

\$2 Day Florida Negro Labor Threatens L. I. Relief Crisis

MUST SAVE CASH TO PAY THEIR WAY BACK TO HOMES

Farmers Insist They Make No Profits Even With Cut-Rate Field Hands

LOCAL LABORERS DEMAND \$4 DAY FOR SAME WORK

By LEON M. SILER
A hundred yards makes a lot of difference in the pay of farm hands out in the Long Island potato-lettuce-cabbage-sweet corn belt. Just south of the old Curtiss airport at Valley Stream is the farm of Anton Hoefner, who raises a lot of potatoes and a lot of other things. He has about a hundred acres.

It was Hoefner who originated the idea of bringing colored workers to Long Island from Florida for farm work. He has fifteen Florida hands and pays them \$2 a day—\$12 a week. They board themselves. A day's work is twelve hours.

One Pays \$1.50 a Day
Emil Reiser has a farm a hundred yards down the road from the Hoefner place. The hands who work for Reiser are white, and he pays them \$3.50 to \$4 a day plus forty cents an hour for overtime. A day's work is from 7 A. M. to 5:30 P. M. With their overtime pay, the men get \$30 to \$35 a week. They board themselves.

Both Hoefner and Reiser say they find it difficult to make any money farming. At the Hoefner place, however, there were some signs of success, in the shape of four new trucks—two big ones for market hauling and two smaller ones and Hoefner's new La Salle coupe.

There's another angle to the comparison. Hoefner has a farm and a hundred acres of orange and grapefruit trees at Fort Pierce, Fla. He has five sons, and one of them runs the Florida place, the other four helping out at the Long Island place.

In Florida in Winter
The colored men work for Hoefner in Florida in the winter and in New York in the summer.

Young Hoefner in Fort Pierce has been doing some missionary work for other Long Island farmers, in the way of supplying hands.

Up in Nassau County south of Westbury, just off Old Country Road, are the brothers Rotkamps, Ben A. and William R. Their farms are adjoining. Eleven young colored men, fresh from Florida, are working for them. Young Hoefner at Fort Pierce sent the eleven, Ben Rotkamp said.

The Rotkamps and Anton Hoefner are brothers-in-law. Anton Hoefner said he didn't know of his son having arranged to supply any other farmers with labor.

Bus Fare a Problem
Considerable uncertainty developed as to how much the Rotkamps were paying their eleven imported hands.

"It's two dollars a day and they keep themselves," said Ben Rotkamp. "Mr. Hoefner down in Florida promised we would get \$2.50 a day," chorused six of the hands. "We got \$3 the first week, and Mr. Rotkamp kept us."

Rotkamp said he paid the bus fare of the men here from Florida about \$17 each, he thought it was. "They will have to save enough out of their wages to pay their own way back," he said.

"They told us they took a dollar out of our pay the first week to pay the bus fare, and that we would have to make it all up," the sextet insisted.

Pay Their Own Rent
The men said they were paying their own rent, beginning this week for rooms in a nearby community, but they didn't know how much.

Hoefner said he had been bringing Florida labor here for the summer months for the last six years. Joseph A. Rose, who grows potatoes at a farm on Herriek Road near Mineola, has six Florida colored men on his place who have worked for him each summer for three years.

Few Long Island farmers are prosperous. The thought of \$2-a-day labor is enticing to them. There are plenty of promoters down South who would be glad to organize a methodical supply of summertime hands. At almost any time the present trickle may grow to a big stream.



From Florida to Long Island by bus came these farmhands to make their fortune... Pay is \$2 a day and they "keep" themselves, with the question of who pays their bus fare still seemingly in doubt.

Does L. I. Need Farm Hands? The Answer Is 15 Times No

Cheap Labor From South in Fields—Growers Want None at Any Wage

By JOHN BOTT
Staff Correspondent New York Post
MINEOLA, L. I., June 5.—I have just finished visits to fifteen Nassau County farms. I went to each of them to ask for a job of any kind. I was turned down fifteen times.

The farms at which I asked for work are all located in the heart of the potato belt. Three days ago farmers here complained bitterly that farm labor in the region was so scarce that help had to be imported from the South.

That looked like my chance to get a job. Thursday afternoon—looking like a fellow who needed work—I arrived here.

Ready For Anything
I wanted a job and I didn't care about wages, hours or working conditions. I was willing, big enough to do any work I got, and anxious to take any work offered.

I spent a day and half walking the country roads with my city feet. At the end of the trek I had two sore feet, one sun-burned face and numerous aches.

I also no job. I was too tired even to go find Joseph Walsh, president of the Farmers' and Gardeners' Association of Nassau County. It was Mr. Walsh who first told the world—and me—that farm jobs were going begging in Nassau County.

If they are no one wanted to give me charity. What He Found
This is what I found: Lots of talk about no labor but even less talk about open jobs.

