University, educator, declared at a teachers' conference at Stanford



MANUEL AZANA, President of the Spanish Republic, who distributed arms to workers and farmers for the defense of their government against revolting Fascists and Monarchists.

WPA PULLS FAST TRICK

WASHINGTON (FP)—Riding both "security wage" and "prevailing wage" horses at the same time, WPA officials announced that there would be little change in their part of the relief program during the next year.

"Security wages" will be maintained, it has been announced, but the "prevailing" hourly wage will go into effect. Where payment of the "prevailing wage" would boost monthly payments over the "security wage" of approximately \$50 a month, hours of work will be shortened making the "prevailing wage" and the "security wage" equal.

Payment of the prevailing scale of wages has long been a demand of labor. Smaller payments, it was charged, undermined trade union wages. Employers demanded a wage rate lower than prevailing union scales in order to be assured of a plentiful supply of cheap labor.

The prevailing scale of wages was ordered by Congress in the relief appropriations and WPA officials announced that where necessary hours of work will be shortened to keep the monthly payments at the "security wage" level.

JOBLESS ARRESTED FOR PROTESTING

BELLEVILLE, Ill. (FP)—Seven Belleville unemployed who not relief but arrests as they protested to City Relief Director A. S. Kramer that 225 families in the city are in desperate straits and are not being cared for by city or state officials.

Since July 1, when the Illinois government "got out of the relief business," no relief funds have been distributed to the city's jobless. Kramer has \$225 in state funds still on hand, but "wants to investigate the situation more thoroughly" before turning it over to starving unemployed.

FIGHT AGAINST FORCED LABOR WON IN JERSEY

(Continued from Page One)

drawn until a telegram arrived from the state director to immediately put the men back to work.

Just yesterday we had a sit-down strike in Mercer county. The largest project in this county, the water tower project was about four or five days behind in pay. When the checks did not arrive Monday morning one group of men led by our project steward laid down their shovels and sat down.

Strike Spread

Immediately the strike spread over the whole project.

Work was not resumed until the pay officer had promised that if the money did not come the same day he would personally take a trip to Camden to pick up the checks and if necessary pay the men off in the evening.

Realizing the deplorable plight of New Jersey's relief clients, our state executive board at its last meeting set the machinery in motion whereby we can not only make our organization grow but also at the same time win better relief conditions for the hundreds of thousands of unemployed in the state who look to the Workers Alliance for leadership.

This we hope to accomplish by having a strike meeting weekly to acquaint the workers with the aims of our organization and by immediately beginning a series of small demonstrations on specific issues in the

localities to show the workers what we are aiming for.

We are now advancing in our state a demand for minimum pay of \$41.60 for unskilled. We are sending a delegation to the State Administrator this week, with a list of demands including this one.

For the coming period we will have quite a few demonstrations and picket lines to back up these demands. So if you do not hear from us it will be because we are too busy fighting for better conditions for our members as well as for the unorganized.

Unity Convention In California

A California state unity convention was held in Los Angeles July 11-12. Developing the unemployed into a real political force as well as a unified movement of struggle was one of the main tasks of the gathering. Fuller details of this convention will be carried in our next issue.

FARM HANDS AVERAGE 22.07 A MONTH

WASHINGTON (FP)—Farm hands are getting the highest pay in five years in New England, Middle Atlantic, East North Central and Pacific states, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Wages in New England average \$50.27 a month with board, \$28.44 in the Middle Atlantic states, \$28.40 in the East North Central states, and \$40.33 in the Pacific states. The national average wage for farm hands is \$22.07 a month with board, and the supply exceeds the demand.

GREETINGS To the W. A. A.

NORMINGTON
Dry Cleaning

AUTO ELECTRIC
SERVICE CO.

H. E. SCHEIBE
DRY CLEANING
TAILOR

KOHL'S
STYLE SHOP

ROUND-UP
TAVERN

NEW DEAL
TAVERN

HOTEL LUIS
MABLE LUIS, Prop.

PARKIN'S
ICE CREAM CO.
902 S. CENTRAL AVE.

MARSHFIELD, WIS.

Workers Alliance of Kentucky Fights Growing Misery

Story on Page Two

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official Newspaper of the Workers Alliance of America

Vol. 1—No. 17

WASHINGTON, D. C., FIRST AUGUST, ISSUE

PRICE 5 CENTS

Pennsylvania Siege Ends

ALLIANCE WINS RELIEF BOOST IN ILLINOIS

And Hiked Million a Month
After Vigorous
Protest

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—Provision for \$1,000,000 a month to be taken from the general revenue fund and allocated for relief purposes was agreed to here by Gov. Horner, after a committee of 10 representing 350 Alliance hunger marchers had presented the House with demands for adequate relief.

With this appropriation, a constant relief fund of \$3,000,000 a month is assured for the rest of the year.

Frank McCulloch, Cook County chairman of the Illinois Workers Alliance, told the legislators that a permanent and adequate job program must be provided.

The list of demands also included increased relief, administration by a centralized commission and trained social workers, and use of all sales tax funds for relief.

"Tired of Coming Back" Elaborate precautions were taken to "protect" the State house, which was guarded like the U. S. Mint. Legislators were asserted to have received an anonymous letter threatening to send them home "in boxes and on stretchers unless you adopt our program."

The Alliance disclaimed responsibility for any such letter. State Chairman Charles Rosello told the legislators that "we are getting tired of having to come back here to appeal for relief."

Joseph Horn, Cairo Negro, charged relief administrators in Southern Illinois were discriminating against members of the Negro race. Others in the committee which appeared before the House were Edward Morgan, state secretary of the IWA; C. H. Mayer, Monroe Parker, Fanny Schmidt, Eric Howard, Della Hoffman and Robert Foley.

WE REFUSE TO STARVE



"WE REFUSE TO STARVE" shouted banners carried by Pennsylvania's hunger marchers. And the marchers proved they meant it by parking in the state capitol three weeks, until they succeeded in blocking attempts to throw the relief burden back to local and county poor boards and forced the legislature to appropriate \$45,000,000 to aid the needy.

Ohio Sets Up Committees For Relief Bill Drive

TOLEDO—Preparations for a long-range concerted drive for adequate relief in Ohio have been made by the Ohio Workers Alliance.

Permanent relief committees are being set up in each local. They will work with unions, farm groups, churches, social service agencies and other progressive bodies to secure enactment of the Levan-Zoull bill, sponsored by the Ohio Alliance. This bill, modeled after the Mercantonio Relief Standards Act, sets up minimum requirements for relief.

Millitant action by Ohio's unemployed has blocked the passage of the "Homicide Act," I.B.M. 003, thus temporarily reducing the chances of an immediate reduction in relief. A relief bill, providing more money and

lacking the clauses to which the Ohio Alliance violently objected, has been approved by the Senate and is now being considered in the House.

The Ohio Alliance, however, is not satisfied with this measure. The fight for the Levan-Zoull bill goes on! Seeking an effort to reduce the already miserable relief standards as certain to follow the November elections, State Secretary Nelson Mengler has warned all W. A. locals: BE PREPARED FOR THE STRUGGLE THAT IS SURE TO COME.

