

Negro Reformists Admit Starvation, Misery of Harlem Negro Workers

Racketeer Co-operating Committee on Relief and Unemployment Make Admissions in Statement Not Meant for Public

By CYRIL BRIGGS.

NEW YORK.—That "a condition exists in Harlem among the Negroes of the community which is nothing less than a great human tragedy," and under which "women and children are on the verge of starvation," with mass evictions constituting "a tragedy equal, if not greater than this" as working class families are thrown on the streets to freeze, and that "the havoc that is being wrought among the children in Harlem is appalling," are some of the admissions made by the racketeer preacher-business-men Harlem Co-operating Committee on Relief and Unemployment.

These admissions were not intended for publication. The Negro bourgeoisie and their press in Harlem, the Amsterdam News, New York Age, etc., have done their utmost to hide these facts from the workers. The admissions are contained in a document sent to the American Fund with an appeal for an appropriation of \$165,000 to enable the Negro landlords and preachers (many of the latter themselves landlords) and the other fakery on the Committee to rehabilitate their waning influence among the Negro workers in order to curb the rising revolutionary sentiment of these workers who are hardest hit by the boss policy of throwing ten million workers on the streets to starve and refusing them adequate relief and unemployment insurance.

"There are no words to describe the

suffering—actual physical suffering as well as the humiliation by the wholesale evictions of families," admits the committee in this statement to the American Fund which it did not intend should reach the eyes of the workers of Harlem. Many members of the committee are landlords and real estate agents who themselves are carrying out evictions against their unemployed tenants.

"All personal belongings and furniture either go to storage, probably never to be redeemed, or are left more times than is believable to be carried away or destroyed."

The Committee further declares it has appeals "from 189 families at the present time on the threshold of evictions." It admits there is little possibility it will do anything for these tenants. 587 families have appealed to the committee for coal, on an average of 11 new families a day. "Negroes are still being laid off," it admits. "The whole structure of family life in Harlem is being seriously attacked because thousands of families have no security beyond 24 hours."

One of the things for which it requests an appropriation from the American Fund is to provide "made work" for 500 heads of families for 2 months. Completely copying the tactics of the white bourgeoisie, the Committee says: "The item of \$65,000 has been added to the original budget because of the known value of work in preserving the morale of the family."

On the committee are such fakery and exploiters of the Negro masses as Rev. Shelton Hale Bishop, rector of St. Philips Church, which owns a block of the worst-kept houses in Harlem; Fred Moore, reactionary alderman; Braddicks, assistant vice president of the Rockefeller Dunbar National Bank; Cecilia C. Saunders, executive secretary of the Jim Crow Y. W. C. A., on 137th St.; Henry C. Parker, and other rent-gouging real estate agents, and Roy B. Lancaster, who sold out the Pullman Porters to the Democratic Party for a mess of pottage.

PATERSON A.F.L. AIDS BOSS BAKERS

Faking 1-Man Strike at Organized Shop

PATERSON, March 16.—The A. F. of L. bakers' "union" of Paterson, which has never done anything to organize the unorganized bakers and does not even organize the less skilled workers of their so-called organized shops, has now become active in help-