

As from this hour You use your power, The World must follow you

# THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER

Official Organ of Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO  
MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 1328 SECOND STREET NORTH

Stand all as one  
Till right is done!  
Believe and dare and do!

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FIVE CENTS

## Tobin's Hired Stoolpigeon, James Bartlett, Is The First Prosecution "Witness" in Trial of 28

### Miners Defend Union Rights Vs. Roosevelt

#### White House Retreats After Trying to Force Compulsory Arbitration Upon Captive Mine Strikers

The United Mine Workers went back to work Thursday after a three-day strike against the Steel Trust's "captive" mines—but only after they had established the right to continue the strike if they are dissatisfied with the recommendations of the National Defense Mediation Board.

The 53,000 "captive" mine strikers defended the right of labor to strike, despite tremendous pressure from President Roosevelt upon the United Mine Workers and its president, John L. Lewis.

The tentative settlement of the captive mine strike represents a victory for all labor. Roosevelt had sought, through three open letters to Lewis, to force compulsory arbitration upon the miners and thus set a precedent whereby the nation's union movement would be helpless.

#### Government Backs Down

Before Lewis' determined stand, the government finally backed down Wednesday night and conceded the right of the miners to strike again if further negotiations do not result in a settlement satisfactory to the miners.

Immediate issue in the strike was the union shop, in effect with mine operators representing 90 per cent of the national coal tonnage, but rejected by J. P. Morgan's Steel Trust for the miners in the Trust's captive mines in five Eastern states.

No less significant issues involved were the fundamental right of labor to strike; and the question of the unionization of the steel industry. It was understood by Lewis, by Roosevelt and by the House of Morgan, that a miners' victory would greatly aid the steel workers in their struggle for a union shop against the poisonous propaganda of the Steel Trust that the workers shouldn't pay union dues because they get the benefits of the CIO's union contracts anyway.

During the strike, President Roosevelt came to the aid of the

U. S. Steel Corporation by addressing three letters to President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers, insisting the miners give up their right to strike. Under Roosevelt's pressure, the strike rapidly developed into a grave issue for the American labor movement. Roosevelt's insistence that the miners submit to compulsory arbitration was obviously an attempt on the part of the White House to set a precedent whereby the right to strike of workers in "war industry" (and every industry is interpreted today as a "war industry") would no longer be recognized.

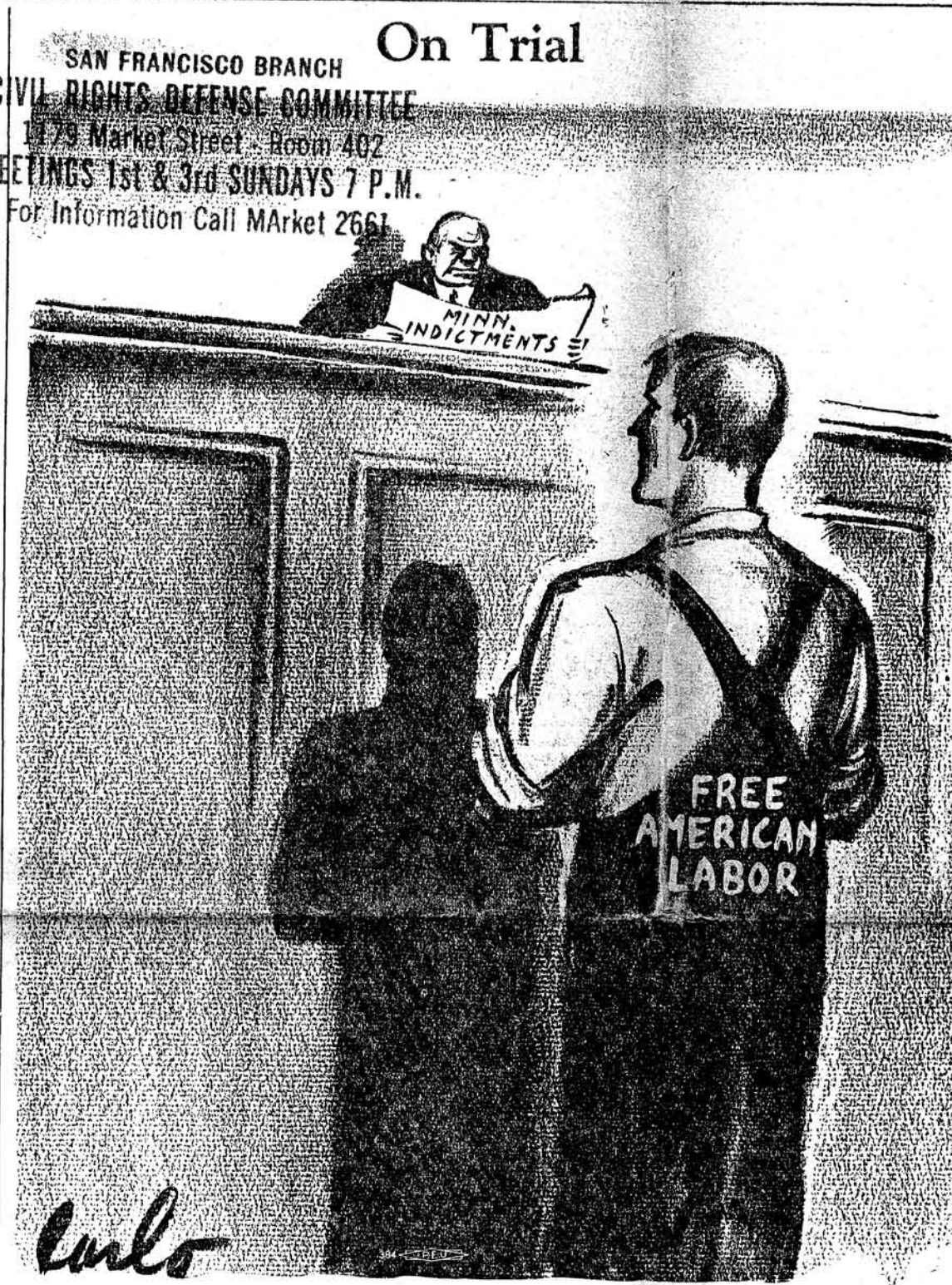
When Roosevelt let it be known that he might call out the army to break the strike, Lewis countered with the threat to call a general strike of all miners. "Miners don't work without an agreement," Lewis bluntly said.

**FDR Fails to Break Strike**  
Roosevelt's efforts to break the strike had the full support of J. P. Morgan who controls the Steel Trust and the captive mines of the National Association of Manufacturers who said last Saturday that the strike "threatens the complete paralysis of our national defense effort"; and of Congress.

Roosevelt and his advisers flustered about the White House day and night, trying to cook up ways to break the strike. Among the proposals being considered by the President, according to the October 27th N. Y. Times, were:

- To order Congress to act against the strike;
- To pass a law banning the closed shop in war industries "for the emergency";
- To appeal to the miners

(Continued on page 2)



### This Is How the Jury Was Chosen

Panel Selected by Court Clerk, Jury Commissioner — No Unionists, No Industrial Workers Called — Defense Counsel Barred from Questioning Prospective Jurors

Many workers have expressed surprise over the fact that there aren't any trade unionists serving on the jury in the "sedition" trial of the Local 544-CIO and the Socialist Workers Party members. An explanation of the method used in picking the jury will shed light on the subject.

The clerk of the Federal Court and the Jury Commissioner each sends out letters to county officials throughout the state to heads of local Chamber of Commerce Boards and to other "substantial" people, asking them to submit names of residents who will serve on the panel from which the jury is to be chosen.

**Panel Not Representative**  
Thus the panel itself becomes an arbitrary selection of individuals determined only by those to whom the court clerk and jury commissioner see fit to send letters, and not at all an accurate cross-section of the population.

An analysis of the occupations of the members of the panel in this trial will clearly prove this. Of the forty or so persons called up and examined as prospective jurors before the jury was completed, thirteen were independent business men. There were four bankers and another four who had important executive positions with large corporations. There was one investment broker and one newspaper owner. One of the women on the panel was the wife of another newspaper owner.

Included in the panel were two Selective Service Board officials, a Justice of the Peace, a former policeman, a former deputy sheriff, and two special deputies mobilized against the 1934 drivers strikes. There were only four who could be classified in any way as wage workers.