Hunger Army Blocks Attempt To Return Relief To Cities

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Pennsylvania's hunger army is back home.

They succeeded in blocking attempts of the Republican Senate to turn relief back to local and county poor boards.

They forced the legislature to enact a measure providing \$45,000,000 for relief needs and an additional \$5,000,000 for other forms of social security.

They demonstrated what firm, united action can do.

They showed the legislators what discipline, really is. The shouting demonstrators could be stopped by the uplifting of a hand—provided it was the right hand.

Bigger Job Ahead

And now the 3,000 workers who took part in the three-week siege are back home. Now they have an even greater job before them.

Now they are setting out to build a powerful, fighting united front of the state's unemployed.

An extensive organizing drive has been launched by the Workers Alliance and the Pennsylvania Security League, the two organizations that conducted the hunger march.

A statewide convention of all unemployed groups is planned this fall. In a proclamation distributed throughout the city at the conclusion of the march, the jobless army summed up its effects:

"We forced the Senate Reactionaries to vote a full appropriation for relief thus spiking their vicious plans to shut down direct relief. We smashed their vicious plan to put the administration of relief back into the hands of the local and county poor boards when we forced the Senators to strike this from the \$45,000,000 relief bill. We showed the power of the unemployed. Above all else, we served notice on these Senators that the unemployed insist upon an absolute minimum standard of 64¢ per Person Per Day. The Senate Gallery shook and echoed with the thunderous demonstration of the Hunger Army for this demand."

During one occasion, the unemployed put up a thunderous two-hour demonstration when the Senate threatened to adjourn without taking any action.

Red Baiting Democratic Assemblyman Andrews called for the formation of vigilante "Committees of Public Safety" to force the unemployed from Harrisburg. Later he charged the demonstrators as being "a gang of irresponsible communists."

The unemployed retaliated by threatening to swear out warrants for the arrest of legislators who were blocking relief.

After the Senate gallery demonstration, in which the unemployed virtually dictated to the Senate, newspapers throughout the state unleashed vicious editorials against the "hoodlums" and "rowdies" occupying the Capitol.

When a member of the unemployed army dropped a toothpick over the gallery railing, newspapers next day headlined: "Jobless Hood Clubs at Senators."

The marchers held federal sessions in the Capitol building for Michael Crowley, 35-year-old white unemployed Philadelphia mechanic, who committed suicide the week before rather than starve.

Leaders of the hunger army included officials of the Pennsylvania Security League, Tom David, Lawrence of the Workers Alliance, John Mulvaney, Charles Spencer, Paul Bannan, Charles Sandwick, Horace Geary and Charles Stamm.

strators as being "a gang of irresponsible communists."

The unemployed retaliated by threatening to swear out warrants for the arrest of legislators who were blocking relief.

After the Senate gallery demonstration, in which the unemployed virtually dictated to the Senate, newspapers throughout the state unleashed vicious editorials against the "hoodlums" and "rowdies" occupying the Capitol.

When a member of the unemployed army dropped a toothpick over the gallery railing, newspapers next day headlined: "Jobless Hood Clubs at Senators."

The marchers held federal sessions in the Capitol building for Michael Crowley, 35-year-old white unemployed Philadelphia mechanic, who committed suicide the week before rather than starve.

Leaders of the hunger army included officials of the Pennsylvania Security League, Tom David, Lawrence of the Workers Alliance, John Mulvaney, Charles Spencer, Paul Bannan, Charles Sandwick, Horace Geary and Charles Stamm.

NEB TO MEET SEPT. 12-14

WASHINGTON—The National Executive Board of the Workers Alliance will meet here Sept. 12-14, in one of the most important labor meetings this year.

Convening for the first time since the unity convention, the NEB will lay plans for the future progress of the organization.

A program is already under way to use this meeting as a springboard to launch a great nationwide drive for a blanket 50 per cent wage increase on all WPA projects.

The NEB will hear the report of Sec. Ray Cooke, showing 185 affiliates of the W.A.A. chartered in the last three and a half months. Contrast this with the fact that during the first 13 months of the Alliance 138 affiliates were chartered and you get a picture of the tremendous strides being made by the Alliance.

Herbert Benjamin, organization secretary, will report on the progress of the \$3,000 Fighting Fund Drive (by the way, has your local done its share in this most important work?) and NEB members will tell of the Alliance activities in their districts.

Many A. F. of L. unions have agreed to support the Alliance drive for a wage increase and you can look forward to the next few weeks as the most active and inspiring in the history of the W.A.A.

Indiana Alliance Wins 10 Per Cent Pay Raise

INDIANAPOLIS—Another smashing victory for the Workers Alliance of Indiana was scored here recently when WPA Administrator Coy granted Alliance demands for a 10 per cent wage increase for unskilled workers on relief and WPA projects.

The victory came after a two-months' intensive drive by Alliance locals and the threat of widespread strike action.

In grabbing the increase Administrator Coy admitted the Alliance campaign was the biggest factor in forcing through this concession. State Secretary Merrill Jackson had presented the WPA with facts and figures bearing out the claims of the unemployed. An independent survey

by Coy proved the justice of the W. A. demands.

Complete recognition of the Indiana Workers Alliance, including the right of Alliance-elected job stewards to handle grievances, and present all complaints on the projects, was also granted.

Moreover, the Alliance demand for a 50¢ an hour minimum wage in all organized counties was ap-

proved, so that now counties where the Alliance is strongly organized get 10¢ an hour more than unorganized counties with the same population and conditions.

This is expected to spur the organization of Alliance locals in unorganized sections.

"Who said organization doesn't pay?"

DES MOINES, Ia., (FP) — Sec. Dale Kramer of the Natl. Farmers Holiday Assn. has sent a cable to Pres. Manuel Azana of Spain applauding the action of the People's Front in resisting Fascist attacks.

FLAYS DISCRIMINATION AGAINST FOREIGN BORN

MARION, Ill. — Discrimination against foreign-born workers in the allotment of WPA jobs was scored in a protest sent Pres. Roosevelt and Gov. Horner by the southern district conference of the Illinois Workers Alliance in session here.

The Alliance charges that foreign-born workers are being dismissed from WPA and denied all other relief.

\$25 Prize Contest Nears End; Many Names Suggested

Story on Page Four

Alliance Fights Growing Misery

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Degrading poverty and misery among the mountain counties of Kentucky, where whole families with large numbers of children are forced to live in rock cliffs or caves, was reported here by Pres. Giles Cooper and Organizer George Brown of the Kentucky Workers Alliance, following a tour through the Eastern Kentucky coal fields.

That these impoverished mountaineers are ripe for organization is shown by the fact that Brown and Cooper organized 15 new locals of the Workers Alliance and revived a number of old locals of the National Unemployed League.

The almost incredible misery of these people who are forced to raise their children in worst circumstances than the prehistoric cave-men, has been heightened by the drought, by a scourge of flux which has taken a ghastly toll of lives among the modern shack- and cave-dwellers and by the discharge of many WPA workers. In the Paintsville region, for example, 7,000 WPA workers have recently been cut off.