Changes in farm labor due to the actions of the farmers not of the farm hands. Farmers don't want boarding-in hands. They won't hire year-round workers.

The Negro hands imported from the South aren't as happy as Mr. Walsh believes. Many plan to quit and go home unless their wages are raised and their working conditions improved.

I started my job hunt in a Hicksville diner. I asked there where work on a farm could be found. The people in the diner called me a "chump" warned me of poor pay and tough work, and then, shaking their heads at a sap, sent me to the local newspaper office.

Arrived there, I went to the editor's office. He knew lots of persons who needed help. In fact, he'd call two of them. He did. No job. Would I come around tomorrow? By that time he'd surely have something.

If he did, I'm sorry. I never did go back. I asked people on the street and in a couple of taverns. I got a little tired of being called a sap, but I wanted a job, so I didn't say anything. A couple of men suggested Joe Rose, whose farm is located on Herriek Road, as a good possibility. He, they told me, had imported help from the South.

"Get All I Need"
It was late and I decided to call at Rose's early in the morning. I was at the farm, on the outskirts of Mineola, early, all right, but the workers were already out in the fields. A lady told me the boss would be in soon. I waited.

JOHN D.'S ESTATE IS \$25,000,000

One Granddaughter Is Sole Heiress of Income at Discretion of Trustees

Continued from Page One
she wanted to be sure the man she married was not interested in her money. Finally she shocked Europe and America by eloping with Georges de Cuevas in 1927. She met him in the Paris dress shop of Prince Felix Youssouf, where he was a designer.

In 1902 Mr. Henderson took a job with the New York Journal, but had been there only six months, in charge of its editorial page, when he accepted the post as music critic for the Sun.

Newspaper men attributed a large measure of his success to the fact that his instinct for news never deserted him, and he coupled his reportorial talents with an enthusiasm for his music work.

In addition to several books on music dating from his days on the Times, Mr. Henderson wrote several nautical books for children and once published a volume of poetry.

He scorned his title of dean—saying that "all any one has to do to be the 'dean' of anything is to live longer than the other fellow."

John Robertson Dunlap
John Robertson Dunlap, editor and publisher of numerous scientific books and magazines, died today at the New York Athletic Club, where he resided. He was eighty.

He was president and general manager of the Louisville (Ky.) Daily Courier from 1884 to 1887. He later launched many magazines in the engineering field and wrote more than forty books on management problems.

Col. Howard T. Kingsbury
Funeral services for Col. Howard Thayer Kingsbury, authority on international and military law, will be held at St. James Church, Madison Avenue, at 4 P. M. Monday.

He died at his home, 115 East Seventieth Street, yesterday after a long illness. He was sixty-seven years old. His wife, Mrs. Alice Bussing Kingsbury, and a son, Howard T. Kingsbury, Jr., survive.

Colonel Kingsbury was a native of Rome, N. Y., and an honor graduate of Yale University and the New York Law School. He read law while clerking for Couderc Brothers, was admitted to the bar in 1893 and from then until 1900 was associated with the firm of Lee & Lee.

He then returned to Couderc Brothers, became a member of the firm and remained so the rest of his life.

Colonel Kingsbury was a former vice-president of the American branch of the International Law Association and a member of the executive councils of the American Society of International Law and the American Law Institute.

Dr. Frederick J. Bliss
Special Dispatch to New York Post
WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., June 5.—Funeral services were held in Ferncliff Cemetery, Westchester County, today for Dr. Frederick Jones Bliss, archaeologist and educator, who died in a hospital here Thursday after a prolonged illness. He was seventy-eight.

W. J. HENDERSON, MUSIC CRITIC, 81, SUICIDE IN HOTEL

Writer on Sun Shoots Himself in Nurse's Absence—Became Reporter in '76

H. T. KINGSBURY FUNERAL TO BE HELD HERE MONDAY

William J. Henderson, eighty-one-year-old dean of American music critics, committed suicide today at his suite in the Hotel Langwell, 123 West Forty-fourth Street, where he had been ill for several months. He had been connected with the New York Sun since 1902.

Mr. Henderson shot himself with a .38 calibre revolver he had used in the World War. He had been left alone momentarily by a male nurse who had attended him almost constantly.

The nurse and Mrs. Henderson, the former Miss Julia Wall, were in an adjoining room. They found Mr. Henderson slumped over his desk, where he had been at work on an article for his paper.

A son of theatrical parents, he learned to play the piano as a child, was of a studious nature and inclined toward journalism from boyhood.

After graduating from Princeton University in 1878, he became a cub reporter on the New York Tribune. He transferred to the New York Times in 1883, writing music criticisms in addition to his routine assignments. Eventually he became head of its music department.

