

## Flogging Victim's Friends Vote Union Despite Klan

Gordon, Ga.—Marking a notable victory in the AFL campaign to organize the South, employees of the Gordon Clay Co. voted 375 to 80 to join Local 233 of the Cement, Lime and Gypsum Workers' Union in an election held by the National Labor Relations Board.

The victory was especially gratifying to AFL organizers in view of the fact that the company had stoutly resisted efforts to unionize its workers. The anti-union activities came to a climax when one employe, Willie Dudley, Negro, was kidnapped and flogged recently by four men, who identified themselves as Klansmen, because he refused to resign from the union.

The incident evoked a scathing denunciation by AFL President Wil-

liam Green, who, terming it "cowardly and unAmerican," immediately authorized George Gooze, director of the AFL southern campaign, to lodge a formal protest with Governor Arnall of Georgia, and intimated he would submit the matter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for inquiry.

Fast on the heels of Mr. Green's protest, the company announced it would not further resist efforts of its workers to join the union and the drive for membership took on fresh impetus.

The reports of the kidnaping and flogging, submitted to Mr. Green by William Schoenberg, president of the International Union, and Felix C. Jones, business representative of the Union's District Council

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## 19,000 In Brooklyn Navy Yard Be Cut From Payroll

New York City—The most drastic layoff of civilian personnel initiated in this area by the Navy was revealed by announcement of Rear Admiral F. E. Haeberle, commandant of the U. S. Navy Yard at Brooklyn, that 19,000 workers would be dropped from the payroll between now and next June 30.

Admiral Haeberle told The Shipworker, organ of the yard's workers, that official orders would compel him to discharge 17,000 employes between now and September 30 and an additional 2,000 before June 30, 1947, thus reducing

the yard's personnel from 28,000 to 9,000 by the latter date.

Admiral Haeberle said that the provisions of his order required that the force's personnel be cut to 20,000 the first quarter of the current fiscal year, which began July 1, to "about" 11,000 during the second quarter, commencing October 1; to "about" 9,500 in the third quarter, starting March 1, and to "about" 9,000 during the final quarter.

"It is obvious that the reduction in the force required to attain an average of 20,000 for the first (Continued on Page 2)

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## Senate Approves Truman's Nominees

Washington, D. C.—In a hastily given voice vote, and without debate, the Senate approved President Truman's nominees to a three-member de-control board which will have vast power in designating what commodities henceforth will remain under OPA control.

The board is composed of a banker, a manufacturer and a bureaucrat. It embraces no labor or consumer representation. The members are Roy L. Thompson, president of the Federal Land Bank of New Orleans; Daniel W. Bell, Washington banker and former Acting Director of the Budget and Under-Secretary of the Treasury; and George H. Mead of Dayton, Ohio, chairman of the board of the Mead Corporation, pulp and paper manufacturers, and a member of the advisory board of the Office of War Mobilization and Conversion.

Shortly after the Senate acted, Thompson, chairman of the new group, expressed confidence the board will be able to do its job quickly.

"The quicker we can find the possibility of getting things out from under price controls, the sooner we can arrive at the situation we're all looking for," he said. "If we can get production going at its proper rate, competitive forces can bring prices into proper relationships and remove the necessity of Government controls."

Meanwhile, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics revealed the average prices for farm products is the highest in 37 years of record. The list includes grain, meat animals, cotton, poultry, eggs and dairy products.

In the month ended July 15, average farm prices made the greatest monthly jump in history.

The bureau report showed a general increase in the month of 23 points in the parity level, to 244

No. 5, said that on June 7 two employes of the company identified as N. E. Kinchen and B. P. Humphries, visited Dudley at his home and demanded in vain that he sign a notarized resignation from the union. Early on the morning of June 9, he was taken from his work by four masked men who brandished pistols, handcuffed him, carried him away and beat him with rubber hose.

per cent of the 1909-141 average upon which priority is based.

15 crop report predicting the greatest corn and wheat crop in history, would indicate farm income this year will reach a level never before experienced in the United States.

Prices of shirts, shorts and pajamas were raised 11 per cent by OPA.

Men's and boys' dress shirts and boys' sport shirts costing less than \$1.95 were upped 21 per cent. This means that a shirt selling pre-

viously at \$1.80 was increased to \$2.15. Officials were frank to admit further increases soon may be ordered and that the prospect for "reasonable" prices for cotton clothing is "awfully bad," since they now are at record highs and still on the climb.

Officials indicated also that ceilings on flour, coffee and canned vegetables probably will be increased in the next few days to compensate for the loss of subsidies.

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