# "Lost Colony"--- The End of the 'Croppers Trail WORKERS' FORUM!

99 Families Live in Starvation and Squalor On "Squatters" Land In Missouri After Government Had Hounded Them Off Highways

face starvation and death in a After having been hounded along there is nothing else to feed them. colony near Poplar Bluff, Mis- the highways by the police and A number of the families have souri. The colony is reminiscent local authorities for months they adopted children and aged depen- parity payments of approximate- was threatened by the planters. in the camp are making attempts of the worst Hoovervilles and located at the "Lost Colony." The dents. Some of the aged women \$100, about one-third of their in- Since then he has worked in St. after their school hours to teach Rooseveltburgs, but it is home to land, hard-scrabble hill land, with had applied for old age pensions. the men who were evicted last a thin layer of soil over its gravel but received such technically 75 cents to a \$1 a day for 100 to pers. J. R. Butler, president of ment has offered to provide WPA January when the planters decid- and rock bed, was purchased for worded replies that they dropped ed to hire day laborers, so that \$3 an acre by money donated by the matter then and there. they would not have to share fed- sympathizers in St. Louis. The Medical attention is impossible eral subsidies with the croppers. land at the best could not furnish to secure. Mildred G. Freed re- laborers would bring the day rate croppers.

in rag tents and barrel-stave milies. shacks.

"Relief" for Croppers

These homeless croppers took are overturned.

By ROBERT L. BIRCHMAN | refuge on 93 acres of uncleared ers feed their children at the Nearly 500 ex - sharecroppers land good only for "squatting." breast for two and three years-There ninety-nine families live sustenance for more than five fa- ports in the New York Post that down to as low as 40 cents for a

Live in Rag Tents

They live-if one can call it liv- tents. A number of shacks have had been called the reply was the croppers revolted by the huning-on relief. And what relief! been built, using small logs for "Private doctor he won' com' dreds last January and advertised Each family receives four pounds the frame and discarded barrel- 'cause we ain't got money an' of corn grit, four pounds of meal, staves from a nearby barrel mill county doctor he said he ain't the nation by camping in tents of two pounds of beans for a month. for the roofs and sometimes the never gonna help us." No salt, baking power or grease, sides. Lack of nails has held up Many families number as many as completion of many of these halften. There is only spring water finished shacks. Holes have been for drinking and cooking. Coffee chinked with mud, which the first of the camp and woods all around croppers with relief or homes. "trespassers." Friends of the is made from reboiled grounds, heavy rain will wash out. Only a it, the colonists are forbidden by After some days they gave meagis no meat and all the milk is doors. All have open windows, old man, who was deaf and had St. Louis CIO Council sent truck land where they now live. supplied by three poorly fed cows. screened by paper, sacks, or not heard the sheriff read the loads of food on the third day of Most of the 160 children are clothes. The bare ground is the law went fishing and was arrest- the demonstration. under ten years of age, including only floor. When it storms the ed. A boy was shot and wounded Most of the adults are over 40. often soaks the tents and they the woods.

Not One Good Stove There is not one good stove in sals of King Cotton and the cot-

the camp. The cooking is done in ton nobility who were evicted last the open and such meals as there January from their miserable are, are eaten outdoors.

Many families, those with sev- cept a change in status to that of eral children, run out of beans be- day laborers. The plantation ownfore the end of the month. Moth-

she saw a young Negro woman 10 to 14 hour day. tossing feverishly in bed from a miscarriage-her third within a

Forbidden to Fish

of the remnants of the 1500 vas-Cotton Kings Howl for Government To Cut Off Miserable Relief; Want To Force shacks when they refused to ac-Croppers To Become Day-Laborers ers were making this change in

order that they would not have ed an investigation. Owen H. more than ninety Negro children to share the cotton reduction par- Whitfields, local leader of the of grade school age and they ity payments with the croppers. | croppers and vice-president of the manage the best they can. Sev-In 1938 the cropper received Southern Tenant Farmers Union eral of the high school students come. The laborer received from Louis to secure aid for the crop- the children. The Federal govern-120 days and no advanced credit the Union, was "escorted" to the teachers if the croppers will profrom the planter, which the crop- state border by the state police vide a school building. These peoper receives. The increase in day when he sought to advise the ple without resources are build-

