

5,000 PROTEST AGAINST W.P.A. CUTS

W.P.A. To Cut Rolls Another 100,000 in June

Will Bring Total Number of "Guinea Pigs" Sacrificed Since November to 850,000—No Jobs in Industry for Dismissed Workers

Another 100,000 W.P.A. workers are to be dropped, sent to beg for home relief if they can get it, with no hope of private employment!

These 100,000 are to be dropped in June, bringing the total dropped since November to the staggering figure of 850,000.

In the words of Congressman Dudley A. White, the first cuts were "an experiment to see whether relief expenditures could not be cut down somewhat as economic recovery progressed."

with it will go Roosevelt's popularity. The masses cannot eat his cannons. They want bread, and bread they will have, in spite of the War Deal.

LYNCH NEGRO WORKER IN MISSISSIPPI

Worse Than Guinea Pigs Yet in a laboratory experiment, once the desired result is achieved, the experiment is concluded, and no more guinea pigs are slaughtered.

Tortured with Hot Irons, Shot, for Refusing Pay Cut

(By Staff Writer)

NEW YORK, June 2.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today revealed the hot-iron torture lynching of Joe Rodgers, a Negro lumber worker, of Canton, Mississippi.

1. "At its peak, W.P.A. failed to absorb large groups of needy employable persons certified as eligible for such employment."

2. New Deal claims that the sharp W.P.A. cuts since November were justified by increased possibilities for private employment were punctured by the survey figures.

Official Silence No one has been arrested for the crime, and the local papers have maintained a complete silence.

According to the testimony of the investigator, Rodgers on May 8 refused to take a \$5.50 weekly cut, asking for full payment.

STALIN DECREE ON AGRICULTURE INDICATES SOVIET CONDITIONS

Increase in Number of "Landlord Peasants" Exposes Wide Crack in Soviet Economy

Yet in the face of these facts—well known to the Administration of course—the Roosevelt War Deal officials brazenly continue chopping down the W.P.A. employment rolls.

Even in their present state of dismantling, the W.P.A. rolls include 500,000 more workers than are provided for in Roosevelt's relief budget message of April 27, proposing an average of only two million W.P.A. jobs for the coming year beginning July 1.

Sardonically enough, the Gallup poll has just completed a survey in which it asked a cross-section of people: "What do you think is the greatest accomplishment of the Roosevelt Administration during the six years it has been in office?"

But that was the Roosevelt New Deal. Now it is the Roosevelt War Deal. And to feed the voracious war machine, the entire relief and W.P.A. system is being abandoned. But

A drastic and sudden new decree on agriculture, signed by Stalin and Molotoff and issued by the Kremlin on May 28, provides ten times more significant comment upon conditions within the Soviet Union than all the rhetoric about the triumph of socialism and the first stage of communism at Party congresses or all the faked statistics from the most recent census.

The new decree attacks "abuses in collective farm practices." In 1935, in a concession to the peasantry, there was legally confirmed the right of peasants who were members of collective farms to till small plots of land as their own, and to use or sell the produce from these plots; and, similarly, the right of individual peasants to own and use a cow, pigs, chickens, etc.

Down to the Bone



Coughlin Hides a Boss Solution Behind Plea for Living Wages

By GRACE SAUNDERS

Father Coughlin, anti-labor radio priest, is now taking the stump for a "living annual wage." Every crooked politician says he favors a living annual wage.

What every worker wants to know is: how can I get that wage? Coughlin's answer to this vital question is the bosses' answer—the same proposals they have tried to cram down workers' throats ever since labor organized and refused to work under conditions of virtual slavery.

Unions Must Go If only we didn't have the unions, wails Coughlin, if only industry were "assured of an

end once and for all of the waste of time loss and the menace to morale in strikes." then the bosses "would probably be glad to pay an annual wage."

PAROLE BOARD TO HEAR BEAL PARDON PLEA

Unionists Ask Freedom for Leader of Gastonia Strike

A hearing on a petition for pardon by Fred E. Beal, labor leader now serving a sentence of from 17 to 20 years in North Carolina, will be held at Raleigh, N. C., on Thursday, June 8, before the Board of Pardons.

Beal was convicted for the shooting of Chief of Police O. F. Aderholt in the celebrated Gastonia textile strike of 1929, of which he was the leader.

Under the North Carolina law, the governor of the state acts in petitions for clemency on recommendation of the State Board of Pardons.

Unionists Ask Freedom Beal's petition is backed by pleas for favorable action addressed to Governor Hoey of North Carolina by members of Congress, labor leaders, including President William Green of the A.F.L., noted churchmen, writers and educators.

Beal and six other leaders of the Gastonia strike were convicted at Charlotte, N. C., on October 21, 1929, before Judge Barnhill. They were released on bail, pending an appeal to the Supreme Court of the State.

thing—that the unions must go. He's not so positive that even then the bosses would come through. He says they "probably" would be "glad to pay" a living annual wage. But suppose the bosses double-cross the workers? They have in the past! They will in the future.

Coughlin hides the facts. The unions have been strong in the automobile industry only since 1936. If the unions, especially the C.I.O., are the only thing that keeps the bosses from paying every worker \$2,500 a year, why did the bosses fail to pay that sum before the industry was organized? In 1935, before the C.I.O. had gained strength, a Detroit auto worker was lucky if he earned \$1,000 a year.

His "Solution" The bosses are "glad" to pay not \$2,500 a year but—starvation wages, and not a penny more, if unions don't force them to pay more.

