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THE PRODUCERS NEWS

County Edition

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE UNITED FARMERS LEAGUE

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Dairy Farmers Strike For Higher Milk Price In St. Louis Co., Minn.

FARMERS SET UP OWN COMMITTEES TO GIVE RELIEF

Will Stop Discrimination in Distributing Relief Jobs

FREDERICK, S. D.—The agricultural workers of this county have drawn up a plan for the distribution of relief work in this county. This is the answer of the farmers and workers in this county to the announced intention of County Commissioner John Forsting to discriminate against military farmers and workers and distribute these jobs only to the favorites of the politicians.

The plan, which calls for a county committee made up of three from each township to supervise the distribution of relief jobs, was accepted by a mass meeting of farmers and workers held here on Nov. 24 on the occasion of the return of the Chicago delegates.

Committees were elected from Savo, Richland and Frederick townships. Palmyra has already elected its committee.

At a mass meeting at Savo hall last Thursday, called to discuss relief under the Civil Works program, John Forsting was present by request.

He is the commissioner who got in bad odor a few months ago by making a physical attack on Paul Seidler, Aberdeen labor leader, at a farmers' united front meeting there. The result of that fuss was that Forsting beat an undignified and hasty retreat.

When he was called upon to speak at this Savo Hall meeting he was, to all outward appearances, again the kindhearted gentleman. With his bulky body neatly dressed and with one foot on a chair to show us his spats, he went on to tell how, out of pure patriotism, he was working day and night for the people of the county. He could offer no remedy for the local grievance at the gravel pit as he said it was a federal project.

He then painted a glowing picture of the Civil works program which went into effect (on paper, at least) last Monday. Workers would be paid 50 cents an hour, with a six hour day and five days a week. Although the chairman and a few others questioned him most of us were pretty well hypnotized by his nice sounding plan. And Forsting strutted proudly before his audience.

But all this changed when Seidler, who had come up from Aberdeen with the local delegates returning from the Chicago Conference, rose to speak. Forsting then slumped down on his chair and his head hung between his knees. He finally staggered to his feet and started for the door at the rear of the room, followed by a few boos. Paving the air as he went he shouted that he did not want to listen to Seidler because he did not agree with him. At the door he changed his mind and sat down, remaining there where he could make a quick get-away through out the rest of the meeting. Never before have I seen a man cringe so under attack, or rather fear of attack, for Seidler's talk was mainly a general exposure of the Roosevelt inflation program.

CLEAR FARMER IN KIDNAPPING CASE

Charged With Using Tar Brush on Local Shyluck

By Willis Hibner

ONTARIO, Ore.—I have just finished eight days in the Ada County District Court as defense witness in the John Goertzen case. Goertzen was charged with kidnapping one C. F. Pringle and taking him for a ride to the sagebrush covered Hanson Butte and giving him a coat of tar and feathers. Conviction meant life in the pen.

It was a battle royal. But we cleared Goertzen. The United Farmers League stood behind Goertzen to a man, although he was not a member.

Of course there were more than 100 men in the party that took C. F. Pringle for a ride. Pringle was one of a score of Shylucks in Twin Falls County who were trying to take their "pound of flesh."

Vote Unanimously to Stop Milk Shipments to Virginia Plants

DEMAND 40c INCREASE

Farmers Get Less Than 3c Per Quart for Milk Sold to Workers for 9c

By a Farmer Correspondent

VIRGINIA, Minn.—Farmers shipping milk to Bridgman Russell and the Virginia Creamery went on strike Dec. 1 for an increase of 40 cents per hundred pounds on their milk. This demand means \$1.50 for milk delivered at the farm and \$1.75 for milk delivered at the plant.

The decision to strike was taken Nov. 29 at Angora Town Hall when the creameries told a delegation of farmers that they flatly refused to comply with the demands of the farmers. At the meeting, farmers said that on present prices, they could hardly keep their cows alive. They insisted that the only way to get relief was through mass action, keeping all milk away from the Virginia pasteurizing plants.

The farmers feel confident that all milk supply can be stopped to the pasteurizers and thus force the price paid to the farmer to be raised. The Northland Milk Producers Association with its locals in Forbes and Cook has already initiated action. Now we must get every milk shipper who sends milk to Virginia to join in the strike. Every organization and the United Farmers League locals around Virginia as for instance Brittumont, Florenton, Nebraska, etc., should arrange meetings for getting support to the strike.