"Menace to Public Health"

The State Health Commission-Living under a tyranny often er declared the croppers "a seri-Many of the families live in rag year. When she asked if a doctor worse than under chattel slavery, forced them from the highways. ous menace to public health" and Twenty-three families were piled on the Mississippi levee; thirtytheir plight and homelessness to two families were dumped into a two-room abandoned building and rags on the Missouri highways. twenty-five families were crowd-The local, state and federal aued into an unused church. Soon thorities found one pretext after the owners of the buildings insti-While the river is at the edge another for not supplying the tuted proceedings against the

> Education Among Croppers The planters protested against The "Lost Colony" is composed "damnable scheme" and demand- provision has been made for the death.

ing a combined meeting hall and scheool. The work is held up for lack of nails, roofing and windows. And unless a heating system is provided, no school can be cussion upon the Kremlin's

New York Times

New York City, N. Y.

Your Moscow correspondent in

November 12) affirms that this

Kremlin Falsifications

"The leaders have not adopt-

sue. Following this turn, the

Kremlin made an attempt to

Correspondents "Worked On"

I must say in general that no-

where are the foreign corres-

pondents so persistently and suc-

not simply maintain friendly re-

Central Committee."I am afraid

correct but tendentious - origin-

ated also from one of the too

trustful Moscow correspondents.

The word "clever" in this context

has an ironical, a somewhat de-

basing connotation of which there

s not a trace in the so-called

Testament of Lenin. "Sami spo-

lations with the Kremlin.

Coyoacan, D. F.

supports this attempt.

The Southern Tenant Farmers Union has asked for Federal aid. The colonists have written to pass over. Washington themselves but are always referred back to the local authorities who do absolutely ed," writes Mr. Gedye, "the the-

"There are no jobs for them," says Pres. J. R. Butler of the ST-FU, "and they can't hold out unand drunk without sugar. There few have obtained lumber for the sheriff to hunt or fish. One re hand-outs to the croppers. The then bought them the strip of til Spring unless they get relief from some place."

No longer needed by the cotton nobility now seeking new ways The few white children in the to garner profits from cotton, the never propagated the theory of 16 babies, three born at the camp, rain sweeps down in gusts that when he was found hunting in giving relief to the croppers and camp must walk two miles to a croppers are thrown on the scrap socialism in one country. On the blamed "agitators" for the junction to meet a school bus. No heap to starve and freeze to contrary he affirmed constantly has reached the 1929 level but

TROTSKY GIVES N. Y. TIMES sobniy," the exact Russian WRITER A FEW POINTERS used by Lenin, can be translated into English as "most able" but in no case as "most clever."

letter on the foreign policy of CAPITALIM HAS NO the Kremlin (New York Times, NEW FRONTIERS

policy is dictated by Marxist doc- Editor: trine. Mr. Gedye reiterates insist-Speaking in Boston, before the ently: "They are Marxists first, League of Women Voters, Eliot last, and always." Thus Mr. Ged- Janeway, Business Editor of ye agrees completely with this "Time," said, "A tremendous caevaluation which the heads of the tastrophe, similar to the Chicago Kremlin are giving themselves fire or the Tokio earthquake, and which is necessary for them here in the United States would in order to sustain the reputation be an economic blessing, providof their international agency, the ing us with a frontier ready at Comintern. It is impossible of hand and forcing us to go ahead

course to enter here into a dis- and rebuild." When spokesmen for the capit-"Marxism." However, there are alist system openly admit that more concrete affirmations in Mr. wholesale destruction of the pro-Godye's letter which I cannot ductive machinery is the only way to instil new blood into the stinking corpse of the capitalist system then it is time to scrap that system.