To combat this situation, the Kentucky Workers Alliance is demanding WPA jobs for all needy persons, a minimum basic wage of \$40 a month for common labor and a special legislative session to appropriate \$3,000,000 for direct relief.

A concentrated drive on Louisville and Lexington WPA projects, as part of a statewide organizing campaign, has also been launched. Harlan Warren, Lexington organizer, will work with Cooper and Brown on this drive. Later they plan to go to Paducah, Bowling Green and other key spots in the western part of the state. Cells are coming in from all parts

of the state from workers and unemployed groups who want the Alliance organizers to help them set up organizations.

"Before winter settles down," Cooper predicted, "the Kentucky Workers Alliance will have not 16,000 but 80,000 members organized under its banner. The Workers Alliance is the need of the hour in Kentucky."

New York Local Grows Rapidly

NEW YORK—Organizing on July 24 with twelve men, Local 8 of the Workers Alliance, composed of skilled mechanics, has now attained a membership of 166. The local, under the leadership of Organizer L. Russo, is planning a drive to put shop stewards on every project in New York City and get a minimum wage of \$93.50 a month.

Russo, who has just been freed from an assault charge placed against him by WPA guards, spends all his free time organizing the projects. Local 8 plans to send a delegation to Washington next month.

Prophecy

Heart, Starting for Italy and Germany, Hails Landon

NEW YORK—William Randolph Hearst, bound on a vacation trip to Italy and Germany, threw one last parting shot at American workers. Standing at the rail of El Duca's liner, Tex, the multi-millionaire publisher told reporters that the strike of the Newspaper Guild on his Wisconsin News "did not concern the public."

With movie actress Marion Davies at his side, Hearst commented cheerfully on the world situation. He predicted that Gov. Landon will ride into the presidency November. "I will stake my reputation for prophecy on it," he said. Old-time reporters snickered.

WACO, Tex.—A series of meetings to demand raising the quota of Waco's WPA allotment, prevailing union wages and a special session of the state legislature to provide money for relief needs, are being held by the Workers Alliance of Waco.

JOBLESS FATHER OFFERS TO SELL BODY TO SCIENCE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—What happens in a city where all direct relief has been cut off for a month? How can fathers, unable to secure work on WPA, feed their families?

Andrew G. Jones of this city is trying to solve the problem by offering to sell his body to a medical school for \$200. Destitute, an invalid and the father of five children, Jones made his offer public in the press but so far has received no takers.

Offers have been received to adopt two of his children but Jones has refused them because it was the desire to keep his children with him that prompted him to offer his body for sale.

Tampa Cops Get Four Years For Poulnot Kidnaping

BARTOW, Fla.—Labor chalked up a backhanded triumph as five Tampa policemen were sentenced to prison for kidnaping Eugene Poulnot in Tampa last November.

The cops received sentences of four years each. Tried on the kidnaping charge, they were also involved in the murder of Joseph Shoemaker, leader of the Modern Democratic, Shoemaker died nine days after he, Poulnot and Dr. Sam Rogers were kidnaped in front of the Tampa police station and fearfully fogged.

All were active in unemployed work. Poulnot is a Workers Alliance organizer.

Because of the strong Ku Klux Klan sentiment in Florida, the four-year sentence is considered a labor triumph, even in a case involving murder. Only strong protests from all over the country prevented a white wash.

Those sentenced were: C. A. Brown, Jr., former police sergeant; C. W. Carille, former special officer; John T. Bridges, former traffic officer and one-time bodyguard for the late Huey Long; R. W. Switzer, former traffic officer; Sam Crosby, traffic policeman, ex-publicist and gambler.

Many labor leaders have been kidnaped and fogged around Tampa. But Shoemaker's death brought counter-attack notice to the situation.

Honeycombing of the police force by the Ku Klux Klan came out. Police Chief Chappell was forced to resign, and later was indicted with the five convicted men.

He was freed during the trial on a directed verdict by the court.

Boss Idea of 'Protecting' Worker



The Iron and Steel Institute, in its first publicity broadside, stated it would use all its resources to "protect its employees" against "coercion and intimidation."

BOY'S LIFE NOT WORTH \$100 IN OHIO

BOWLING GREEN, Ohio—Curly-haired William Sloan is dead, another child victim of poverty.

Lockjaw, killed the 11-year-old youngster. Lockjaw and the lack of \$100 for anti-tetanus serum, and red tape.

The red tape was wound by Dr. B. J. Powell, health commissioner of Wood County, in which Bowling Green is located.

William was from Kentucky. He was visiting his uncle near Bowling Green when he became ill a week after stepping on a nail.

Afraid Kentucky might not reimburse Wood County, Dr. Powell refused to provide the \$100 worth of serum needed to save his life. He recommended sending the critically ill boy back to Kentucky.

The uncle managed to borrow the money. Police Chief Gallaher telephoned to Rupp & Bowman in Toledo, who prepared the serum. In a police car, Uncle John Strickland rushed to Toledo and back.

The serum was administered. But there had been a delay of 2 1/2 hours. That delay cost William's life.

On Sunday, the plucky curly-headed lad died.

His mother, Mrs. Mattie Saverns of Ashland, Ky., was with him. She collapsed when her boy lost his fight. She had no money to help. She had a WPA job on a sewing project. It was discontinued a month ago.

HITS RELIEF RULINGS

MINNEAPOLIS—Criticism of the Minnesota Supreme Court's interpretation of the Constitution in connection with the giving of relief to the needy was voiced by Attorney General Harry H. Peterson in an address before the mass assembly of the Workers' Alliance of Minnesota at the capitol last Saturday. The assembly was called to present pleas for relief for the unemployed.

3 BLACK LEGION MEN CONVICTED, 3 OTHERS FINED

DETROIT—Three Black Legion members were found guilty of kidnaping and forging Robert Penland, former steel worker, as demands mounted here for a full investigation of the band's terrorist activities.

Judge Joseph Moynihan postponed sentences.

Three other Legion leaders were freed, despite admission they perjured themselves, when they repudiated previous confessions.

More than 60 members of the Black Legion remain to be tried on charges of murder, kidnaping, arson, conspiracy, to incite riot and other offenses.

In the meantime, from a jail cell a Legionnaire, Earl Augustad, one of the men convicted, announced that a "new and greater" Black Legion is being formed by "better elements" in the secret city.

Film Firms Hold up Insurance Payment

HOLLYWOOD—Challenging the constitutionality of the State Unemployment Insurance Act, major motion picture companies, with the exception of Warner Bros., are withholding \$750,000. One-third of the money was collected from employees under terms of the act.

The producers decided to withhold the money at a meeting in Wall Plaza office, until the validity of the act is tested.

Warner had sent in their money prior to the meeting.

LABOR LEAGUE CHEERS TALK OF 1940 PARTY

WASHINGTON—In a convention which pledged support to Pres. Roosevelt in the coming election and saw U. S. P. nominee Alf Landon denounced as a "puppet," Labor's Non-Partisan League looked for a "new political alignment" in 1940.

The convention, which seated delegates from 48 states, cheered when Chairman George L. Berry announced what was taken to be the groundwork for a Labor Party in 1940.