There wasn't a single industrial worker among the forty, and not one single trade unionist. This, it should be remembered, in a trial in a city which is the industrial heart of the Northwest. Also enlightening is the fact that in the completed jury of twelve, only two were residents of Minneapolis. The rest were either farmers or from small towns and villages in Minnesota.

The second handicap from which the defense suffered was the judicial ruling which prevented defense counsel from examining prospective jurors. Judge Joyce conducted questioning of prospective jurors and refused to allow defense attorneys to examine any directly. The third handicap the defense suffered is that only part of the questions it wanted to put to the prospective jury members were

### Informers Had Helped FBI Agents in Case

#### Prosecutor's Statement Shows Trial Is Aimed Against Right of Free Speech; Attorney Goldman Answers with Firm Defense of Workingclass Right to Its Own Ideas

A stoolpigeon in the pay of Dictator Tobin was, appropriately enough, the first prosecution "witness" in the famous "sedition" trial in which 28 Local 544-CIO and Socialist Workers Party members face possible conviction and sentences up to sixteen years each.

The Tobin hiring was James Bartlett. This was the fourth time that Bartlett had testified on behalf of his master, Tobin, against the working class leaders who are on trial. Bartlett's previous three appearances as an informer laid the groundwork for this trial.

Bartlett appeared for Tobin last March, as head of a so-called "Committee of 99," to file charges with the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council against the leadership of Local 544 as "radicals." When Bartlett got nowhere in the Teamsters Joint Council with his attempt to aid Tobin in removing the Local 544 officers, Bartlett did his second stoolpigeon job in April, in Chicago, where he appeared before a special Tobin-appointed committee, and repeated his red-baiting attack on Local 544.

The third time he did this was in June, in Washington, in Tobin's presence, providing the AFL Teamsters Dictator with a flimsy pretext for his decision to appoint a dictator receiver to take over control of Local 544.

When Local 544 rejected Tobin's decision and, by vote of the overwhelming majority of the union membership, disaffiliated from the Tobin outfit and accepted a charter from the CIO on June 9, Tobin moved to prepare the stage for Bartlett's fourth appearance.

On June 13 Tobin telegraphed Roosevelt asking aid against Local 544-CIO. The same day Roosevelt's secretary, Stephen Early, announced to

the press that Roosevelt condemned the CIO for chartering Local 544 and that the President had instructed Early to notify "the appropriate governmental agencies."

The "appropriate" agencies turned out to be the FBI, which raided the Socialist Workers Party headquarters in the Twin Cities on June 27; and the Department of Justice, which drew up an indictment against the 28 and had it adopted by a grand jury on July 15.

Having thus instigated this witch hunt trial, it was only the crowning act of infamy for Tobin to have his stoolpigeon act as the first—and probably the main—prosecution "witness" against the 28 defendants.

**A Political Trial**  
Bartlett's role was indicated by the two-hour opening prosecution statement Tuesday by U. S. District Attorney Victor Anderson. This is purely a political trial, a prosecution directed primarily against the working class principles of the defendants, Anderson implicitly admitted. He denied that it was necessary to prove that "overt acts" were committed by the defendants. All that was necessary to prove them guilty of "conspiracy to overthrow the government by force," said Anderson, was to bring in the newspapers and pamphlets of the Socialist Workers Party and show that it is a party of revolutionary ideas.

During the time Bartlett has been on the stand so far—on Wednesday—he spent the time identifying newspapers and pamphlets, identifying various defendants as party members, and describing the party's structure in Minneapolis in such a way as to picture himself as an active member—obviously in preparation for a lurid tale he will unfold later.

Under questioning, Bartlett revealed that he had previously been aiding FBI agents in preparing government exhibits for introduction into this case.

**Albert Goldman Speaks**  
Unquestionably the outstanding event in this trial so far was the opening statement for the defense, which was made by Attorney Albert Goldman.

Nationally famous as one of the greatest labor lawyers, Goldman will be remembered by Minneapolis workers as the lawyer who so courageously defended the strikers in the great 1934 drivers' strikes

here. Thousands of workers will remember Goldman especially as the labor orator who expressed their own feelings so well when he delivered the funeral address for Henry Ness when he was murdered by Bloody Johannes' cops in August, 1934.

Under any circumstances the appearance in court of this great orator and labor defender would be an event. But what made his presence in the Minneapolis federal courtroom so dramatic was the fact that Albert Goldman was himself one of the 28 on trial. This is the first time in the history of any labor trials, so far as anyone can recall, that a defense attorney was also one of the defendants on trial.

The firm and lofty defense of the working class principles of the defendants which Albert Goldman made will go down in history as one of the brightest pages in the story of the American labor movement. (Part of the text of Goldman's address to the jury appears on page 3 of this paper.)

Every man is entitled by law to a trial by a jury of his peers; and if the composition of the jury followed the spirit of that law, Goldman's address would have been sufficient for an acquittal. But the jury, quickly completed by the morning of the second day, does not include a single person who is or ever was a trade unionist. The method of choosing juries was heavily weighted against the possibility of any industrial workers turning up on the jury panel.

**FBI Agent's "Proof"**  
The level of the government's case is indicated by the testimony of FBI agent Thomas Perrin, who followed Bartlett to the stand. He testified that he swore out an affidavit to authorize the June 27 raids, on the basis that he had purchased at the Socialist Workers Party headquarters, 30 minutes before he swore out the affidavit, a piece of literature entitled the "Communist Manifesto."

That famous Manifesto, written by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels in 1848, has been circulated uninterruptedly throughout the world in all languages since that date; it is in every list of great literature; it is required reading in the social sciences courses in universities throughout the country; it has been published by many

### So This Is the 'Revelation' that Biddle Promised

Anderson's opening statement, making clear that the prosecution is building its whole case around articles and pamphlets published by the Socialist Workers Party, recalls to mind the promise of "sensational revelations" made four months ago by U. S. Attorney General Biddle.

"A hint that startling revelations on subversive activities in the Twin Cities would be forthcoming was dropped last night by government officials," the Minneapolis TRIBUNE reported on June 30. The paper went on to quote a spokesman for Biddle, Assistant Attorney General Schweinhaut, who said he "believed the government had evidence of Socialist Workers Party activities in the Twin Cities which goes far beyond public knowledge." (Minneapolis TRIBUNE, June 30.)

But the "documentary evidence" being introduced by the prosecution could be purchased by anybody, not only in the public book stalls maintained by the Socialist Workers Party in the Twin Cities, but also in many other book shops and news-stands here as well as elsewhere in the nation. Most of it can also be found in the public libraries.

The only thing that was "beyond public knowledge" until Anderson spoke was the amount of gall it took to promise "startling revelations" and then produce a bunch of easily obtainable newspapers and books!

conservative publishing houses. Not even the notorious witch hunter, A. Mitchell Palmer, dared attempt to outlaw the Communist Manifesto.

Yet this was the pamphlet which provided the basis for the raids and the subsequent indictment!

No session of court was held Thursday. By that time it had become obvious that the case could not go on until the defense had some opportunity to examine a hundred published articles or parts of articles which the prosecution was about to introduce. Anticipating this situation the defense had asked, prior to the trial, for a Bill of Particulars, but this had been refused by the prosecution and the judge. The defense is now given one day in which to check this mass of literature.

### FOLLOW THE TRIAL

Order your Special Three-Month Subscription to the INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER, for only fifty cents (50c).

SEE OUR ADVERTISEMENT PAGE FOUR

### On the Jury

Following are the twelve jurors and two alternates selected from the court's jury panel to sit in judgment on the Minneapolis "sedition" case:

- MRS. DORA PETERSON, Buffalo, Wright County. Wife of janitor at the Buffalo County Courthouse. Cooks for the prisoners in the County Jail.
  - B. A. GIMMESTAD, Dawson, Minnesota, owner and publisher of the DAWSON SENTINEL. Formerly Superintendent of Schools at Madison, Minnesota, for 17 years.
  - OSCAR PETERSON, Buffalo. Plumbing and steamfitting trade.
  - DUANE REESE, St. James, Minnesota. Previously a clerk in the general hardware business.
  - LLOYD M. NELSON, Grove City, Minnesota, owner of a general merchandise store.
  - OSCAR L. ANDERSON, Bingham Lake, Minnesota, clerk in a general merchandise store.
  - LOUIS CHRISTIANSON, Janesville, Minnesota. Previously ran a garage.
  - GLENN W. ROSS, Excelsior, Minnesota. Sales Manager of Foote Lumber Company of Minneapolis.
  - JOSEPH M. DOWNES, Minneapolis. Executive at First National Bank of Minneapolis.
  - STANLEY SPELTZ, Albert Lea, secretary and part owner Speltz Grain and Coal Company, operating 13 grain elevators.
  - ANTON O. ANDERSON, Florence, Minnesota, farm laborer 48 years.
  - CHARLES B. BARTA, New Prague, Minnesota. Farmer.
- Alternates:  
MRS. REBECCA McGEE, Minneapolis, registered nurse.  
MRS. HAZEL B. RADFORD, Slayton, Minnesota, widow, no occupation.