We can see other frontiers ory of Leon Trotsky of 'permasuch as eliminating disease, givnent revolt' and the view that ing every family enough to eat, Socialism in one country is imclothes to wear and a decent shelpossible. Far from that, they are ter over their heads. These fronas convinced as ever that Lenin tiers capitalism does not and canwas right, . . ." These two sennot tackle. tences contain, mildly speaking,

However much capitalism raistwo misunderstandings. Lenin es production it will never be able to offer the workers anything. that the ultimate fate of the sounemployment continues undicial order of the USSR depends completely upon the fate of in- that new industrial techniques minished. The reason for this is ternational capitalism. Permit me have been introduced so that the to refer to my History of the productive capacity of the indi-Russian Revolution (Vol. III, pp. vidual worker is greatly increas-378-418) where, I dare believe, ed. Hence they need fewer workin stood on the conception directtity of goods.

ascribed to him by the Kremlin. Even after the death of Lenin in but we do have a frontier. It is the Spring of 1924, Stalin still on the Rhine." We answer, "We continued to explain in his com- also have a frontier. It is right pilation, Problems of Leninism, here and you are our enemies how and why Lenin considered it impossible to construct a so- directed." Let them think that cialist society in a single country. over before they add slaughter of working hand in hand with the Only in the next edition of the the working class to the starva-

MAC INGERSOLL

Boston, Mass.

Dear Comrade Editor. Not less erroneous is the asser-The other night a couple of us tion concerning the theory of socialists went to see the French On the picket line, the workers "permanent revolt" allegedly sub- movie, "That They May Live," are beginning to get the measure scribed to by me. The theory of because we heard it was an antiof the radio priest. Comments "permanent revolution" (not "re- war picture like "Grand Illusion." such as these are not infrequent: volt"), starting from an analysis We were not so hot about going "That d...d Coughlin sold out to of the class relationships in Czar- as we know that real anti-war the corporation. I wonder how ist Russia, reached the conclusion pictures are even scarcer than that the democratic revolution in real anti-war fighters.

workers in the ten plants of the vigilante bands to attack union the conquest of power by the prorighteous indignation." Where-shop, a bona-fide seniority clause, Crucible Steel Co., voted workers was taken in the organupon Davis pressed Anderson and an equalization of wage rates, to strike. Faced with the threat ization of a "Citizens Law and socialist revolution. I don't begot him to admit he was not one week vacation with pay after of strike, the company notified Order Committee." This new lieve that the latest events have the outbreak of the new war was "righteously indignant." In other one year of accumulated service, Clinton S. Golden, northeastern gang movement goes hand in refuted this theory promulgated certain. What's more, the climax

> years of peace he lives in Verdun where there are 100,000 graves and where the crosses stand almost as close together as cornstalks. There he invents bulletcessfully worked upon as in Mos- The armor is stolen by the facproof armor for anti-war fighters. cow. In the past years we have tory owner, the old vet's boss, observed how some American journalists systematically induced American public opinion into ercians come to the factory to inror by their articles upon the cite the workers to war for "fin-

"most democratic constitution in the world," upon the Kemlin's profound sympathy for the democracies, upon the Kremlin's not less profound hatred for Hitler and so on. As a result of such information the latest turns of the Kremlin took the public by the Kremlin took the public by real enemy, the profiteers and surprise. In a country where the traitors at home. Their wounds books devoted to the history of the party and the revolution, the When the people see

historical plays, historical films, happening they take the blind historical paintings, are nothing old soldier and try to burn him, but consciously fabricated falsi-fications, the foreign correspond-ed anti-war fighters in the last ent should provide himself with a good deal of critical distrust if rescue him and all the ignorant he really wishes to inform public opinion in his own country and and corrupt people run away like

The movies is fine because it is based on truth, not on gov-Sincerely yours, ernment lies. Of course, we can not expect the ten million dead who learned the lesson of the last P. S. — Permit me to utilize this We'll have to do the fighting our occasion for another correction. selves. I think, comrade editor, Several times I have encountered that the movie is good entertainthe allegation in your paper that ment and a good lead for work-Lenin characterized Trotsky as the "most clever member of the comradely you

that this translation—not only in- New York P. S. The French government outlawed it.

Comradely yours,

Join the Socialist Workers Party

## Defense Riddles FBI Frame-up PREPARE STRIKE Against Mpls. WPA Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

"charges violation of Section 28 of the Woodrum relief law. prove that Section 28 was violated, but that the defendants CON-

SPIRED to violate it. strike in protest against this law. score of others.