Greeting the convention, Pres. Roosevelt expressed gratitude at the group's endorsement. John J. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers and head of the Committee for Industrial Organization, and Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, vigorously attacked Landon.

Calling Gov. Landon a "puppet" responsible to the Standard Oil Co., the steel industry, the Hearst newspapers and the bankers of Wall Street, Lewis termed the Republican campaign "a brazen piece of political chicanery."

California Unification Meet Held

OAKLAND, Cal.—Unification of the Workers Alliance and the Public Works & Unemployed Union of California was effected at a state convention in Los Angeles recently.

The new unified organization will be known as the Workers Alliance of California.

Frank Lintner of Menlo Park was elected President and Miss E. M. O'Donnell of San Francisco was named secretary.

A program of organization activity to enlist every WPA and Direct Relief worker in California was launched and great progress is expected.

BROOKWOOD TO RECRUIT FROM BASIC INDUSTRIES

KATONAH, N. Y.—An emphasis on the basic mass production industries, such as steel, auto, rubber, and textiles, will be sought for the 1936-37 student body at Brookwood, America's best known resident labor school, according to Tucker P. Smith, director.

Members of the Brookwood faculty are now touring industrial centers in New England and the Midwest recruiting students and making contacts to insure a student body made up of active trade unionists who have proven their ability in labor struggles, he said. Forty students will be accepted for the school year which will get under way on Sept. 14 and last eight months.

SHERBOGAN, Wis.—Representatives from 13 cities in the Fox River Valley district of the Wisconsin Workers Alliance met here recently and drafted plans for organization work in the district.



A MORATORIUM on preaching for one or two years was recommended in his church annual yearbook, by Dr. Frederic S. Fleming, rector of Trinity Parish, New York City.

R LEAGUE RS TALK 40 PARTY

ON—In a convention
support to Pres.
the coming election and
nominee Alf M. Landon
a "puppet" Labor's
League looked for a
alignment in 1940.
tion, which seated dele-
gates, cheered when
age L. Berry announced
to be the groundwork
party in 1940.
the convention, Pres.
expressed gratitude at
the moment. John J. Lewis,
the United Mine Workers
the Committee for In-
dependence, and Sidney
Hill, president of the Amalgamated
Workers, vigorously
on.

London, a "puppet"
the Standard Oil Co.,
the Hearst news-
papers, the bankers of Wall
street, the Republic-
an, a brazen piece of po-
itics.

ornia ication et Held

Col.—Unification of
the Alliance and the Public
Employed Union of Califor-
nia at a state conven-
tion recently.

Official organization will
be the Workers Alliance of

er of Menlo Park was
ent and Miss E. M.

San Francisco was
ry.

will be state head-

of organization activity
WPA and Direct re-

California was launch-

progress is expected.

DD TO RECRUIT

INDUSTRIES

N. Y.—An emphasis
mass production indus-

steel, auto, rubber, and
a sought for in the 1930-

at Brookwood, Amer-

known resident labor-

ing to Tucker P. Smith,

the Brookwood faculty

industrial centers in
and the Midwest re-

and making contacts

udent body made up of

of Wisconsin who have pro-

by in labor struggles; he

students will be accept-

ool year which will get

Sept. 14 and last eight

AN, Wis.—Representa-

tivities in the Fox River

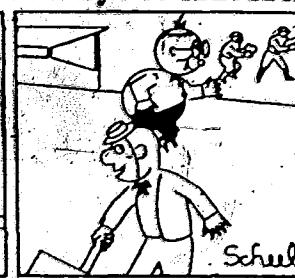
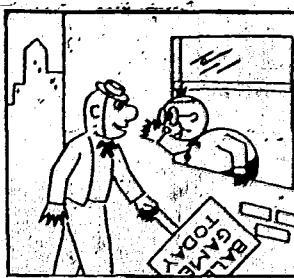
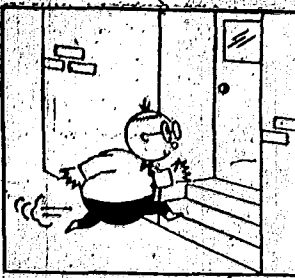
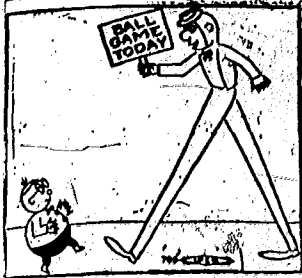
of the Wisconsin

ment met here recently

plans for organization

district.

ROLLO



Washington WPA Strike Won

LOCAL NOTES

"Siege" Pamphlet

The Workers Alliance of New Jersey has a pamphlet on the press which tells the story of the famous "Siege House" in New Jersey. It was written by George Brettman of the Workers Alliance of Essex County and carries a foreword by State Chairman John Spain, Jr., "speaker" of the insurgent assembly. This pamphlet will be reviewed in the next issue of THE WORKERS ALLIANCE.

WPA workers in Petersburg, Va.

have been on strike since July 10. State Chairman H. K. Mathews and Organizer Hilliard Bernstein have been helping the strikers and expect them to come into the Alliance soon.

Strike Looms

A Tennessee WPA workers strike looms in the near future as a result of wage cutting by the WPA. The Tennessee Workers Alliance has launched a campaign to have WPA Administrator Berry removed from office. National Organizer David Benson and State Chairman Lynch and Vice-chairman Curtis are now on an organizing tour in Tennessee. All units will be visited and many new communities where there are no organizations.

A four-day strike of WPA workers on Philadelphia's municipal airport was called off when strike leaders

were unable to get others to come out with them. The strikers were demanding full pay, regardless of time lost due to bad weather.

St. Louis Drive

A WPA workers organizing drive will be mapped at a general membership meeting of the St. Louis Alliance soon. A city-wide conference is also being planned to discuss ways and means of combating the layoffs against workers merely because they have been classified as "employable."

Gus Patterson, organizer for the Workers Alliance of Iowa, has been named business agent of two unions in Waterloo—Federal Labor Union 19025, composed of employees at the John Deere tractor plant, and the Hod Carriers and Common Laborers union. About 2,600 men were laid off at the John Deere plant recently and Gus is helping organize them into the Alliance.

James Daniels of Nashville was elected secretary of the Provisional State Committee of the Tennessee Workers Alliance at their last regular meeting.

Texas Spurt

Five locals of the San Antonio, Tex., Workers Alliance are going great guns. The Alliance is matching the growth in local units by spreading out and organizing neighboring towns.

Discharged For Being A Candidate, Wins Job Back

WASHINGTON—On the strength of a fight put up by the Workers Alliance of America for the reinstatement of George Graydon of the East Bay Workers Alliance, Oakland, Cal., who was discharged from his WPA job because of political activities, Graydon has been ordered back to work.

The case involved a WPA ruling that no WPA employee could be a candidate for political office or use his position for political activities.

A ruling was forwarded to Sec. Ray Cooke from Nels Anderson, WPA director of labor relations, that the order excluded "anyone who is a candidate (or his campaign manager or assistant) for election to a non-Federal office only when it is a salaried position that also requires full time."

There is no ruling against candidates for a great many other offices, Anderson said, except as regards supervisory or administrative employees.