The vote to strike was unanimous and word was sent immediately to Forbes so that they would join in immediately. The discussion of the meeting disclosed the bitter hatred of the farmers to the capitalist controlled monopolies of the Bridgman Russell calibers who have reaped huge profits from the farmers. They get less than 3 cents a quart for their milk now whereas the pasteurizers sell for 9 cents. The banker pockets the 6 cents difference. It is against these capitalists that the farmers are fighting. They do not want the milk prices to the consumer to be raised but instead get the worker in the town to fight together with the farmer and to even get the unemployed to help picket the roads.

Majority of South Dakota Farms Tilled by Tenants

State Dept. of Agriculture Admits Small Owners Becoming Scarce

By Willis Hibner

PIERRE, S. D.—The State Department of Agriculture has just issued a report which shows that the majority of South Dakota farmers are landless and labor upon land belonging to others. The figures compiled by the state experts reveal that 70 per cent of the land in farms is operated by landless tenants. Moreover, the state department is forced to admit officially what the Producers News has declared all along—that the land-owning American farmer is being forced out of ownership by insurance companies, banks and other mortgage holders, down into tenantry and even peasantry.

Comparing the figures in 1920, at the beginning of the agricultural crisis, with the figures of May, 1933, in the third year of the general economic crisis, we can see the direction which the ruin of the American farm is taking.

There were: In 1920 May, 1933

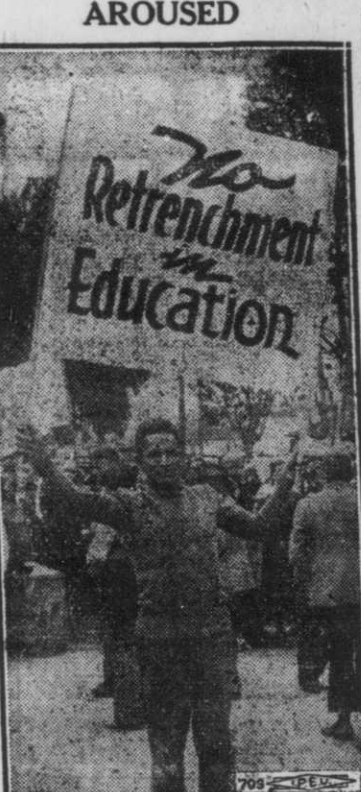
No. of Owners 45,347 36,219

No. of Tenants 30,536 40,400

Total Farmers 75,883 76,623

In 1920, there were 4,800 more owning farmers than there were renting farmers. In the spring of 1933, there were 4,100 MORE RENTING FARMERS than owning farmers. The countryside was changing from a picture of land-owning farmers to one of tenants who toiled upon land in which they had not one whit of ownership.

The above figures apply to the NUMBER of farm operators. When we take the ACREAGE, the



Students all over the country have been aroused by the cuts in education as a result of the depression. Here is one in California demanding that the schools be protected from the panics effect.

WHEAT 'BONUS' IN 19 STATES PAID

AAA Sends Checks to Small Wheat Producing States

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Agricultural Adjustment Administration claims that checks for \$23,316,569 have been mailed out to wheat farmers in 19 states as payment for agreeing to reduce acreage. Farmers in the larger wheat producing states are yet to be paid.

The checks are for the first two payments being made to farmers who agree to reduce their acreage by 15 per cent. The first payment, says the AAA, is at the rate of 20 cents a bushel on the allotment each farmer receives. The second payment of eight cents a bushel will be made next spring, providing there is anything left after the cost of administering the plan is deducted.

The three million already paid is only a fraction of the \$70,000,000 which the government promised to pay during the fall and early winter.

The AAA claims that enough farmers have signed up to reduce acreage by 8,000,000 acres. In the meantime, the Department of Agriculture states that grain prices are tending to fall. For the week ended Dec. 1, the markets were unsettled with prices lower. The demand was dull. The Department attributes the tendency toward falling prices to "weakness in foreign markets" and the selling in December futures.

The 1933-34 world wheat crop outside Russia and China is indicated at about 220,000,000 bushels less than last year's production, but prices thus far in world markets have shown no sustained improvement from last year's levels.