AND YOU CAN PICKET."

Government a Scab

Davis bitterly condemned the ery worker walked out on strike, street.

|Workers Section of General Driv-|ored cars were running into the ers Union Local 544, did not have crowd, coming from all directions. a single member on the project. shooting. I saw Fred Johnson Almost all the 25 defendants shot full in the face with a tear The government must not only in the present trial are members gas shell. I caught him and help- workers found themselves in a

"The testimony will show that sewing project, which was closed Workers Section, shot through wage was insufficient to pay their on the night of June 30 the Wood- down by the strike. When the the arm with a bullet. I got some daily living expenses. rum law was passed and that im- government, after it had been help and took them to the hospi- Though the Walsh-Healy Act mediately afterward, all over the closed by agreement for several tal." country, strikes broke out. On days, attempted to re-open it on Max Geldman was able to show cents per hour on government July 5 in Minneapolis the Build- July 14, police fired into the pick- the nationwide character of the contracts in the Steel Industry,

think you can't strike against and Eddie Alberts, defendants Government against the Minne- rectly affected the Harrison the government. The court will and leaders of the Federal Work- apolis unemployed. tell you that you CAN STRIKE ers Section, were the principal AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT persons called to the stand so far by the defense.

Armored Cars Used

As US District Attorney Anrelief law as showing a total dis- derson toyed nervously with a regard of the entire wage struc- photograph, Palmquist told of ture of the country, and that the the murderous police assault on act made the government a scab. the pickets-how the cops had To show the ridiculousness of no sooner opened the doors of the the charge of conspiracy, Davis sewing projects, than they dipointed out that in St. Paul at rected a hail of bullets and tear the fair grounds, practically ev- gas at the pickets across the

yet the chief WPA workers' or- "I saw a man fall. It was Emil ganization here, the Federal Bergstrom. He was killed. Arm-

# IN NEW JERSEY **CRUCIBLE STEEL**

Had Lived on Highways

(Continued from Page 1) of the Federal Workers Section. ed guide him to safety, then I permanent state of financial The trial revolves around the saw Pat Roselle of the Federal bankruptcy, for their weekly

set an hourly minimum of 621/2 ing Trades Council voted to ets, killing one and wounding a strike, a fact which by itself the products covered by the Act shows up the absurd "conspiracy" failed to include ordnance and Ed Palmquist, Max Geldman charge levelled by the Federal other munitions work. This diplant-primarily a war ordnance plant which manufactures shells, torpedoes and cannon. Flowing One of the lighter moments from the text of the Act, a gencame when defense attorney Da- eral demand for a 62%c minivis called District Attorney An- mum with a general 6c per hour derson to account for his insuit- increase for all classes of labor ing-behavior toward the witness- is on the order of the day. The es. Anderson excused his actions minimum at present is 56 % e per by saying that people sometimes hour.

act that way "in moments of Other demands include a union

Delegates from ten lodges of But the same act has already the Crucible Steel, headed by succeeded in convicting eight Wathan Cowan, representative for continued conference, negotia-WPA workers in the first two the SWOC, met in New York tions bogged down once more. A flunkeys in the state capital will ply nonsense. The totalitarian buddies die on the last day of exceedingly broad definition of tions director for the Company conspiracy and juries convened and negotiations continued for several days.

> when Harding presented a com- tense Company barrage of fake pany-dictated contract to the del- rumors. An immediate strike call egates for acceptance. The Na- will bring forth a militant distional Office of the union imme- play of solidarity and determinadiately ordered the lodges to tion. A victory for the Crucible hold strike votes:

Lead Steel Struggles

The history of the Crucible Steel Workers has been one of militancy and sacrifice. Since the

Not only were the Crucible Nevertheless, he urged the Ne- workers forced to carry the brunt groes to support the "progress- of their own fight but also the ives" in the Republican and Dem- leadership in the fight for organocratic parties, especially Roose- ization of Republic, Bethlehem

> Newspaper Organizes Fight The formation of the North composed of twenty lodges in northern New Jersey has been an important factor in maintaining

of the Company are avid readers Order it from Dale Edwards, of the "Organizer" and look to it

### Guns Instead of Vitamins For **British Workers**

Vitamins are important. They prevent rickets in children and scurvy in grown-ups.