WPA workers may become candidates for Congress under this ruling, since it is not a full-time job.

Camps Planned for Jobless Women

WASHINGTON—Fifty resident camps for unemployed women are to be established within the next few months in an effort to establish adequate provision for girls in the youth program, the National Youth Administration has announced. None of these camps will be for the sake of abandoned, abandoned, they will be under control of a local WPA executive director of the National Youth Administration.

The Meaning Of Alliance

By WALTER J. MARX

I think we all know what the word WORKER means. But do we know what the word ALLIANCE means?

Well, this is the meaning: State of being combined; league of partnership; union; coalition; compact; brotherly; union for all; all for union.

When you join the WORKERS ALLIANCE and become a brother, don't just think you joined an organization with any old name.

Think of the meaning of the name. Think of what it stands for. The meaning of the name is just as important as the pledge you took when you became a brother of the Workers Alliance.

The heart of labor movement comes out of a body of faith, knowledge and of confidence that must be learned and must be constantly relearned while the natural impulse of unorganized workers may be sufficient to draw them into a union under favorable conditions.

They are no more than raw recruits until the union has subjected them. Education for the worker must be the organization's first job, an education of the mind, not just in the present, but in the future.

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Considering the number of votes offered by the drought and its duration, the present drought is the worst in the history of the country, Rev. of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace reported.



HOBO PRESIDENT Ralph E. Dalton told a Hobo Fellowship convention of a plan for a march on Washington, 100,000 strong, to urge Congress to restore federal relief for transients.

MONROE COUNTY DEMANDS UNION WAGES ON WPA

ROCHESTER—Bitter against what it calls "chiseling in the tenth degree," the Workers Alliance of Monroe County has presented a set of four demands to District WPA Director Robert Hoffman.

The demands are payment of prevailing union wages on all projects, including a 55¢ an hour minimum for unskilled labor; minimum monthly wages of \$72; guarantee of minimum wages so that workers will not lose pay for reasons beyond their control; and recognition of the Workers Alliance as the collective bargaining agency for WPA workers.

"Congress ordered prevailing rates be paid on WPA after July 1, 1938, but the WPA's administration pays \$15,000 annually for monies appropriated for the unemployed to Robert G. Hoffman, Robert Benedict and Francis Carroll to ignore the law," Fred Struble, Alliance secretary, said in a statement to Hoffman outlining the demands.

"What a ludicrous racket, if it were not for the misery it creates. This is what we call chiseling in the tenth degree."

State WPA Administrator Herzig promised to send a representative to Rochester to check the prevailing wages.

DOGS VS. HUMANS

NEW ORLEANS (UPI)—It is better to be a dog, a cat or even a gold fish in New Orleans than a human being who works for a living. The city government has let a dog be a place for pets, to be landlocked and bordered with fences and shabby. However, you are a human with no fence, you are hunted all the way to the gates of the city's gates.

Rapid Growth Seen As Result of Big Victory

VANCOUVER, Wash.—Rapid growth in the Workers Alliance of Clark County was seen by leaders here as the WPA strike called several days ago engaged in a routing victory for the workers.

Great Drive Is Launched In Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS—The State Board of the Workers Alliance of Indiana has announced that a great drive will begin in Indiana at once for the following immediate demands:

A 90 hour work week at union wages on all projects. Minimum wages to be 60¢ per hour. Regular weekly pay periods. Union wages for all truck drivers. Women as sewing projects to be paid intermediate rate of pay and a rental on their machines when the worker provides her own.

All foremen and superintendents to be chosen from relief rolls on a non-political basis.

An allotment to the Indiana WPA from the one billion dollars left over from the last appropriation, to put at least 20,000 more men to work.

Workers injured on WPA projects to be paid full-time wages for time lost as a result of their injuries. First aid men and kits on all projects. Transportation to be furnished to and from projects where the distance to be traveled is more than a mile. \$5 weekly cash budget for each family, \$2 additional for each dependent. \$2.50 for single men weekly and adequate medical, dental, surgery and hospital care. Rent, light, water, fuel (coal or water) furnished. The drive will end in statewide demonstrations Sept. 5.

The WPA agreed to reopen consideration of the prevailing wage in this county, guaranteed reopening of projects to absorb the county's full quota of WPA employees, pledged no discrimination against strikers, no rotating of crews, and reinstatement of an employee whose discharge was one of the sparks that set off the strike.

Truck drivers employed on WPA projects here were also expected to reach an agreement with the WPA soon.

All pickets were withdrawn from projects as a result of the settlement and Alliance members, happy in their victory, prepared to use this gain as a lever if winning more members to the W. A. A.

Arrested For Not Providing Relief

MILLVILLE, N. J.—Bert Administrator Ruth Lewis was arrested here on complaint of Secretary John Spain of the Workers Alliance of New Jersey, who charged her with violating a state law which says that poor administrators shall provide shelter for impoverished families. (Similar action against other relief administrators throughout the state has been planned by the Alliance, Spain said.)

Baby Dies Waiting For Relief Milk

MOUNT HOLLY, N. J.—Starvation cut down another young life here as one-month-old Edward Louis Dudley died for lack of milk. New Jersey's third child hunger victim in recent weeks.

Hoover was the latest charge of Governor F. Donald Griffin, himself a Republican, that the baby died of starvation because of the state's inadequate relief policy.

Said the baby's grief-stricken father:

"When the doctor told me the baby needed milk, I pleaded for a milk order. Frank Grumman, one of my neighbors, went to the telephone to ask for the milk to Harry Britton, supervisor of the poor."

"Mr. Britton said he couldn't give me the milk."

Britton who said he thought the baby died of dysentery, not starvation, assured me afterward that the ten-dollar milk order was not given to me for the baby's funeral.

In the meantime, Jersey officials were tearing their hair at the charge by Mayor La Guardia of New York City that the policy of semi-starvation for the hungry was not only inhuman but also a waste of money. The \$25 for the baby's funeral.

The Dudley baby was the second child in the state to be starved to death in a fortnight and the third within a recent week.

Donald Hays, 2, died two weeks ago when he became so hungry he

Some Have It

703 Multimillionaires And 3,177 Millionaires in N. Y. City

NEW YORK—It's \$5,000,000 a year, that's how much \$50,000,000 says the Federal Writers Project of the WPA in a recent survey of the wealth of this city's population. New York City has 703 multimillionaires and 3,177 are rated below the millionaires mark.

There are 18,261 New Yorkers worth less than \$5,000 and at least 25,000 are worth \$50,000 or more.



ATORUM on
for one or two
recommended
annual year-
Dr. Frederic S.
roctor of Trinity
New York City,

Kentucky Alliance Drive Brings in Many New Locals

THE WORKERS ALLIANCE

Official Newspaper of the Workers Alliance of America

Vol. 1 — No. 18

WASHINGTON, D. C., FIRST SEPTEMBER ISSUE

PRICE 5 CENTS

DRIVE LAUNCHED TO FORCE FDR TO MEET ALLIANCE COMMITTEE AND DISCUSS 20% WPA RAISE

PROTESTS WIN BACK WPA JOB FOR POULNOT

WASHINGTON—Eugene Poulnot, Tampa flag victim who was recently dismissed from his job as truck driver on a WPA project because of "political activities," has been ordered reinstated by Nels Anderson, assistant WPA administrator.