Pan-American Congress Opens In Montevideo

Secretary Hull Represents American Bankers at Conference

HATRED OF YANKEE IMPERIALISM MARKED

Mexico May Force Discussion of Latin American Debts to Wall Street

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay.

—The Pan American conference, called for the avowed purpose of uniting in peace and harmony the nations of North and South America, has opened here almost in earshot of the guns of the two-year-old war between Bolivia and Paraguay.

The sessions are held in the beautiful multi-marble palace of the Uruguayan legislature, flanked by palm trees. The manners of the delegates are the elaborate and extravagant formalities of diplomatic functions. But underneath the finery buzzes political intrigue. Agents of American capitalists vie with agents of British capitalists for the spoils which these Latin American politicians are all too eager to sell to the highest bidder. Many of the delegates represent governments kept in power only by the guns and sabres of American Marines.

Hate U. S. Bankers

Out on the streets of Montevideo and in the rubber, tobacco, hemp and sugar plantations, there is a smoldering hatred for the imperialists, for the American bankers especially. The Latin American workers and peasants, struggling to throw off the yoke of American imperialism, have much to say at this polite congress, if only they get the chance.

Just before Secretary of State Cordell Hull arrived here, police discovered a huge red flag flying from the port. On it were the words: "Out with Hull." Later police raided the working-class section of the city and arrested 20 Communist workers, a part of a group preparing a demonstration against Hull and the American bankers. The police claim they have broken up plans for a general strike which was to have begun Sunday in protest against Hull's appearance.

This is the background of the conference which is supposed to build "peace and harmony."

President Roosevelt has already announced that the American delegation refuses to discuss tariffs, currency or Latin-American debts. It is around these issues, as Roosevelt knows, that the Latin American have some of their greatest grievances against the United States government.

Loans to Paraguay

However the resentment of the Latin American masses against American imperialism is so intense that many things, unpleasant to the ears of Secretary Hull, will not doubt be brought forth.

The consul of Paraguay, for instance, charges the United States with financing with big loans the Bolivian government in its war on Paraguay. He is well within the facts, as even the Senate Investigating Committee showed. But he fails to mention that the British government is financing Paraguay.

Mexico announces that it will force a discussion on debts to the American bankers, despite Hull's instructions. Cuba may insist on revoking the Platt amendment, the notorious swindle treaty by which the United States justifies the use of troops in Cuba to suppress the Cuban masses.

If the Latin-American masses are able to make their voices heard above the intrigues of the diplomats, Hull will see for himself the undying, burning hatred of these masses for the government of the United States and the Wall Street bankers who exploit and oppress them.

EVICTED FAMILIES TO LIVE IN BOX CARS IN OLSON'S MINNESOTA

THIEF RIVER FALLS, Minn.—Fifteen box cars have been shipped into Thief River Falls for homes for local unemployed families dependent on the county for relief. The box cars will be mounted on sleds and towed to their location by the county tractor.

The unemployed have suggested naming their boxcar village Olsonville, in "honor" of the Farmer-Labor governor who promised so much and did so little.

Protest Sentence of Death to Young Scottsboro Boy

This is an appeal to every reader of the Producers News to do his part in the mighty campaign to save the Scottsboro boys from burning in the electric chair. The Negro boys have nowhere to turn except to the masses of workers and farmers. The ruling class is against them and is sending them to death, because they are workers and because they are Negroes. If they die, it is a blow struck against the working people. If they die, it is a victory for the robbers and exploiters who lynch and jail in order to keep their high places and their wealth. It is up to YOU as one of the toilers of this country to save the Scottsboro boys.

Call meetings immediately to pass resolutions condemning the lynch verdict of the Southern court. If funds are not forthcoming immediately, there is a danger that the attorneys will have to leave before the trials are over. Send money to the International Labor Defense, 80 East 11 Street, New York City. Send your letters of protest to Governor B. M. Miller, Montgomery, Ala., and Judge W. W. Callahan, Decatur, Ala.

The Scottsboro boys know that only you can save them. See them through!

GENERAL ASKS LARGER BUDGET

More Money for Preparations Demanded by Army Leader

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Again

the cry for a big army resounded in the capital, when chief of staff, General Douglas MacArthur, reported to the United States Army "is below the larger line" in preparedness. MacArthur, the man who commanded the troops who drove out the Bonus Army, is known in Washington as a "Big Army" man.