In a "free" that is non-union, market, the boss is "free" to get workers to bid against each other for ever lower salaries. In the non-union labor market, which Coughlin advocates, a worker making \$35 a week is asked to take a wage cut to \$30 or less.

Coughlin's "solution" on how the workers can secure a living annual wage is a "solution" for the bosses and for nobody else. Coughlin thinks the workers are dopes. Sacrificing the right to strike, giving up the trade unions, means acceptance by the worker of the

Minneapolis-St. Paul Demonstrators Press Demands on Governor

Persecution of French Labor Militants Continues

Fernand Vintriguer, managing director of "Le Liberaire", organ of the Anarchist Union of France, has been sentenced to one year in jail, and Pierre Le Meilour, a contributing writer, to fifteen months in jail, by the Daladier government.

Their "crime" was the writing and publication of an article, in the issue of December 22, 1938, on the lessons of the November 30 general strike.

The Daladier government has also suppressed the "SIA", organ of International Anti-fascist Solidarity in France, which took no part in internal politics, but which was active in rousing aid for the Spanish anti-fascist refugees.

Suzanne Charpy, Trotskyist youth leader, has lost her last appeal, and must go to jail, sentenced for anti-war activity.

In many cases, it is difficult to learn the circumstances of arrests, for among the infamous Daladier decree laws, it is a crime to make public the news of the arrest of persons seized for anti-military work.

Salem C.I.O. Votes Relief Investigation

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)

LYNN, Mass.—The North Shore Industrial Union council, delegate body of the C.I.O., on May 19 voted to investigate the relief situation in Lynn, Salem and other cities and towns along the North Shore.

The action was taken after numerous complaints had been received from relief clients, concerning forced labor practices and chiseling on relief allotments.

In Salem, relief recipients are required to work a whole day along with city employes on street or other work, but only receive part of the day's wage paid regular city employes for working the same number of hours.

CUBA INCIDENT DRAMATIZES PLIGHT OF JEWISH REFUGEES

After World-wide Criticism Batista 'Relents'—Opens Temporary Concentration Camp

A concentration camp on the Isle of Pines, and that only as a temporary arrangement until they can be re-embarked for another destination, was all that the 917 Jewish refugees aboard the liner St. Louis could secure from the Batista regime of Cuba.

And even this niggardly and cruel arrangement came only after world-wide attention forced Batista to propose it instead of the deportation he had already ordered.

The shipload of suffering men, women and children, pent up in Havana harbor for agonizing days of negotiations and pleas, dramatized as no single event since the German pogroms last October, the stark plight of the refugees.

Tie-Up W.P.A. Projects For Day--Marchers Ask More Jobs, No Firing

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)

MINNEAPOLIS, June 3—Pressing their demands for reinstatement of all discharged W.P.A. workers—for more W.P.A. jobs at union wages, and against competitive bidding for W.P.A. trucking, an army of 5,000 W.P.A. and relief workers descended yesterday on the State Capitol.

Early Friday morning, Local 544's Federal Workers Section dispatched truckloads of W.P.A. workers to the various projects to close them down for the day.

The Holiday was called in the name of a united front Joint Action Committee representing the Federal Workers Section and the Independent Truck Owners' Section of Local 544; the Workers Alliance of Minneapolis and St. Paul, and the Workers Benefit Association of St. Paul.

Stalinists Dragged Along Only the enthusiasm of the unemployed for the demonstration forced the Workers Alliance leaders to go along, and they dragged their feet all the way. On the Joint Action Committee they refused to accept such slogans as "All War Funds to the Unemployed," pointing out that the Workers Alliance nationally was supporting the Roosevelt war machine.

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The first session opened yesterday in the spacious Department of Labor auditorium, with an address by David Lasser, Stalinist slunkey and W.A.A. president, who stated that "the fact that we are here . . . indicates that our national Congress has somehow failed in its responsibilities." But not one word came from this traitor's lips that might show the delegates a way to fight for the "right to work" for the millions of unemployed.

This morning, the second day of the "Congress," the delegates were assigned to spend

At 10:30 a.m. the motorized parade, several miles long, got under way. With horns honking and with thunderous booms, the parade roared past the district W.P.A. office on West Broadway, where a committee entered to press their demands.

From there the demonstrators circled the Minneapolis courthouse, in which the city Welfare Board was meeting. Each truck and car had colorful banners and signs: All War Funds to the Unemployed—Give Stassen a 403 in 1940—For a Special Session of the State Legislature—We Want Rat-Proof Houses for our Children—Abolish the Stassen Anti-Labor Act—Keep the Bull in the Stockyards, Stassen, We Want Jobs—Thirty Dollars for Thirty Hours—No W.P.A. Concentration Camps for Single Men—600 Truckmen Want Work—Maintain Relief Standards or We Fight—More N.Y.A. Jobs, etc.

At the St. Paul city limits, the parade was joined by a large contingent from the St. Paul Workers Benefit Association, and the motorized demonstration, strung out for miles along University Avenue, then circled the State Capitol, wend

Thousands, perhaps tens of thousands, have committed suicide, in the fascist countries, rather than go on, and the facts about mass suicides have seeped through to the outer world, but when Max Loewe, one of the refugees, slashed his wrists and plunged overboard in Havana harbor, it moved the world as thousands of previous deaths had not.

The grim horror in the report that "cooler heads among the refugees had appointed a committee to maintain vigilance against suicide attempts" drove home the full meaning of the refugees' desperation. And not once in all those days, did any of the democratic countries or the Russia of Stalin come forward to offer them a haven.