# A. D. Lewis Blasts Hillman

## Sidney Hillman Repeats Tobin Lie Against 544 — UCWOC Chairman Defends Minneapolis Drivers

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The charge that Sidney Hillman's Labor Division of the Office of Production Management acts, in effect, as "a recruiting agency for the American Federation of Labor in connection with defense projects" was leveled by Chairman A. D. Lewis of the CIO United Construction Workers, in testimony by Brother Lewis before the Truman Senate Committee investigating defense contracts and the Currier case in Wayne, Michigan.

Brother Lewis said he was convinced that the so-called "stabilization agreement" between the OPM and the AFL building trades constituted "the rankiest sort of discrimination against any one who refuses to pay tribute to the building trade unions of the AFL."

He said he saw no reason why the government should force employees to join the AFL when, under the Wagner Act, it forbade employers in private industry from coercing employees into joining unions other than those of their own selection.

A. D. Lewis further brought out that Hillman's own union, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, had endorsed the action of the CIO in setting up the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee.

Answering Hillman's charge that the CIO was raiding the AFL in the Currier case, Brother Lewis pointed out that the AFL had no members among Currier workers.

### Exclude CIO Workers

Lewis further cited two other cases of gross discrimination by the OPM against the CIO: the case of the Blaw-Knox company at Martin's Ferry, Ohio, where an AFL official in the OPM labor division sought to have the 300 CIO construction workers fired and replaced by AFL craft unionists; and the Camp Chaffee situation, where members of the UCWOC were excluded from employment while the AFL imported workers from other states.

"Some 1,500 families were evacuated from the camp site, who have not yet been paid for their homes, are living in destitution while promised jobs on the camp go to outsiders imported by the AFL," Lewis testified.

Asked by Senator Brewster if his organization opposed strikes in defense industries, Brother Lewis replied that the union would not permit employers to use the defense crisis "as a cloak to rob us of our rights under the Wagner Act."

### Army Chief Backs AFL

The army construction chief, Brig. Gen. Somerville, tried to defend the AFL "stabilization agreement." He blurted out that the government doesn't always insist on AFL contractors, that thirty of the last eighty-six projects have been awarded on an open-shop basis. Both he and Hillman made abundantly clear in their testimony that the OPM would encourage either AFL or open-shop contracts but would oppose CIO construction workers.

The Truman Committee is continuing its hearings on the Currier case. The overwhelming majority of the Currier workers have sent a petition to the Committee,

demanding that they have a right to choose their own union and that the contract be granted the lowest bidder, the Currier company, which by use of modern pre-fabrication methods is able to construct houses much cheaper than by the ancient craft methods.

### Traitor Hillman Defends Tobin In 544 Dispute

In the course of his testimony before the Truman Senate committee investigating the Currier case, Sidney Hillman, co-director of the OPM and still head of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, repeated Dictator Tobin's lie that the UCWOC took over the Minneapolis motor transport drivers "as part of a definite raiding campaign." (N. Y. Times, October 24, p. 13.)

Hillman defended the right of the OPM to reject contracts with employers using CIO construction workers, and to accept only contracts with AFL contractors or open shop bosses.

Chairman A. D. Lewis of the United Construction Workers followed Hillman on the stand and riddled the Tobin-Hillman lie about CIO "raiding" by reciting the circumstances where-by the membership of Local 544 voted in regular membership meeting to leave the AFL and affiliate with the CIO.

### Seattle UCWOC Endorses CRDC; Blasts Tobin

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON — A strongly-worded resolution protesting the Department of Justice attack upon Local 544-CIO and endorsing the work of the Civil Rights Defense Committee which represents the 28 defendants, was adopted October 13th by Seattle Local 42 of the CIO United Construction Workers. The resolution, together with a donation, was sent to Local 544-CIO.

The Seattle unionists point out that "Daniel J. Tobin in his campaign of terror against the Minneapolis motor transport workers has been aided by the Department of Justice. After condemning 'use of government agencies to oppress and harass any labor or political organization in the pursuit of their activities,' the resolution calls upon the Department of Justice 'to dismiss the indictments,' endorses the work of the Civil Rights Defense Committee, and orders newspapers, the national office of the CIO, Local 544-CIO and Attorney General Francis Biddle.

Revive the Spirit of 1934

## CIO Men Build Houses the Modern Way



Construction of a pre-fabricated house by members of the CIO United Construction Workers. Gable and roof sections, assembled at factory, can be put together in 3½ hours. Sidney Hillman has used his office in the OPM to refuse to award a contract to the Currier Lumber company, Detroit—which is under contract to the CIO—because of objections from the AFL craft union bureaucrats. Just as Dictator Tobin used to defend the horse against the motor truck, so the AFL fights the use of modern techniques in home construction.

# What the Nation's Press Says About the Trial

(Below is reprinted from PM, nationally-read New York daily, the article by staff reporter James A. Wechsler on the "FIRST PEACE-TIME SEDITION TRIAL IN 150 YEARS." The article appeared in the October 20th issue.)

Twenty-eight Americans go on trial in Minneapolis today in the first peace-time U. S. prosecution for "seditious opinion" since the tumultuous times of John Adams.

It all began one day last August when agents of J. Edgar Hoover's plot-probing FBI struck hard in Minneapolis. They nabbed 15 big and little shots in the Trotskyist Socialist Workers Party, and 13 key members of Local 544 of the CIO Teamsters Union.

They accused them of disturbing U. S. peace by many words and one action. Today, as the trial got under way, it threatened to become labor's first CAUSE CELEBRE of the war.

The U. S. disciples of Leon Trotsky modestly say there are only 3,000 true followers of the late master Marxist throughout the nation. The Department of Justice says there are 5,000. But whichever figure is final, the Department asserted today it was ready to prove they are major menaces to America's way of life. And a big bloc of U. S. liberal and labor opinion was simultaneously decrying the prosecution as

a menace to civil liberties and to trade unionism.

The defendants are accused of conspiracy to overthrow the Government by force and violence, to spread disaffection among the armed forces, and to engage in private military training with arms for the purpose of overthrowing the Government.

ACLU Attacks Trials To these words the American Civil Liberties Union today flung back the charge that the prosecution raised "clear issues of civil liberties in the absence of an overt act or even any 'clear and present danger,' with the sole exception of the charge concerning organization of a workers' defense corps."

Behind the trials lay the long, stormy panorama of Minnesota labor relations; and of intricate intrigue among rival labor groups. Minneapolis is one U. S. territory where Trotskyists have rallied more than a handful of advanced thinkers. Under the leadership of the three Dunne brothers (one committed suicide a fortnight

ago) they made deepest inroads in Local 544 of the Teamsters Union, at that time an AFL affiliate.

Early last summer Local 544 defied AFL leaders and walked out of the AFL after a sharp clash with Daniel Tobin, powerful aggressive leader of all the Teamsters. The local affiliated with the CIO. Three days later Tobin, long one of the New Deal's best friends in labor ranks, sent an angry telegram to the White House, assailing the departure of Local 544, damning its leaders and urging that they be stopped "from pursuing this dangerous course."

FBI Marches In Not many weeks later the FBI marched in.

Today the Civil Liberties Union said that the prosecutions were designed to help one labor group against another, meaning Tobin against the insurgent teamsters. Attorney General Francis Biddle contended that the timing was a coincidence, called any other conclusions "unwarranted."