According to his report, the army has been "weakened" because of insufficient funds and also because its officers have been taken to train the unemployed in the Civilian Conservation Corps. Instead, MacArthur advocates using the regular officers in the National Guard and Reserve Officers Training Corps, the high school and college division of the army, and assigning reserve officers to the OCC camps.

More and more money from the budget is demanded by MacArthur to equip the army. This means heavier taxation burdens on the workers and farmers. General MacArthur's report is another sign that the United States is racing to prepare for another imperialist world war.

There is still another reason for General MacArthur's insistence on a big army. In the concluding paragraph of his report he says: "In the obvious state of unrest now prevailing throughout the world, evidences of which are plainly visible even in our own country, an efficient and dependable military establishment, constantly responsive to the will of its Government, constitutes a rock of stability and one of a nation's proudest possessions." It is for use in strikes, both of farmers and workers, that MacArthur holds his army in readiness. Because he sees times growing worse and the workers and farmers fighting bitterly against their exploiters, MacArthur is calling for a bigger army which can put down this "unrest."

NEW RELIEF AGENT PICKS WRONG MAN

By a Farmer Correspondent

WILTON, Minn.—The new Relief Agent arrived here and starvation is in order now. The workers and farmers that were on relief before are forced to get along on one dollar to three dollars per month. No clothing is being given out. When a farmer, Henry Krumery, was talking in front of the relief office about the damnable conditions that existed here, he was singled out by the new Relief Agent, L. Fisk, who threatened to beat him up. But Fisk failed to pick out the right party to beat up. When they went down to the alley where the Agent had asked Mr. Krumery to come, he had to back down. He may have remembered that the farmer was an ex-blacksmith.

The United Farmers League of Beltrami county has protested to the Farmer-Labor Governor of Minnesota about the methods used by said relief agent. His answer, when and if it comes, will be printed in a later issue of the Producers News.

Jury Orders Death for Scottsboro Boy In Decatur Trials



Samuel S. Leibowitz (center) has not been harmed at the trial of the Scottsboro boys in Decatur, Ala., and two of the reasons may be seen at his side in this picture. He is constantly under guard while going from court to his rooms. Publicity of lynching threats against counsel and prisoners which included the publication of a pamphlet by an attorney advocating mob action, is believed another cause of the safety of the attorneys and the boys.—Federation Picture.

LEGAL LYNCHING

Judge's Charge to Jury Was Open Invitation to Convict

REFUSED DELAY FOR TESTIMONY OF GIRL

Trial of Clarence Norris 2nd of Youths, Is Begun at Once

DECATUR, Ala.—After 10 hours and 33 minutes in the jury room, the all-white jury trying Heywood Patterson, first of the Scottsboro Boys, brought in a verdict of guilty and recommended that the innocent Negro boy be put to death in the electric chair.

The verdict was not a surprise to Judge W. W. Callahan, Southern landowner who is presiding at the Scottsboro trials. His charge to the jury was a clear order to convict. He instructed the jury in the different ways it might CONVICT the prisoner, but completely neglected to inform the jury how it might FREE the Negro, until he was reminded.

From the very first, the Southern judge did not hesitate to show which way his sympathies went. He snarled at Leibowitz and at Brodsky, I. L. D. attorneys, overruled their objections and time after time refused to permit them to question witnesses in such a way as to bring out evidence damaging to the case of the prosecution.

Perhaps the most open show of the court's intention to legally lynch Patterson was refusal to hold the trial up until the evidence of Ruby Bates, ill in New York, might be taken. It is well known from the first trial that the evidence of Ruby Bates, who denies that the Negro boys laid hands upon either herself or Victoria Price, entirely destroys the case of the prosecution.

Jury Rolls Tampered

Although attorneys for the International Labor Defense proved, through the testimony of a handwriting expert, that the jury rolls had been tampered, the judge denied this as grounds to quash the indictments.

In earlier messages, we have shown how the Judge is rushing through these cases, allowing, he says only three days to each of the boys. He has no regard for the fact that the lives of seven of the Negro boys hang upon these trials. Here in Decatur, he is already referred to as "Speed" Callahan.

While the jury was still out on the case of Patterson, "Speed" had called for a new jury and for the trial of Clarence Norris to begin.

Norris was in court when the jury brought in its verdict. Patterson was brought in handcuffed, surrounded by six deputies. The boy's eyes were fixed on the floor as he entered, and he licked his lips nervously.