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ANOTHER DU PONT IS BETROTHED



GENEVIEVE L. ESTES AND NICHOLAS R. DU PONT

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., June 5 (AP)—Miss Genevieve Livingston Estes, a Jacksonville society girl, will marry Nicholas Ridgely du Pont of Wilmington, Del., in the near future.

Mr. Young Estes, mother of the girl, announced the engagement yesterday. The bride-elect made her debut last season.

Du Pont, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene du Pont of Owls Nest, Greenville, Del., is a brother of Ethel du Pont, who will marry Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr. June 30.

TEACHERS PICKET ROUND THE CLOCK

Hold City Hall Line in All-Night Vigil—Civic Virtue Joins Ranks

Almost certain of defeat because the Board of Estimate yesterday spurned their appeal and wearied after an all-night siege, members of the Teachers Union picketed City Hall until 10:30 A. M. today.

The pickets were barred from City Hall Plaza itself until the police relaxed their vigilance at 3 A. M. Then Civic Virtue began to bear the brunt of their resentment.

Stealing into the park, the pickets hung signs on the statue, and the Fat Boy began to take on an incongruous appearance.

One placard said: "Every teacher a regular teacher." Another: "Accept no substitutes." Police waded into the pool below this morning and removed the signs.

At 4 A. M. seventy-five pickets lined up along the fence on the Broadway side of the park, near Mail Street, and started to sing "The Star-Spangled Banner" and other songs. An audience of derelicts looked on amused.

At 8 A. M. fifteen pickets rested nearby. Later they announced they were going to the Hotel Astor to have breakfast and to confer.

Extortion Charged
The State contends Plumeri, alias Jimmy Doyle, and his nephew, John Dioguardi, alias Johnny Dio, extorted money from independent truckmen.

At the opening of the case today, William Brown, owner of the Dependable Trucking Company, 34 West Twenty-fifth Street, who testified yesterday, reiterated under cross-examination that Plumeri and two other men intimidated him and beat up his brother.

CITY PHARMACIST OUSTED IN PROBE

Charges Lead Back to Dry Era When Alcohol "Leak" Was Discovered

Matthew Blair, chief pharmacist in the Purchase Department, preparing medicines for the city's hospitals and free clinics, was removed from office by Commissioner Russell Forbes today for "neglect of duty and incompetence."

Mr. Forbes, after an investigation, found Blair not guilty on a charge growing out of his failure to explain how he banked \$86,023 from January 1, 1928, to December, 1931, on a total salary during that time of \$12,601.

On four other counts, however, involving preparation of medicinal products in the departmental laboratory on Welfare Island, Mr. Forbes found the pharmacist guilty.

During prohibition, it was learned, much alcohol intended for use in certain solutions was found to be mysteriously missing from the solutions. Other irregularities, dating back several years, prompted Mr. Forbes' suspicions in January, 1936.

Fearing harm would come to the city's sick, Mr. Forbes obtained trained chemists from pharmaceutical companies. Their discoveries pointed to Blair, he said.

Blair lives at 32-44 Eighty-third Street, Jackson Heights, Queens. His salary was \$3580 a year. His dismissal is not effective until June 30. He collects vacation pay meanwhile.

CONVICT LABOR BAN FAILS
TRENTON, N. J., June 5.—By filing the measure in the State Library, Governor Harold G. Hoffman had today automatically vetoed a bill making it illegal for counties to use convict-quarried stone on roads where State funds are allotted by the Highway Department.

James Plumeri, one of the defendants in the trucking racket trial, once threatened to cut off the ears of a solicitor for an independent trucking concern, Supreme Court Justice McCook and the jury trying the case here today.

The solicitor, Mack Walschin, nervous and afraid to give his home address, offered the testimony. He was questioned by Murray I. Gurfein, one of Special Prosecutor Dewey's aides.

Threat Made in 1933
He said that late in 1933 he was conferring with his employer, Charles King, truckman of 280 Lafayette Street, when Plumeri and two other men entered the room.

"Listen, guy," he quoted Plumeri as saying, "if I catch you in any of my buildings soliciting business from my customers I'll cut your ears off."

Plumeri was then president of the Five Boroughs Trucking Corporation, with which the King firm was competing.

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ARCO RAZOR BLADES

5 for 15c

4 Grave Family Plot

JEWISH MEMORIAL PARK

Day Line

UP & DOWN

WIN \$500.00

SEE MONDAY'S POST FOR DETAILS OF KAROL GROOM SHAVE CONTEST

Alexander

FOR CARPETS

STOP AT LEWINTER'S

FOR THE "BUY OF THE YEAR"

HAIR PERFECT!

The Floating Oil HAIR TONIC.

Olene

ERADICATES DANDRUFF

Below 0

Poorest Man Tells Court His Only Assets Are Angry Creditors

B'KLYN MOVIE GIRL WEDS

SCREEN ACTOR TONIGHT

Below 0

Poorest Man Tells Court His Only Assets Are Angry Creditors