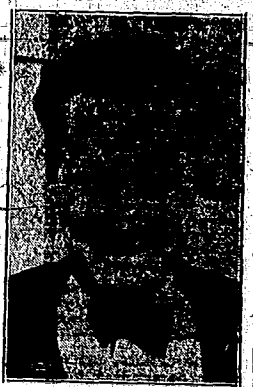
The reinstatement order followed vigorous protest by the national office of the Workers Alliance.

District WPA Director Ingram, in reply to protests by the Florida Workers Alliance of which Poulnot is president, declared that the dismissal order would not be rechecked and that no member of Poulnot's family would be given a job because they "might campaign for him." Mrs. Poulnot had sought a job on a sewing project.

Poulnot's crime lay in running for Congress on the Socialist ticket. When it became known that the national office of the Alliance was taking up the matter, WPA officials in Tampa started getting affidavits from workers that Poulnot had violated WPA rules and was fired for this reason.

The Alliance charged that his dismissal constituted a violation of a ruling by WPA Administrator Hopkins that "state administrators must not discriminate against individual workers because of their beliefs or organizational activities."

Five Tampa policemen who participated last November in the flagging of Poulnot, Dr. Sam Rogers and Joseph Shoemaker, have been sentenced to five years at hard labor for their crime. They are now free pending appeal, however. Shoemaker died of his injuries.



RAY COOKE, secretary-treasurer of the Workers Alliance of America, who reported remarkable gains in new affiliations at the meeting of the National Executive Board in Washington this week. Recognition was recently granted the Workers Alliance by Aubrey Williams, assistant WPA administrator.

WPA Workers Must Make Up Voting Time

WASHINGTON—WPA workers will have to make up the time they take off to vote in the November election. All state administrators have been told to reschedule working hours so that WPA employees may have the chance to vote. They will not lose pay, but must make up the time.

WASHINGTON—Victorious in the battle for recognition of the Workers Alliance of America as a collective bargaining agency for WPA workers, the WAA this week pressed with renewed vigor four other demands outlined in the five-point program presented to Pres. Roosevelt and WPA Administrator Harry Hopkins.

Pointing out that the final answer to these demands must come from Pres. Roosevelt himself, officials of the Workers Alliance are now demanding a conference between the president and an Alliance committee to thoroughly discuss these demands.

A mass campaign is being launched in all communities to request the President to meet with Alliance representatives and give due consideration to WPA proposals for a 20 per cent increase in WPA wages, for rescheduling of an order docking workers for time lost due to no fault of their own, for payment of the union scale of wages and for immediate use of the \$1,200,000,000 in WPA funds that were unspent on July 1.

Hailing the statement of Assistant WPA Administrator Aubrey Williams, in which he stated the WPA agreed to recognize you as a "collective bargaining agency" for WPA workers and affirmed the workers' right to organize and to choose their own representatives, together with the corresponding obligation of Administration officials to deal with such

representatives in the adjustment of grievances," Pres. Lasser stated that the collective bargaining agreement meant nothing without teeth in it and the only way to put teeth in it is for the locals of the Alliance to press the issue at all times and vigorously insist on their rights.

"Organization and action" must be our slogan in enforcing these concessions, Lasser said.

"The rejection of the demands of the Alliance will be followed by an intensive campaign in every community by means of petitions, demonstrations and even strikes to secure the requested wage increase," Lasser asserted.

Pointing to the strike of 10,000 WPA workers in Minneapolis and the walkout of several thousand in Burlington County, N. J., Lasser stated: "This action on the part of the WPA workers is what the administration is taking a hypocritical attitude in admitting that wages are too low and yet not using its power to increase them. The outbreak of strikes on WPA will follow naturally from the unwillingness of 2,500,000 workers to starve while working."

"A mass campaign must be started immediately in all localities and on all projects, requesting Pres. Roosevelt that he meet with our committee and give consideration to our demands."

"This campaign must take the form of our telegrams from all branches and units, from state and county organizations and from individual members asking Pres. Roosevelt to meet with the responsible leaders of the Workers Alliance and consider our demands."

"Such resolutions must immediately flood the White House."

Packaging of petitions drives, conferences of interested organizations willing to band together in support of the Alliance demands, special meetings of trade unions and publishing of the demands for a White House hearing and a 20 per cent WPA wage increase are all in the campaign.

The petition campaign has as its aim the collection of two million signatures of people who support the

(Continued on Page Four)

Virginia Alliance Scores Big Gains

NORFOLK, Va. — The Workers Alliance of Virginia is showing a steady increase in membership and activity since the beginning of its organization drive on Aug. 10.

A local has been organized in Petersburg and two project branches, one in Petersburg and one in Hopewell.

A one-day strike on a palmetto project in Petersburg organized the job 100 per cent and was a wage agreement from the WPA. The other project branch was organized on the Hopewell sewing room job.

Norfolk, Hopewell and Roanoke report excellent membership gains. At a recent meeting of the Hopewell local, 33 new members joined. Since the start of the drive for new members, Hopewell has signed up over 50 new members.

New locals are in the process of formation at Newport News, South Norfolk, Portsmouth and Danville. The state secretary of the Virginia Alliance, George Robbins, states that it is likely that the Alliance will reach into more than two-thirds of the state's hundred counties by the end of the three months membership drive.

The entire state organization is trying with might and main to raise \$1,000 for use in the state and for the national fighting fund drive.

If the money is raised, 20 per cent will go to the national drive. The first week of the fund drive netted \$15, but it is expected that the weekly total will climb rapidly as the locals swing into planned action.

NO HURRY

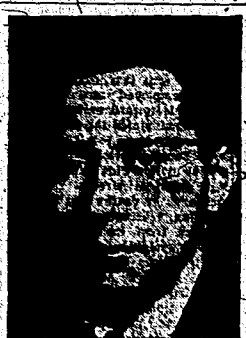
TRENTON, N. J. — Once more the solution of the relief question in New Jersey has been put off. Gov. Hoffman has announced his disapproval of calling a special session of the state legislature to solve the pressing relief problem.

The governor doesn't think that a plan could be worked out in a one-day session as has been suggested, and thinks that the whole question had better be left until the regular meeting of the legislature in January. Meantime, deaths of relief clients continue.

held for as long as 54 hours incommunicado. One, who has employment in the city, was escorted to the city limits in a squad car and told never to return. Friends are alerted, since they have received no word as to his condition or whereabouts.

An immediate and thorough investigation is being demanded by the Illinois Workers Alliance and the Workers Defense League.

The American Civil Liberties Union and the International Labor Defense have also signed lawyers to the case and a determined fight is being made to bring these fascist officials to justice—real justice.



DAVID LASSEER, national chairman of the Workers Alliance of America, nation-wide relief workers' organization which has just launched a fight, backed by the American Federation of Labor, for a blanket 20 per cent increase in wages on all WPA projects.

IWA Fights To Free 5 Framrup Victims

PEORIA—As a climax to a long series of fascist attacks by local police on various workers' organizations, five members of the Workers Alliance here have been railroaded to the state penal farm for six months each.

