

# Sacco and Vanzetti Must Be Set Free!

WM. Z. FOSTER

"I put my faith in the workers! If they fail me all will be lost. I have no confidence in capitalist justice. I have had my experience with that." Thus spoke Vanzetti to me when I visited him in Charlestown State Prison, Boston. This typical rebel message which might have been said by Tom Mooney, Jacob Dolla or any other of the militant class war prisoners was rendered all the more forceful by the quiet, unassuming soft voiced prisoner—Bartolomeo Vanzetti.

Despite the fact that he has been three years in prison, serving an unwarranted sentence, he met us with a smile and repeated assurances of his loyalty to the cause of labor. He is one of those characters that are an inspiration in the bitter struggle upward and onward of the working class.

Vanzetti is a victim of a double frame-up. Besides being adjudged guilty of murder in the first degree along with Nicola Sacco for the crime in South Braintree, which neither had a thing to do with, he is serving an atrocious sentence of from twelve to fifteen years for another crime of which he is equally guiltless. In the clutches of his class enemies he is so deeply enmeshed in the net of persecution that it might well break the heart of a less sturdy character.

From the first I have been satisfied of the innocence of these two men. Today I had an opportunity of examining the newly discovered evidence in this now famous case. I was very much impressed. In addition to the affidavits of Lola R. Andrews and Louis Felser that the Commonwealth had intimidated and coerced into giving evidence the record is now burd-

ened with four contradictory stories made by them. Carlos E. Goodridge another identification witness for the Commonwealth is now admittedly not Carlos E. Goodridge but Erastus C. Whitney, a twice convicted felon from the State of New York and at the time he went on the stand was a fugitive from justice.

But even more convincing than the above paragraph was the micrometer measurements and photographs recently made of the mortal bullet and Sacco's gun. These measurements were made and photographs taken by Albert H. Hamilton, one of the best known experts on criminal work in the United States. After examining these at great length and studying the record in the Defense office my conclusion is that aside from any oral testimony that might have been introduced in this case this stands out alone as positive proof of their innocence and completely vindicates them of any connection with this crime. It shows conclusively that the mortal bullet did not pass through the gun claimed by the prosecution to have been owned by Sacco.

In order that this new and vital evidence may be fully developed and a new trial secured for Sacco and Vanzetti a renewed effort will be required on the part of all interested in this famous case. Money is most urgently needed. If the workers at large display the merest fraction of the interest in the Sacco-Vanzetti case that the latter show in the struggle of the workers, money will come pouring in. This great case must be won! If it is, a heavy blow will be dealt to the "frame-up" system in America. Sacco and Vanzetti must be freed! They will be, if Labor is true to them.