A moment later, however, the clerk read the ominous words: "We find the defendant guilty as charged and fix the penalty as death." The Negro boy did not flinch. He stood erect and his face betrayed no emotion.

The International Labor Defense asked for one month to prepare a motion to set aside the verdict.

Callahan's Charge Practically Asks Death

In his charge to the jury, Judge Callahan openly demanded a verdict based on the color of the defendant.

"When a white woman is involved," said the jurist, climaxing the lynch-incitement which he has consistently practiced through the trial, "there is a strong presumption under the law that she did not yield voluntarily to the Negro."

He ordered the jury to refuse to consider any medical testimony as to the impossibility of "Victoria Price's story."

Giving the jury the choice of three verdicts—death in the electric chair, life imprisonment, or imprisonment for a period, Judge Callahan bent on a lynching, legal or illegal, almost forgot to mention the possibility of an acquittal.

Finally, recalling the necessity of fulfilling the technicalities of the law, he scratched his head and said:

"I overlooked one thing. I have given you the form of the verdict for the infliction of the death penalty or imprisonment. Of course, (Continued on Page two)

LOCALS PREPARE FRENCH FARMERS EVICTION FIGHT

County UFL Conference at Bemidji Scheduled Dec. 6

By a Farmer Correspondent

BEMIDJI, Minn.—Two meetings have been held at which delegates reported on the Chicago Conference, one at Eckles township and one at Northern. People seem to think that the program is all right, especially the cancellation of secured debts.

These township locals are now planning ways and means of quick transportation of their members and others, so as to be ready to stop all sheriff sales and evictions.

MARCH ON PARIS

Farmers Protest Low Price; Workers Demand Jobs or Relief

PARIS, France.—Fifty thousand

hunger marchers, many of whom are farmers have been reported as converging on Paris to protest the cut in relief voted by the new government cabinet. The marchers moved in small bands to defeat the attempts of police to prevent their entering the city.

In speeches along the route, the farmers said: "All that we sell, we sell at a loss. All we buy, we pay dearly for. It is unbearable." The workers are demanding jobs or relief.

Alexander Legge, Enemy of Farmers, Dies at 67

Pres. of International Harvester Co.; Headed Hoover's Farm Board

CHICAGO.—Alexander Legge,

president of the International Harvester company and former chairman of Hoover's Federal Farm Board, died at his mansion here at the age of 67.

Death was due to heart disease. The manufacturer returned from the office Saturday morning, where he had been working on an NRA code to enable him to make bigger profits out of the workers in his plants, and complained of feeling ill. The servants sent for a doctor, but Mr. Legge failed to respond to treatment.

Alexander Legge was a farm boy who is said to "have made good." In 1891 he left the farm to take a job as a bill collector for the McCormick Company in Omaha. He succeeded so well in taking the farmers' hard earned money from them that he was taken to Chicago in 1899 as head of the bill collection department. In 1902, when the International Harvester Company was formed by merging McCormick and Deering, he was made assistant manager of domestic sales.

For selling farm machinery to farmers at three times its worth, he was said to have no equal, and success came easily. He was steadily promoted until in 1922, he was made president, succeeding Harold F. McCormick, and began

to draw down a salary of \$100,000 a year.

Mr. Legge was not so selfish, however, as to confine himself entirely to building up his immense fortune. He was a faithful servant to Wall Street and his own dear friends, the money lords.

During the World War, he was a dollar-a-year man, serving as Director of Industrial Mobilization. He was then made chairman of the War Industries Board. In this position, he had charge of all munition shipments both to American troops and allied forces abroad.

At Versailles, where Woodrow Wilson was the agent of the international bankers in forcing the notorious Versailles treaty on the masses of the world, Legge was an advisor to Wilson.

But the greatest ignominy of Mr. Legge was his service as first chairman of the Federal Farm Board, to which he was appointed by Herbert Hoover. For 20 months he administered this great swindle of the American farmers, in the interest of Hoover and his Wall Street backers.

He is survived by two nephews, James and Alex E. Legge of Schuyler, Neb. A third nephew, Roy Legge, is manager of the International Motor Truck Sales branch in San Francisco.

The passing of Alexander Legge will be mourned in Wall Street and in the homes of the wealthy. He will not be missed by workers and farmers he has helped to exploit. Unfortunately there are too many to take his place.