The defendants are being hauled into court under two laws:

The Smith alien and sedition law, enacted in 1940 over widespread labor and liberal opposition. Under its provisions a DAR member might go to jail for merely circulating the Declaration of Independence or any similar manifestos which "advocate, abet, advise or teach the duty, necessity, desirability or propriety of overthrowing or destroying any government."

Section 6, Chapter 18, of the United States Code, which makes "seditious conspiracy" a felony. This law was passed in 1861 to combat rebellion against the U. S. Government.

To prove their point under the Smith act, government investigators hauled out old, little-read copies of published Trotskyist talk, most of which preach that war is hell and capitalism must go. It is all talk.

Revolutionary Aims Charged But to bulwark the violence conspiracy under Section 6, FBI prowlers could unearth only this fact:

Local 544, after the appearance of Fascist organizers in Minneapolis.

Mr. Hillman, of course, is responsible for the fantastic procedure which has been followed. His attitude of vengeful and malignant opposition to the interests of the United Mine Workers of America is only equalled by the fury of his actions against the United Construction Workers in the Currier Lumber case. It is unfortunate that he is able to use his great powers to intimidate governmental agencies to a point where they deprive legitimate organizations of labor of the right of a judicial determination of their grievances under the law.

I regret that the United Mine Workers of America had no opportunity to present you a statement in their own defense prior to your approval of the Hillman procedure yesterday. Under these circumstances, I do not feel warranted in recommending an additional extension of the temporary agreement, to which you refer, in advance of an opportunity to negotiate with the qualified policy-making executives of the corporations which are resisting acceptance of the standard and governmentally-approved agreement of the industry.

I shall, however, hold myself in momentary readiness to confer with Mr. Taylor, or any one else you may designate, in the hope that a settlement can be reached without the loss of substantial production.

Respectfully yours, (Signed) JOHN L. LEWIS

## More From State Join Defense of 28 on Trial

Dr. Joseph Warren Beach, Professor of English Literature at the University of Minnesota; Dr. Max Seham, distinguished Minneapolis pediatrician; and Miss Margaret West, Minnesota educator, are among the latest prominent liberals from this state who have joined the national committee of the Civil Rights Defense Committee in charge of the defense of the 28 indicted members of Local 544-CIO and the Socialist Workers Party.

Edmund Wilson, renowned literary critic and author, joined the CRDC recently, to take his place with the scores of liberal authors, educators and professional people who believe that the "seditious" defendants must be defended in the interests of civil liberties in America.

ON PEACE AND PLENTY Society can overlook murder, adultery or swindling; it never forgives the teaching of a new gospel.—FREDERIC HARRISON.

Capital is condensed labor. It is nothing until labor takes hold of it. The living labor sets free the condensed laborer and makes it assume some form of utility or beauty. Capital and labor are one and will draw nearer to each other as the world advances in intellect and goodness.—DAVID SWING.

## Concentration Camps Rising on U. S. Soil

An admission by the U. S. Army that a whole series of concentration camps in corps areas throughout the United States are today under construction was made last Friday by Brig. Gen. Irving J. Phillipson, commanding general of the Second Corps Area. The first concentration camp is "nearing completion at Camp Upton on Long Island," Gen. Phillipson said. (N. Y. Times, October 18, 1941.)

Though more discreet officials in the government make it appear that the camps are designed for enemy aliens, according to the N. Y. Times, others bluntly described the concentration camps as "army foresight" and point out that the war department facilities "for the detention of large numbers of persons whose actions are inimical to the welfare of this country is limited."

### For Militant Unionists

Many union men and women fear, with good cause, that the concentration camps are not built so much to imprison enemy aliens as to confine militant workers who oppose the imperialist war.

Army spokesmen said the concentration camp at Camp Upton would have a capacity of "about 700 persons." The camp "is part of the corp area long-distance planning," the General said.

The concentration camp at Long Island is described by the N. Y. Times as "roughly 600 by 800 feet and will consist of about 120 old winterized six-man tents. Each tent has a wooden floor six inches off the ground, with wood sides that go up about three feet. The tents will be stocked with small stoves. . . Surrounding the tents will be two barbed-wire fences about twelve feet apart, one inside the other, and at their corners twenty-foot-tall sentry towers are being built. Huge searchlights will gleam from them, and an elaborate system of communications is being developed that will hook up with various law-enforcement agencies."

## Miners Defend Union Rights Vs. Roosevelt

(Continued from page 8) over Lewis' head:

To appeal to CIO President Philip Murray:

To call out the army to break the strike. Each plan had to be discarded as unworkable. Troops can't mine

and threats of violence against CIO men, organized a "defense guard" of several hundred men. It had "from 10 to 50 guns" and practiced calisthenics regularly. Its existence was no secret. Attorney General Biddle, however, has assured the Civil Liberties Union, that the Government will prove the "revolutionary" aims of the unit.

The guard was organized in September, 1938. Its birth was preceded by the arrival in Minneapolis of Roy Zachary, a national organizer for William Pelley's Silver Shirts who delivered blood-and-thunder speeches against the teamsters' local. It was simultaneously reported that a leading Minneapolis employer had attended one of the Zachary meetings and pledged \$35,000 to pay gunmen for some anti-union shooting.

So the union guard was formed. When the local Silver Shirts, apparently impressed by the advent of the counter-organization, stopped assailing the Teamsters, the defense guard became a social club. Its last public performance was given in 1940—ushering at a labor Christmas party.

When the local Silver Shirts, apparently impressed by the advent of the counter-organization, stopped assailing the Teamsters, the defense guard became a social club. Its last public performance was given in 1940—ushering at a labor Christmas party.

coal with bayonets. Every report to Roosevelt from the coal fields showed the miners were solidly behind their union and Lewis. CIO President Murray came out Wednesday with an endorsement of the strike and an attack upon the Steel Trust for refusing to sign the same contract the overwhelming majority of the coal industry had signed. Lewis always held in reserve the threat of a general miners' strike, and there was strong pressure from the ranks of the UMW to go out in sympathy with the captive coal miners. District 4 of the UMW on Sunday recommended to Lewis that he call out the 400,000 commercial coal miners if settlement of the captive mines dispute was not reached quickly.

To the President's brazen request the miners forfeit their right to strike for their demands, Lewis proposed Monday that the President "ask Mr. (J. P.) Morgan's companies to accept the wage agreement approved by the National Defense Mediation Board and accepted and signed by other captive and commercial coal companies in the nation . . ."

"If you would use the power of the State to restrain me,

as an agent of labor, then, sir, I submit that you should use that same power to restrain my adversary in this issue, who is an agent of capital.

"MY ADVERSARY IS A RICH MAN NAMED MORGAN, WHO LIVES IN NEW YORK," Lewis pointedly reminded the public and the President. All Roosevelt's intervention was on behalf of J. P. Morgan; all his pressure was directed against the miners.

The United Mine Workers have stopped Roosevelt cold in his current thrust against the right to strike. While the miners agree to return to work, they reject compulsory arbitration and reserve the full right to re-strike if the recommendations of the Defense Mediation Board are not to their liking.

**Fidelity State Bank**  
Place your Federal Housing Loans and Auto Finance with us. The only bank controlled by Labor and business.  
INDEPENDENT

# "Witch Hunt in Minnesota"

Read the new 24-page pamphlet just published by the Civil Rights Defense Committee, setting forth the true story behind this unprecedented Federal prosecution of Local 544-CIO and the Socialist Workers Party.

George Novack, national secretary of the Civil Rights Defense Committee, wrote the pamphlet "WITCH HUNT IN MINNESOTA." The foreword is by James T. Farrell, national chairman of the Committee and author of "Studs Lonigan," etc.

- HOW DOES THE ADMINISTRATION FIGHT THE CIO?
- HAS THE BILL OF RIGHTS BEEN ABOLISHED?
- HOW DOES THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SERVE DANIEL J. TOBIN?
- HAVE WORKERS THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE THEIR OWN UNION?
- WHAT WAS THE UNION DEFENSE GUARD?
- IS IT REASONABLE TO OPPOSE THE WAR?

You'll find the answer to these and many other questions in "WITCH HUNT IN MINNESOTA." Copies of the pamphlet sell for 5c each, or 25 pamphlets for one dollar (\$1). Send for your pamphlet today. Order copies for your friends.

To INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER  
1328 Second St. N.  
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Friends:  
I enclose (one dollar for twenty-five copies) (five cents for one copy) of the pamphlet "WITCH HUNT IN MINNESOTA," published by the Civil Rights Defense Committee. I want to get the background of the Minneapolis trial. You pay the postage. Mail immediately to

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**CIO's John L. Lewis Writes to Roosevelt**

**Miners' Chief Denounces Hillman**

The text of John L. Lewis' letter to Roosevelt, denouncing Sidney Hillman's collaboration with the National Defense Mediation Board against the miners, and refusing to call off the miners' strike, follows:

Oct. 25, 1941

The President, The White House, Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I accept your commission to meet with Mr. Myron C. Taylor to discuss the captive mines dispute. The meeting can take place at Mr. Taylor's convenience.

In one form or another, negotiations have been in effect with the coal companies and financial interests concerned since the execution of the Southern Wage Agreement in Washington on July 5. These negotiations have not been fruitful. For a period of forty days, the question has been before the National Defense Mediation Board. The attitude of the board toward this problem during this period has been casual and lackadaisical to the point of indifference. Over the protest of the United Mine Workers, the board has called before it only the inferior executives of the corporations involved. The board discontinued the hearings with such representatives on October 9.

The board now emerges with a report devoid of conclusions as to merit, evasive as to the responsibilities of the board, and dumps its own sorry mess into the already overburdened lap of the Chief Executive.

**Makes Attack on Hillman**

Mr. Hillman, of course, is responsible for the fantastic procedure which has been followed. His attitude of vengeful and malignant opposition to the interests of the United Mine Workers of America is only equalled by the fury of his actions against the United Construction Workers in the Currier Lumber case. It is unfortunate that he is able to use his great powers to intimidate governmental agencies to a point where they deprive legitimate organizations of labor of the right of a judicial determination of their grievances under the law.

I regret that the United Mine Workers of America had no opportunity to present you a statement in their own defense prior to your approval of the Hillman procedure yesterday. Under these circumstances, I do not feel warranted in recommending an additional extension of the temporary agreement, to which you refer, in advance of an opportunity to negotiate with the qualified policy-making executives of the corporations which are resisting acceptance of the standard and governmentally-approved agreement of the industry.

I shall, however, hold myself in momentary readiness to confer with Mr. Taylor, or any one else you may designate, in the hope that a settlement can be reached without the loss of substantial production.

Respectfully yours, (Signed) JOHN L. LEWIS

**NOW 7 P. M. C.S.T.**

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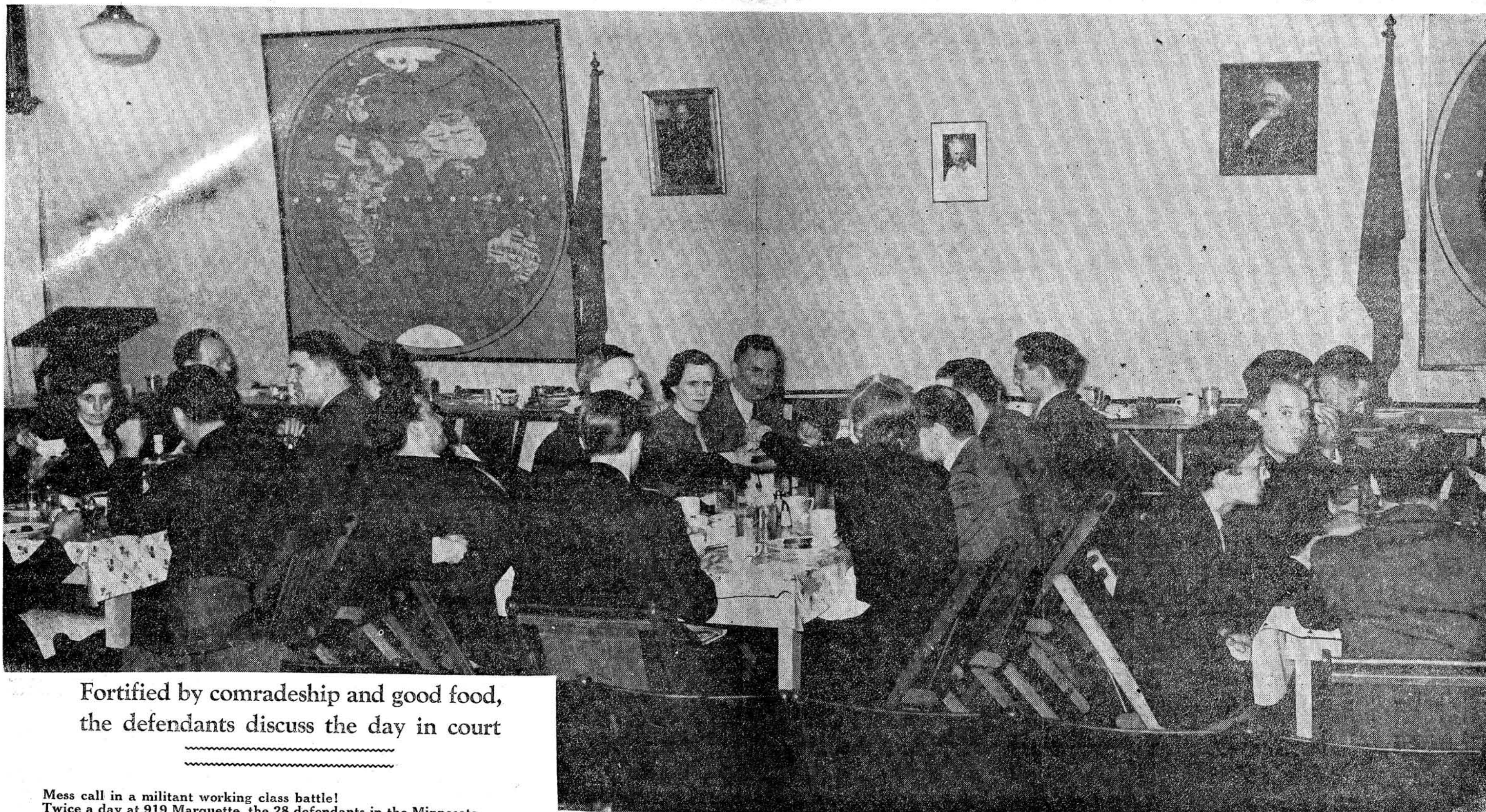
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## -:- Twice Daily Defendants in "Sedition" Trial Eat and Meet Together -:-



Fortified by comradeship and good food, the defendants discuss the day in court

Mess call in a militant working class battle! Twice a day at 919 Marquette, the 28 defendants in the Minnesota Witch Hunt trial sit down together and fortify themselves with the wholesome hearty meals prepared under the auspices of the Civil Rights Defense Committee. Mrs. Downey Skoglund, wife of defendant Carl Skoglund, presides over the kitchen as chief cook, assisted by wives, daughters and friends of the defendants.

From the big kitchen range at lunch and supper come a cargo of savory roasts, stews, soups, vegetables and desserts that have won a chorus of praise from her new "family" for Mrs. Skoglund. And around long tables set up in the meeting hall, there's more in the air than the appetizing odor of good food. There's a fighting spirit as well.

The defendants discuss the day's session in court and exchange their impressions of this prosecution that is bearing out so completely the relentless opposition of the bosses to all who lead in the working class struggle. The solidarity, comradeship and unshaken determination are even better than the meat and drink at 919 Marquette.

# Defense Attorney Goldman's Opening Statement to Jury

Below are excerpts from Defense Attorney Albert Goldman's opening statement to the jury, delivered Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning following the opening statement by the prosecution:

MR. GOLDMAN: Your Honor, and ladies and gentlemen of the jury, I speak now on behalf of all of the defendants with the exception of the defendant Nick Wagner, who is represented by Mr. Dolf. When I say I speak on behalf of all the defendants, I do not thereby admit Mr. Anderson's contention that they are all members of the Socialist Workers Party. Some were and dropped out of the party; some, I understand, never were members of the party.

When I refer to the defendants and their beliefs, as I shall in the course of this statement, please remember that I mean those defendants who will without any hesitation whatever admit membership in the party.

I do not know whether you will ever sit on such an important case again, not because merely twenty-eight persons are involved in their liberties, but because great principles are involved, the principles of freedom of speech and of the press and of assembly; not only that, but great social theories are involved. Never before, I venture to state, in the history of this court room have the walls re-echoed with such contentions as made by Mr. Anderson (the prosecutor).