Edward Parker, Campaign, University of Illinois graduate; Henry Kess and Roscoe Sullivan, both of Peoria, were arrested at a peaceful outdoor meeting of the unemployed.

A committee was formed to communicate with those arrested. Henry Meyers, one of the committee, was arrested when he visited the authorities. Edward Lowry, a friend of Parker's, also from Campaign, was arrested when he attempted to drive Parker's car to a safer place. Clarence Shalh, member of another committee which called at the jail to bring food to these victims of "justice," was also arrested.

Lowry was held without charges for 34 hours, questioned, fingerprinted and photographed in spite of his protests that such proceedings were un-

lawful. He was then released. The other five were convicted and fined \$200 each.

Because they failed to pay the fine, the defendants were sentenced to six months at the Illinois State Farm at Joliet. This is a highly illegal proceeding, as the court had no authority by law to inflict both a fine and a jail sentence. The five defendants are still in jail.

All five of the convicted workers were sentenced without benefit of counsel or waiver of jury trial within 14 hours after their arrest. They were not even aware that they had been given a trial until they were being handcuffed and herded into cells that spaced them to the state farm.

Their so-called "trial" was held behind closed doors. The charge was vagrancy. Three of the five have homes and families in Peoria. At least two of the convicted were employed at the time of their arrest. Other victims of the police were

LOCALS, BOOST YOUR \$5,000 FIGHTING FUND DRIVE

Story on Page Four

BOOST YOUR FIGHTING FUND DRIVE!

WASHINGTON—With the launching of the great nationwide drive for a blanket 20 per cent increase in WPA wages, the Workers Alliance of America has started one of the biggest campaigns in the history of the organized unemployed.

Mark off this drive the months of hard work, ceaseless conferences, endless preparations. To be successful, it must go forward with increasing vigor. To serve the organized unemployed to the utmost extent, it must have behind it the full force of the \$5,000 fighting fund which the last convention voted should be launched.

In a statement to locals stressing the need for this fund and the ways and means in which locals can cooperate, National Organization Secretary Herbert Benjamin, campaign director, said:

Must Begin Now

"The many activities in which we have engaged since the Convention have claimed so much of our resources and of the time of our officers that we not only faced a serious financial crisis but were unable

to devote the time necessary for the campaign to raise funds. That is why this campaign had to be postponed on several occasions. WE CANNOT DELAY THIS CAMPAIGN ANY LONGER. IT MUST ABSOLUTELY BEGIN AT ONCE.

"We are therefore sending you herewith samples of the campaign materials and urge that you take immediate action to secure a sufficient supply.

"We are attaching a list of the materials with information on how you can secure and use these. Also an order blank. Here we only want to stress the importance to you and to us, of a successful campaign.

"All divisions of our movement are suffering because of lack of funds with which to finance our battles. Through this campaign we can help meet the financial problems of the locals, the State and the National office. The unions and other organizations, and the many individual workers and friends who have witnessed our bitter fight

and who are becoming increasingly aware of its importance. A signpost will aid us if we will go to them with our plan of action and appeal for support. "We feel sure that our many members, throughout the country will appreciate the importance of systematic and tireless efforts to reach those who can and will contribute.

Arrange Affairs

"In order to get off to a good start, we want to ask every local and affiliate to immediately arrange to purchase a certificate for themselves. If you have no money in your treasury, we urge that you arrange a picnic or other affair for the benefit of the National Fighting Fund. Send your contribution direct to the National Office and we will send you a certificate for the amount of your contribution. This can be framed and hung alongside your charter. No State Organizations will be credited with 20 per cent of any amount contributed by locals or Affiliates within their State.

"In recognition of the loyal

support of our Affiliates, we will issue the following prizes:

A HANDSOME WORKERS ALLIANCE BANNER

"1—To the City of more than 1 million population that raises the largest amount for the Fighting Fund.

"2—To the City of approximately 100,000 that raises the largest amount.

"3—To the town of less than 50,000 population.

"4—To the town of less than 20,000 population.

"Banners will be presented following the end of the campaign on Oct. 1.

"We also suggest that all locals form teams to sell Fighting Fund Stamps and Certificates and arrange to offer a prize to the team that makes the best showing.

Part of Your Fight

"Finally, we want to stress the importance of making our financial drive a part of our fight for our program. When you visit unions and other organizations to get their an-

dorsement of our program, urge them to also give financial support by making a substantial contribution for which they will receive a certificate. When you solicit signatures to our petition get those who sign to buy a stamp or certificate. Remember that the money you are raising means ammunition in the fight against the reactionaries who plan to balance the budget by starving the unemployed.

"If there are any individuals or organizations who could be induced to make a substantial contribution if they received a letter from the National Officers, please send us the names and addresses and we will write them. You will be credited 20 per cent and the State organization with 20 per cent on these and all other contributions.

"GO TO IT LOYAL MEMBERS OF THE WORKERS ALLIANCE! TOGETHER WE WILL PUT OVER THIS CAMPAIGN AND GO FORWARD IN THE FIGHT FOR JOBS, FOR RELIEF AND FOR A POWERFUL WORKERS ALLIANCE OF AMERICA."

Relief Items Slashed Nearly One Billion

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Expenditures of \$2,000,000,000 in excess of receipts are forecast for the fiscal year of 1937, according to a budget summation statement by President Roosevelt. Expenditures for recovery and relief will be \$241,706,468 less in 1937 than in 1936.

Total receipts between July 1, 1936 and June 30, 1937 are estimated at \$5,065,890,000 while the government plans to spend in the same period \$7,065,890,000. For relief and recovery the estimated 1937 fiscal year expenditure is \$1,835,000,000, an amount materially less than that for the same period in 1936.

The reduced relief and recovery item is attributed to "the general improvement in business conditions." The President's statement said: "The unemployed are continuing to be absorbed in industry and I believe that there will be a further substantial increase of such employment during the coming months." Whether it will be sufficient to permit such reduction in work relief rolls as will bring them within the amount appropriated by Congress is a matter that cannot be determined for several months.

At any rate, the President said, "It is confidently expected that any requests for additional funds will amount to less than \$500,000,000."

Principal items included in the expenditures were \$685,000,000 for the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, \$300,000,000 for the Civilian Conservation Corps, \$405,000,000 for the Social Security Board and the establishment of the old age reserve account, \$325,000,000 for interest on the public debt, and an increase of \$448,000,000 in the expenditures of the other establishments.

Total expenditures for all the civil departments, agencies, and the judiciary during 1937 is estimated at \$241,706,468. Expenditures for the War and Navy departments during the same period is estimated at \$929,000,000. For the veterans' administration and for payment of the bonus month \$1,100,000,000 is required. Housing expenditures for the past and future years beyond the two billion mark.

Projected revenue increases are \$110,000,000 from the revenue net of 1936, \$33,000,000 from delayed collection of taxes on carriers and their employees, and \$237,000,000 constituting an upward revision of revenue estimated due chiefly to improvement in business conditions.