Fresh fruits are the cheapest way of getting those allimportant vitamins.

But the British workers aren't going to get the vitamins they need.

The British Food Ministry has just barred all imports

of fresh fruit. Officials of the Ministry, commenting on the ban, asserted, according to an Associated Press dispatch:

"Britain can hardly squander her foreign currencies infruit when there are such things as war materials to be bought and paid for."

verwhelming majority of the

Up to Leadership

A temporizing attitude on the Steel Workers will pave the way for a victory in the fight to organize Little Steel. A decision of prime importance faces the National Office of the SWOC.

### RACE RIOT AGAINST AUTO UNION FIZZLES

(Continued from Page 1)

Chrysler strike, was organized by the scab outfit of Homer Martin. Martin's organization has been strikebreaking radio priest same book in the Fall of 1924 the working class to Coughlin and the fascist hireling did Stalin, moved by practical of the corporation, Gerald K. and not theoretical considera-Smith. In each case however, the tions, radically change his postmidweek appeals over the radio tion on this not unimportant isfor strikebreakers turned out to be a fizzle on the following Monday morning where picket lines force Lenin to change his concep- "THAT THEY MAY LIVE," were larger than ever and few tion too. Mr. Gedye unfortunately A REAL ANTI-WAR MOVIE scabs dared to enter the plants. Getting Coughlin's Number

much they paid him." Another step in the creation of Russia must lead inevitably to We got a pleasant surprise,

director of the SWOC that the hand with a new appeal of Rep- at the beginning of 1905. In any of the story is the fight against Company was ready to reopen resentative Clare Hoffman urging case it has nothing in common war after it has started. negotiations. After a week of Dickinson to send in the troops. with the theory of "permanent The hero of the picture is a

meet with in this city if they ever press of Moscow more than once the World War. He sees that they attempt strikebreaking on a large of course has represented my didn't die for anything worthscale against the Chrysler work- views in a caricatural form. Mr. while and swears he will stop any ers was well-put by a General Gedye obviously has assimilated new war. During the following But they were rudely broken part of the SWOC will weaken Motors worker on the Chrysler this caricatural presentation.

off at the end of the fourth day the rank and file before as in-picket line: "If the corporation tries to

break the strike, we'll call out the entire U.A.W. and have a general strike in the city."

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# A. Phillip Randolph

from out-state rural areas.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 19-A. Philip Randolph, International President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (AFL), speaking at the Second Baptist rise of the CIO, they have been Church today presented his program for the Negro people.

nomic insecurity as being the obimperialisms seeking to protect Chain. or acquire colonial interests.

velt and the New Deal, complete- and Inland Steel. Numerous sitly disregarding the fact that downs and rank and file strikes these parties both represent and have been their method of warddefend that same capitalist-impe- ing off the attacks of the Comrialist system. Not one word was pany. said exposing Roosevelt as a warmonger, or criticizing recent administration moves which have War Deal.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

The extensive German pam- rank and file in the area. phlet by H. David: The New The "Steel Workers Organizer," World War and the International monthly publication of the Coun-Labor Movement is on the press. cil, carried on the fight for a new It answers many questions and contract in the Crucible Steel Co. clarifies not a few problems that in an uncompromsing fashion. have arisen during the present Crucible workers in all ten lodges

P. O. Box No. 173, Sta. D, NYC. for leadership. shortly.

frustrated in their fight for a genuine contract. The mistakes He clearly pointed out the of the SWOC in the Crucible cause of unemployment and eco- tle Steel strikes of 1937 were a tremendous set back in the orgasolete capitalist system and de- nization of steel as a whole. This scribed the present war in Eu- had its reflection in the strength rope as a conflict between rival of the SWOC, in the Crucible

converted the New Deal into a Jersey Steel Workers Council the strength and militancy of the

(20c) Unser Wort with the decla- During the week of October ration of the IKD will appear 28th-November 5th, fifteen thousand Crucible Steel Workers, an

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