Marxism, the theories of Lenin and Trotsky, have been brought into this case by Mr. Anderson. I do not believe, ladies and gentlemen, that in this court room there has ever been an analysis on questions of more vital importance to mankind.

### A Political Movement on Trial

In the first place the defendants will prove that, if this is a conspiracy at all, is a very, very peculiar "conspiracy." It is a "conspiracy" of the most peculiar nature ever entered into between human beings. It is a conspiracy where all of us defendants proclaim to the world what we want, never attempting at any time to conceal our purposes, but, on the contrary, begging people to read what our ideas are.

It is a political movement that is on trial here.

It is a movement that is based on certain ideas, maybe strange to you, and maybe strange to Mr. Anderson and everybody else connected with the prosecution—maybe ideas that you do not agree with and that you will not agree with subsequent to our explanation of them; but it is not a conspiracy hatched in the darkness of night in some cellar. It is a movement basing itself on philosophy, proclaiming to the world that this philosophy must be accepted by mankind or else the destruction of civilization is inevitable.

Call that a conspiracy if you wish, but know—know the difference between this political movement and a conspiracy hatched in the darkness of night for the purpose of committing a crime.

We shall prove to you on the basis of the documents which, I believe, the government, the prosecution, itself will introduce into evidence, that our concept of revolution is totally and completely different from the concept that Mr. Anderson and the prosecution try to say it is.

We shall prove that our activities are open, above-board, and that we sincerely believe they are beneficial to the people

of this country. We shall prove that we issued literature, as Mr. Anderson has contended. The "Socialist Appeal," a weekly paper—the name is now changed to "The Militant." Once in a while perhaps it was issued twice a week. We published, it will be shown by the evidence, dozens of pamphlets in which we explained current events, in which we explained our theories. I, myself, wrote a pamphlet called "What Is Socialism," which I think Mr. Anderson will introduce because he quoted from that. And I am very, very happy that he quoted from that pamphlet. We will not conceal one thing; that is the kind of conspirators we are.

### Aim to Educate and Win Majority of People

We shall introduce evidence to show you that we held mass meetings on vital questions of the day, and we shall, if possible, although the mass meetings we have held in the last three or four years are almost innumerable, we shall try to recollect, for the benefit of the jury, what the speakers said at those mass meetings and let you judge whether or not they advocated the violence asserted by Mr. Anderson.

We shall introduce evidence that we are conducting and we have conducted political campaigns; that here in Minneapolis one of the defendants, Grace Carlson, ran for the Senatorship of the United States and received approximately nine or ten thousand votes.

We shall show you by evidence that these activities of ours were going on day in and day out and that we were never interfered with until the indictment in this case. We shall show you that right now Mr. James P. Cannon, one of the defendants, is running for Mayor of the City of New York.

We shall show you—and this is one of the most important things and I want you to bear with me if I illuminate it a little extensively—we shall show you, by the very evidence introduced by the prosecution, that the Socialist Workers' Party and all the defendants who are members of that party understand that the aim, the objective of that party, was to win a majority of the people for its ideas. I repeat: The objective and the aim of the party was to win through education and through propaganda a majority of the people of the United States, and Mr. Anderson will have to convince you that that is criminal.

We shall continue through propaganda, through education, to get everybody in the United States—at least a majority of the people—to accept our ideas, and thereafter to institute a social system which we call by the name of Socialism, a system which we believe will solve all of the ills of mankind, which we believe will abolish war, death, and the destruction that is now raging throughout the universe, because under socialism there will be no countries controlled by a minority of financiers and big industrialists for their profit throwing all the people into useless wars.

We shall introduce such evidence and we shall let the jury decide whether we have a right to our beliefs and our opinions. If Mr. Anderson wants it, we shall gladly go into all the theories of Marxism, and if the jurors do not agree with those theories and they want to put us in jail merely because they do not agree, that is your privilege. But we think that we have a right to our ideas. We have a right to say that the ills of mankind, unemployment, Fascism, destruction, war—that all these ills of mankind require a solution, and that thus far the only solution is the ideas we represent, the ideas of socialism.

The evidence will show that we were very, very interested in the question of trade unionism. We will not deny it! that the Socialist Workers Party adopted resolutions dealing with the

question of trade unionism; that it instructed its members to be active in all organizations, particularly trade unions—but in all organizations, social, unemployed, farmers—where people congregate, there should we be. That is what the evidence will show; yes, that we propagate our ideas, to show the majority of the people that they, in order to solve their problems, must accept those ideas. There is no other solution possible.

The evidence will show that some of our members were exceedingly active right here in Minneapolis; that they were responsible, beginning with 1934, for organizing Local 544, General Drivers' Union, and that subsequently they played a very important role in making a union city out of Minneapolis.

The evidence will not show, contrary to the claims made by the prosecution, that the Socialist Workers Party attempted in some way or other to control the unions. The evidence will show that in the union where our members were active, specifically in Local 544, the best kind of democracy prevailed; that truck drivers and members of that union not only were permitted but actually were in opposition to the leadership; that they had a chance to criticize the leadership; that they had a chance to vote against the leadership and put up their own candidates; that at no time did anybody prevent any members in the union from getting freedom of expression.

### Genuine Democracy in Local 544

The evidence will prove conclusively to you jurors that if there ever was in the history of this country, in the history of the trade union movement in this country, a union democratic to the core, with a leadership that was absolutely honest, incorruptible, fighting for their ideals, fighting for the interests of the workers, and that was free from gangsterism and racketeering, it was Local 544; and the evidence will show you, will convince you, that it was after Local 544 began a fight for democracy against the President of the International Teamsters, Daniel Tobin, who wanted to put his dictatorial hand on the union—after that, when Local 544 had to leave the American Federation of Labor, this indictment resulted.

On behalf of the defendants, the defense will prove Mr. Anderson's contention that we are opposed to this war, and the evidence will further prove Mr. Anderson's contention that the defendants consider this war on the part of England and Germany and Italy and the United States as an imperialistic war, fought for the economic interests of the small group of financiers and capitalists who control the destinies of this country, of England, of Germany, of Italy, and of Japan.

The evidence will show that we are opposed to the involvement of this country in the war. There will be no question about that, that we consider this war an imperialistic war upon the part of those countries that I mentioned.

Those are ideas of ours with which the jurors may agree or not, but the evidence will show that every statement made by Mr. Anderson to the effect that we believe in sabotage is absolutely false. The evidence will show that, although we will not give support to any war on the part of the United States Government because we consider it to be an imperialist war, a war for profit, a war for markets, a war for spheres of influence, a war for colonies, still the evidence will show that so long as we are in a minority, so long as we cannot convince the majority of the people that our ideas are correct, we shall submit and we have nothing else to do but to submit to the government. The evidence, I am sure, will show that by an article that I, myself, wrote long before this indictment in our weekly paper, the "Militant."

### Want Workers and Farmers To Fight Own War Against Fascism

We shall show that the Socialist Workers Party opposes sabotage. We shall show that Mr. Anderson's claim is absolutely wrong and based on no foundation whatever to the effect that we prefer the enemy, the imperialistic enemy of the United States, to defeat our government. It is absolutely false. What we want, as the evidence will show, is to have the workers and farmers establish their own government, and then to continue a real war against Fascism. The evidence will show that we do not believe that England and the United States, as constituted at the present, are fighting against Fascism for Democracy, but are actually fighting to protect the interests of this small group of financiers and bankers.

The evidence will show that we have never advocated the idea of creating insubordination in the army. The evidence will show that, just as we believe—and Mr. Anderson stated it correctly and he quoted, I believe, from my pamphlet "What Is Socialism"—just as we believe you can no more stop a revolution than you can stop an earthquake, so after years of suffering and war and privation, the men who are doing the fighting and dying will themselves oppose the war and will look for a solution where they can get peace.

Peace, peace, they will cry and neither I nor anyone else will have to agitate them, and neither Mr. Anderson nor anybody else by putting us in jail will stop them.

The prosecution in the indictment and Mr. Anderson in his opening statement charged that our party was in favor of controlling the militia by the trade unions. Mr. Anderson did not explain that correctly.