According to the budget statement \$400,000,000 was spent for relief in 1936 through the FERA, CWA and the Department of Agriculture. Contemplated expenditures for the same departments in 1937 is set at \$9,000,000. During the year direct relief functions performed by the FERA were also ended and all relief was transferred to public works.

Actual expenditures for public works during 1936 were \$2,092,000,000. Estimated expenditures for public works during 1936 were \$2,384,000,000. Total recovery and re-

lief figures are \$1,835,000,000 for 1937 as against actual expenditures of \$2,770,706,468 in 1936, a reduction of \$941,706,468 in expenditures for recovery and relief.

4-DAY PROTEST STRIKE CALLED IN MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS—A four day "protest holiday" in which 10,000 WPA workers laid down their tools to back up demands for recognition and a \$20 weekly pay schedule, has been called here by the Workers Alliance of Minnesota.

The holiday was called at a time when forty elevator and grain terminals were closed by a strike of cereal workers demanding union recognition and wage adjustments. Eleven big flour mills have been forced to close and grain receipts dwindled to a mere trickle.

A general strike call of all WPA workers in the state was threatened by Herbert Benoit, Alliance organizer at a meeting in the auditorium to discuss relief grievances. Mrs. Selma Beestrom, a member of the public welfare board who has been under fire for championing the cause of the unemployed, also addressed the meeting, as did R. D. Cramer, editor of the Labor Review and Harry Rice of the Ramsey County Citizens Protective Association.

State WPA Administrator Victor Christian threatened to suspend all work activities in the city if the Alliance carried through the statewide strike call.

Minneapolis is also beleaguered with three other strikes, including jewelers, truck drivers and crochete employees.

FORCE F.D.R. TO MEET ALLIANCE COMMITTEE

(Continued from Page One)

just and reasonable demands of the Workers Alliance of America.

To carry on this great work the WPA has also inaugurated a campaign to raise a Fighting Fund of \$5,000.

Together with the tremendous increase in membership by the WPA, these campaigns make the biggest drive that has ever been launched for decent wages and conditions on behalf of 3,500,000 WPA workers.

We must not fail. We cannot fail if every member, every campaigner, every local and state organization does its part.

PUSH FORWARD WITH ALL STRENGTH AND ENERGY FOR A LIVING WAGE ON WPA



HERBERT BENJAMIN, organization secretary of the Workers Alliance of America, is circulating the \$5,000 Fighting Fund Drive recently launched by the organization to help carry on its campaign for a blanket 20 per cent increase in WPA wages.

NEW JERSEY WPA WORKERS STRIKE FOR WAGE BOOST

MOUNT HOLLY, N. J.—New Jersey's state rationing program precipitated another strike here as WPA workers throughout Burlington County laid down their tools to back up demands for a 35 hourly increase in WPA wages.

The present scale is 45c an hour. Louis Portis, Burlington County Alliance chairman, charged the WPA officials had broken faith with workers by failing to make a proper investigation of conditions in the county. He contended that Burlington County workers were entitled to the same scale paid in Camden and Mercer counties and demanded a monthly wage of \$10.50.

As stories continued coming in from all parts of the state detailing renewed suffering among relief clients, the New Jersey Workers Alliance, headed by John Spain, Jr., held plans for another hunger march on Trenton.

An action committee composed of Spain, William Harbridge, Kurt Klockmann, Powell Johnson and Irving Rosenberg has been elected to push plans for the march and carry through details of a concentrated Alliance drive for better relief conditions.

Open hearings of relief conditions will be held, neighborhoods will be canvassed for grievances, a petition campaign urging immediate action by Gov. Hoffman and Pres. Roosevelt will be inaugurated and mass demonstrations for the improvement of relief will be launched in local areas.

Toledo Bombing Spurs Alliance To Bigger Gains

TOLEDO—The Workers Alliance of Lucas County answered a tear gas hurling degenerate last Friday by returning to the same place on the following evening with a mass meeting twice as large.

The tear gas came in the form of a bomb as Paul Rasmussen, general organizer of the Workers Alliance of America, was speaking at one of the local halls of the Workers Alliance in Toledo.

The bomb exploded just as he was present and the bomb hurler cut off all exit except two small windows at the rear of the hall. Many people were injured, several of whom required hospitalization and it was only after the almost superhuman order that dozens were not trampled and even killed.

The throwing of the bomb is the climax of anti-labor terror in Toledo, being the third instance of a similar nature in the last two weeks.

No leads have been furnished by the local police as to whom is responsible for this outrage, and the Workers Alliance of Lucas County has demanded that a Federal investigation on the part of the Works Progress Administration shall be immediately forthcoming.

The National Office of the Workers Alliance of America, according to a telegram received by Nelson G. Meagher, Ohio State Secretary, has been able to secure promise of such a probe.

The statements of the administration guaranteeing the rights of WPA workers to organize have been isolated and the Toledo Alliance, is wholly within its rights in demanding Federal protection.

Immediately following the tear-gassing of the meeting it was unanimously decided that as

other meetings would be held on the following evening and Paul Rasmussen agreed to rearrange his speaking tour in so to be present. Although the meeting was called in twenty-four hours and the only publicity given was the news stories in the local press, the large hall could not hold the Alliance members who attended.

An imposing list of local labor leaders cancelled previous engagements in order to speak on the program. Clyde Kiker, Executive Secretary of the Lucas County Labor Congress, John G. Taylor, member of the Toledo Board of Education, Elsworth Kramer, United Automobile Workers, Local No. 12, and Paul Rasmussen, general organizer of the Workers Alliance of America, and Arthur Price, Chairman of the Workers Alliance of Lucas County, were among the speakers.

The insane folly of the bomb-thrower and the stupidity of the enemies of labor who paid the few dollars he received was shown by the reaction of the Workers Alliance to this form of terrorism. The entire organization has flowered into a new birth of activity and the spirit of unity is even stronger than before.

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — 53,000 children got extra vacation time in sections of Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia, as an insidious paralysis epidemic keeps the schools from reopening until Sept. 21.

THE LAST WORD —Belongs to the Women

By NELLIE M. HUBBARD

KANSAS CITY, Kan.—A flagrant violation of civil liberties has been perpetrated against members of the Kansas Allied Workers by the Wyandotte County Commissioners.

The commissioners have ordered the Court House closed to all meetings except those of patriotic groups.

The K. A. W. has been using the building for business and educational meetings.

Following the order to close the building, the K. A. W. met in a protest meeting on the Court House steps.

The next day when Helen Hester and I presented 60 grievances cases to the Commissioners refused to bargain collectively with us. Hester walked out of the room.

Twenty-five hungry workers who accompanied us sang songs and were

ordered throughout a demonstration that followed he commissioners' walk out. Every attempt was made to incite a riot and the place was heavily guarded by detectives and thugs.

Our people refused to be stampeded, however, and are now uniting with Socialists, Turnoutmen and other groups to reopen the Court House to all groups.

We have six locals here and are growing rapidly. It is almost as hard for a hungry person to get a grocery order as it would be for him to gain the English channel. In July the City Commissioners gave us a permit to solicit for food for the very destitute and starving. That's how big hearted they are.

But with the aid of several active women our organization is progressing steadily and we will soon be in a place to tell him where to jump off.