### Military Training Under Trade Union Control

Our policy is summed up in the following phrase, the evidence will show: "Military training of every worker under the control of the trade unions." Now, if Mr. Anderson thinks that is criminal, that is his privilege. The evidence will show why we adopted that policy. We contend that the evidence will show that the present army of the United States is controlled by officers and especially by generals completely hostile to the interests of the great masses. The evidence will show that I wrote an article after France capitulated, in which I pointed out that the reason for the defeat of the French Army was because the generals and the bankers who controlled that army were the real "Fifth-Columnists" and that they were the ones who were responsible for the defeat. And the evidence will show that I argued that we cannot trust the American generals and the American higher officers to fight Fascism because in essence they are Fascists themselves, most of them. They are autocrats, arrogant, they utilize every opportunity to teach obedience and discipline in a disgusting manner, and that by and large they are people like that General "Yoo-hoo" Lear who made the soldiers walk fifteen or twenty miles because they yoo-hooed some girls.

The evidence will show that we believe that the trade unions should take control of the training of union members as officers, not for the purpose, as Mr. Anderson suggests, of overthrowing the government by force and violence, but for the purpose of protecting the interests of the soldier masses. We may be wrong. You may not agree with us, but the evidence will show that we sincerely believe, and will produce facts in the attempt to prove, that the soldiers are suffering under reactionary discipline, that they ought to have greater democracy, and that the higher officers of the army cannot be trusted because they are in essence defenders of the present day social system, which crushes the liberty and the initiative of the soldier masses.

# FLASHES from the Courtroom

## From Day to Day in the Minneapolis "Sedition" Trial

Most courtrooms are not designed to provide for sizeable audiences. Especially is this true of the federal courtroom in Minneapolis, in which the "sedition" trial is being held.

The courtroom is about 30x50 feet, with an exceedingly high ceiling. At the south end of the room are the witness box, the judge's bench and the press table.

At the judge's right sits the jury, on two tiers, facing the windows. At the judge's left sits the defendants, in three rows of chairs, some overflowing on the benches facing the judge. Between the defendants and the jury are the tables for counsel.

In the back of the room are six rows of benches, seating not more than 84 people.

During the first day-and-a-half of the trial, the benches were occupied by the jury panel. Not even wives of the defendants could get in the courtroom. Now that the jury has been selected, the seats are occupied by defendants' relatives, friends, and unionists anxious to observe the court proceedings.

More and more newspapers are sending representatives to cover the trial. During the first two days, besides reporters for the Minneapolis and St. Paul papers, representatives were present from PM, COMMON SENSE, HARPERS, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, The Associated Press and United Press services are also covering.

Women are well represented in the trial. There are three among the defendants. There are three on the jury (counting the two al-

ternate jurors, both women). A woman reporter sits at the press table.

One of the Minneapolis reporters customarily goes off duty at 4 p. m. He was so enthralled by Attorney Goldman's opening speech for the defense to the jury, that he remained in the courtroom for an hour, until court recessed for the day. He said he'd never heard socialism explained as Goldman presented it. He wanted to know if there were other great orators among the defendants.

If the parade of Associated Industries members on the jury panel had continued long enough, no doubt all of the special deputies in the 1934 truck strike would have revealed themselves. Two of the special depts, Robert Nash and Alvin Witt, bosses, tried hard to make the jury, but finally blurted out their prejudice and were excused.

You'd think it would be hard to select a jury panel in Minnesota without a single union member. It was done.

The schedule for the trial runs from 10 a. m. to 12:30, and from 2 p. m. to 5, with ten-minute recesses morning and afternoon.

For the record, this is Criminal Case Number 7256.

It is a half-mile walk up Marquette avenue from the Federal court building to 919 Marquette, where the defendants meet and eat. Just the right distance to work up an appetite for the tasty

meals that are served up by wives and friends of the defendants.

When the judge polled the political affiliations of the first twelve on the panel tentatively selected, before the defense and the government made use of their challenges, there were six Republicans and two Democrats. No Farmer-Laborites were represented.

Of the 40 questioned for jury service, with one or two exceptions none had any opinions on the dispute between the AFL and the CIO; none knew anything of the "form of government reputedly existing in Russia"; none had read the writings of Lenin or Trotsky or knew what their doctrines were; none knew anything of socialism or communism. These were some of the questions they were asked by the judge.

One panel member finally turned up that was indirectly connected with the union movement. She was the wife of a member of the United Auto Workers employed on the fender assembly at the Ford plant. The government bounced her off in a hurry.

The more District Attorney Victor Anderson defined a "conspiracy," the vaguer and more nebulous became that concept. Clarence Darrow would say a "conspiracy" was an idea invented by reactionary governments to rid itself of its critics.

The jurors and spectators at the trial got a real educa-

tion when defense attorney Albert Goldman made his opening speech. As the Minneapolis TIMES on Tuesday put it, "Jurors sat transfixed. For most of them, it was probably the first time they had enrolled in such a course. Most of them are from rural areas surrounding Minneapolis."

And as the TIMES further observed, this wasn't an ordinary trial. "The seats reserved for spectators were filled, too; mostly with men in sweaters or jackets—obviously of the laboring class, the class which Trotsky felt was the hope of mankind."

The defendants couldn't understand the apparent eagerness of one Robert Nash to win a place on the jury. The mystery wasn't solved until questioning revealed that Nash was one of the owners of the notorious labor hating firm, Nash-Finch Co., and had served as a special deputy during the 1934 strike.

Another gentleman who failed to win a seat on the jury was George E. Peterson of Jackson, Jackson County. Mr. Peterson insisted that he

### On the National Picket Line

Marvel Scholl

The AFL is fighting on all fronts to maintain its dictatorial bureaucratic hold over American labor—fighting a losing battle. It is not only in the middle west where workers are fighting for their rights as unionists. In Belleville, N. J., 450 workers, most of them women, are now entering their fifth week of a strike against the Isolantite Inc., in the face of every form of opposition on the books, including 35 highly paid A. F. L. goons.

#### Bureaucrats Rule Union

These workers left the AFL Chemical and Oil Workers Union in September after a year and a half of trying to force the AFL leadership, imposed upon them from the international union, and not elected, to do something about the growing list of grievances. At the last of three meetings, held during this long period, the workers found themselves confronted with a signed contract in which they received only a 1c raise upon the ratification of the contract, with an additional 1c to be paid in November. Four hundred of the 450 employees of the company are women, and received only 35c per hour, a few 48c, the maximum. The men were paid 50c per hour. In addition to the measly raise granted them, the workers discovered that the contract was signed for twenty months, and not for one year as they had been told.

During the year and a half of virtual receivership, the workers had repeatedly demanded both a complete accounting of all funds, and a democratic election of officers. The union bureaucracy stifled all demands with a threat of an investigation for "subversive activities."

The workers answered this AFL demagoguery with a mass exodus into the CIO where they felt they could exercise their full democratic rights as union members.

On September 23, when the CIO enrollment was virtually complete, the company fired the leading militant, Joe Melchione. The workers walked out on strike.

Since that day these workers have been subjected to every form of oppression known to Big Business.

Their picket line has withstood the united attack of thirty Belleville police, augmented by five police deputies from the county sheriff's office, THIRTY-FIVE hired AFL goons who are paid at the rate of \$30 a day; two injunctions, and the mass arrest of thirteen of their leaders for "assault and battery."

too would make a fair juror.

The defendants weren't quite so sure of that after they found out that Peterson was the chief clerk of the local Selective Service Board, at a salary of \$100 per month and that prior to that had been the County and Deputy Treasurer of Jackson County for twenty years.

The nearest thing to a trade unionist among all of the forty talsmen called up for examination was a fellow who many years ago had joined a short-lived union which attempted to secure licensing regulations for electricians. The government took him off the jury.

These arrests were made after the AFL goons had attacked the picket line and clubbed the pickets, in the full view of the police and with their very evident approval. The arrested strikers were scheduled to appear before the Belleville police court on October 24.

When it became evident that brute force could not break the strike the company went into court to ask for a temporary injunction against mass picketing. A friendly judge granted the temporary order, limiting pickets to 10, spaced 10 feet apart.

The strikers have been partially successful in prevailing upon both General Electric Corp. and Westinghouse Electric to stop granting sub-contracts to the Isolantite Inc. and have also been successful in keeping customers of the struck company from purchasing material. To counteract this partial success of the strikers, the company has asked for a permanent injunction against the union to stop them from using "secondary pressure."

During the entire strike, Mr. Kenneth D. Hamilton, vice president of the company and general manager, has refused to meet with the strikers or to submit their grievance to arbitration. Four hundred fifty of 507 workers are out on strike, yet Mr. Hamilton maintains that the plant is in full operation, thus giving the U. S. Department of Labor the necessary excuse to refuse to submit the strike to the National Defense Mediation Board. However, when the strikers applied for unemployment compensation, Mr. Hamilton was brazen enough to testify that the strike was crippling national defense industry.

Despite the fact that these 450 workers—out of 507 employees—have signed CIO membership cards, the National Labor Relations Board has refused to order an election to determine their bargaining agency, using as its excuse the existence of the phony contract signed by the AFL bureaucracy, which still has a year to run. This contract was signed without the knowledge or consent of the workers and was never ratified by them.

These strikers are having brought home to them with terrible force, the fact that the real fight for democracy is right here at home, and not on some foreign battle field.

#### More Profits For U. S. Steel

The United States Steel Corporation reported this week that its third-quarter earnings for the period ending September, 1941, were the largest of any comparable third quarter since the days of 1929. Earnings reached the sum of \$34,313,345, or \$3.21 per common share. Earnings are about 25 percent higher than the period ending June, 1941, when earnings reached \$24,214,751.

This giant corporation, controlled by the J. P. Morgan interests, is now involved in a controversy with the United Mine Workers, who are fighting for a closed shop, and other conditions as granted miners in the latest Appalachian contract.

# Union Leader Warns Against Anti-Labor Views of Army Heads

## Tells How Brass Hats Are Poisoning Worker-Soldiers Against Unions

By O. E. Gassaway  
President District 50, United Mine Workers

(Below we reprint a sharp and timely warning by a union leader to American Labor, against Army and War Department officials who are seeking to turn the Army into training grounds for strike-breaking and into schools of anti-unionism. The writer is President O. E. Gassaway of District 50, United Mine Workers. The article appears in the October 20th issue of the DISTRICT 50 NEWS):

A lad came into our office the other day on leave from his regiment at Fort Benning, Georgia.

A good Union man, he was troubled about something that he had witnessed in camp—something he had actually been an unwilling part of.

We're passing on his story. It's not a pretty story, but it gives food for thought.

All the time this lad has been in the Army since he was inducted under the Selective Service Act, he has been simply told what to do, without explanation of why it should be done—all the time, that is, with one exception. It can be argued quite properly, in passing, that a democratic nation's army should be trained in more democratic ways, but this is not the place or the time for that argument.

This is the story of the one time the Union man, and all of his companions, were called in to conference and told all about their orders. They had had no explanations of what they were doing, and why, during the vital war games in Louisiana, but they did get an explanation this one time.

Oh, my, yes!  
This was training in "separating an agitator from a picket line in Labor disputes."

In other words, the citizen-soldiers of the Nation are being taught carefully how to fight organized Labor when Labor is forced into strike action to defend its economic rights—as

in the North American Aviation instance.

And what our Union member tells us from Fort Benning has been reported previously by authoritative sources—and never denied by Army officials or the War Department—from Camp Stewart in Georgia, from Fort Hancock in New Jersey, from Camp Edwards in Massachusetts, from Fort Ord in California, from Fort Bragg in North Carolina, and from Camp McClellan in Alabama.

This is only one face of the coin. Another showed when the draftee vote was counted in a recent chemical plant election in which District 50 participated. District 50 was opposing a stooge union and the AFL. A huge majority of the men actually in the plant at election day voted for a union. But, in the vote from the camps, significantly enough, almost as many voted "no union" as voted for all three of the competing groups.

American Labor should unite to see that Army officers and War Department officials hostile to our democratic form of government and, particularly, to free American Unions are not allowed to turn the Army camps into training grounds for strike-breaking and into schools for anti-Unionism.

At the same time, those of us who remain in the shops and in the Union offices should see that our members in the Army do not lose touch with what Labor is doing on the home front.

(Local 544-CIO endorses the timely words of Brother Gassaway. Local 544-CIO repeats its opinion that the union movement itself must control the military training of its members, and that the government should be asked to furnish funds to establish training camps under control of the trade unions where union members can be trained as officers. Unless organized labor achieves such a solution, the present reactionary anti-democratic army officialdom will more and more impose its anti-labor ideas upon the soldier masses, and will prepare a catastrophe for the union movement.)

### Famous American Labor Trials

# Mooney-Billings Were Victims of Boss War Machine

## Today Militant Leaders of 544-CIO Are Prosecuted by Roosevelt as Wilson Helped Frame Mooney

The great political trial now taking place in Minneapolis has re-awakened the interest of many trade unionists in the stories of other great labor trials of the past. The INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER has in recent issues re-told the story of the frameups against Eugene V. Debs and the Haywood-Moyer-Pettibone trial. This week we tell the story of the frameup against Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings.

Billings, recently pardoned after 25 years in jail, is today a member of the Civil Rights Defense Committee which is aiding the defense of the 28 544-CIO and Socialist Workers Party members now on trial.—EDITOR.

Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings were trade union leaders, engaged in the organization of the United Railways' street car workers in San Francisco. It was 1916, Europe flamed, World War I was greedily smashing the lives of millions of workers. President Wilson was in the process of re-election on the program "He Kept Us Out of War"—and getting ready to plunge the country into the war.

On July 22, 1916, a bomb exploded on Market Street in San Francisco, killing 10 and wounding 40 marchers and onlookers in a Preparedness Day Parade.

On August 2, 1916, the Grand Jury handed down indictments. Billings was tried first, convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment, on charges of murder of the victims. Mooney was then tried, convicted and sentenced to death on the same charges.

"No man ever had a more unshakable alibi. Not only the photographs taken from the roof of the Eilers Building, but the testimony of 16 witnesses show him to have been more than a mile away from the scene of the explosion..." said Senator Nye speaking in the U. S. Senate in 1929, about Mooney.

"Every witness who testified against Mooney has been shown by facts and circumstances developed since his trial, and which are incontrovertible, to have testified falsely."

So said on Aug. 9, 1929, the Hon. Franklin Griffin, who had been the trial judge in the Mooney case.

"In the face of this demonstrated perjury," he continued "in light of its willful presentation to the jury trying Mooney and in view of the willful suppression at the time, of all evidence favorable to him, no fair-minded person... will now deny that Mooney is entitled to be pardoned."

Wilson Knew of Frame-Up  
On January 16, 1918, a medication commission of seven appoint-

in prison because the industrial interests responsible for this plot want them to stay behind bars as a warning to other labor leaders."

United States Senator Robert LaFollette said: "The Mooney case is one of the most terrible examples of a miscarriage of justice in American history."

Yet, despite all this, Mooney and Billings were imprisoned for nearly a quarter of a century. Only as a direct result of international protest by workers' organizations—in Paris, London, Petrograd, etc.—was Mooney's life saved. The governor was forced to reprieve Mooney's death sentence and finally commute the sentence to life imprisonment. Even President Wilson intervened with a request for clemency since as he put it, the case had "assumed an international importance."

Then, for twenty-two years, Mooney and Billings were kept behind bars by the bosses as a warning to other labor leaders.

Throughout the years they kept up the battle for their freedom together with the hundreds of thousands of workers and liberals who rallied to their cause.

Only when their case had become such an outstanding issue did Culbert Olson run for the governorship of California with a promise to free Mooney and Billings as his first act in office, if elected. Freedom came to these two labor martyrs after Olson was elected.

On January 7, 1939, Mooney walked out of jail. On October 17th, Billings was freed.

Now a new trial opens in which Billings is not again a defendant himself, but a fighter for the defense of 28 labor leaders whom the bosses and their political agents want to put in jail to serve, like Mooney and Billings, as a threat against all labor leaders.

### Miners Win Union Shop In Harlan

For twenty years the United Mine Workers has been waging a heroic struggle for a union shop in "Bloody Harlan County," Kentucky. Scores of union miners have been murdered by gun thugs in the employ of the mine operators.

Monday the United Mine Workers announced that the operators have at last agreed to the union shop, covering the 12,000 miners and 22 mines in the county, as well as workings in Bell and Knox counties connected with the Harlan companies.

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