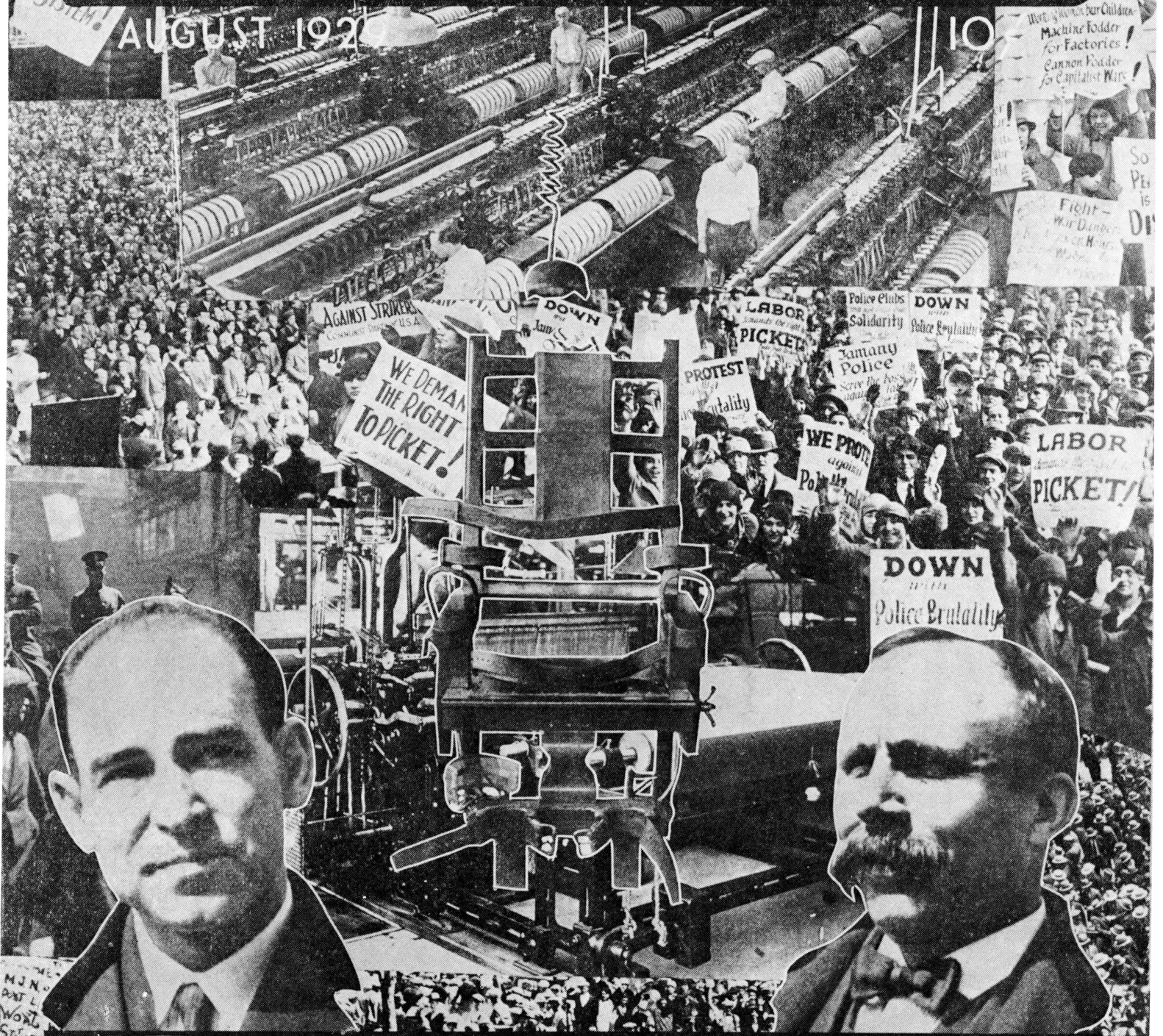


LABOR DEFENDER

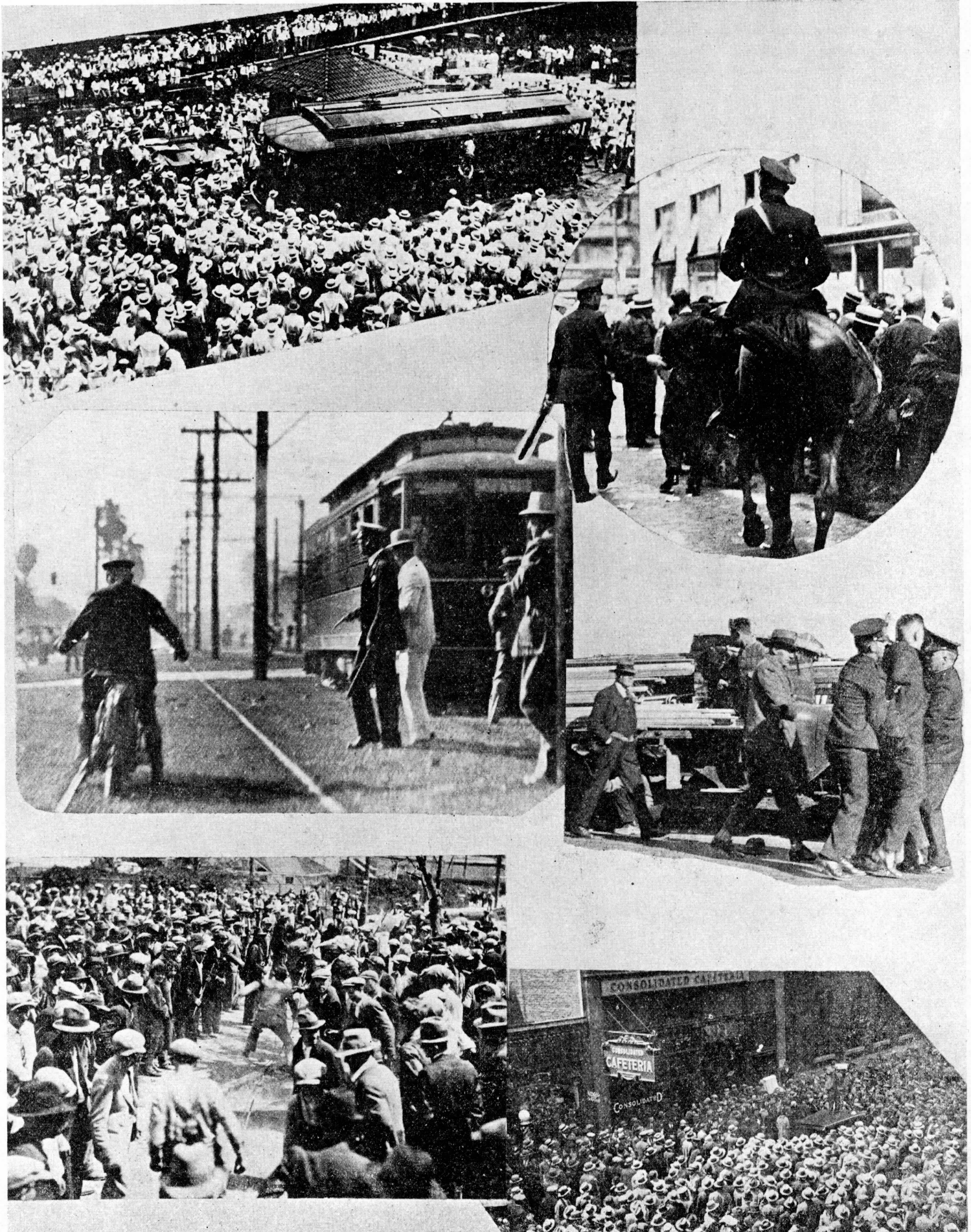
AUGUST 1921



GASTONIA'S APPEAL TO AMERICAN LABOR

*"No Death Sentences! No Prison Sentences,
for Leaders of Southern Textile Workers".*

NATION-WIDE STRIKE WAVE: NEW ORLEANS, GASTONIA, NEW YORK, DETROIT.



THE LABOR DEFENDER—AUGUST, 1929, Vol. IV, No. 8. Published Monthly by the International Labor Defense, 80 East 11th Street., Room 402, New York City. Karl Reeve, Editor. Edward Wright, Business Manager. Subscription: \$1.00 a year. Entered as second class matter November 5, 1927, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879. National Officers: Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Chairman; Edw. G. Wentworth, Vice Chairman; Juliet S. Poyntz, Executive Secretary; Carl Hacker, Ass't Secretary.

The Workers Must Free You

To Fred E. Beal, Amy Schechter, K. Y. Hendricks, Lewis McLaughlin, Vera Bush, D. Hampton, and other victims of the Gastonia frame-up:

Dear Comrades:

In my prison here in Boston Harbor, I have read in the Daily Worker of the efforts being made by the capitalist class to send you to the electric chair. In the eyes of the capitalists you committed an unpardonable crime—you dared to stir up the workers, to arouse them from their sloth, to organize them for action on their own behalf. You made these Southern textile workers conscious of their lot, you taught them how to fight for a better existence.

I am in prison for the same cause as you. I must serve a year in prison for exposing the fact that the legal murder of Sacco-Vanzetti was carried out by the tools of the capitalist class

as an attack on the entire working class.

You have incurred the enmity of the Southern textile barons, worthy successors to the slaveholding bourbons of a previous age. For this you are to pay with your lives. Your names are to be joined with those of Sacco and Vanzetti, the Haymarket martyrs, Frank Little and the countless workingclass heroes who have paid the price exacted by the bloody capitalists from those who dare to oppose their cruel system.

The strike you led was a symbol. It marked a new era in the South, the period of struggle, when the workers who had hitherto remained dormant, began to move into action. It chilled the hearts of the cowardly capitalists, who realized that the hour had struck when they would have to give up part of their ill gotten gains. They saw that the workers were ready to follow the organizations of the left wing, the only groups ready to organize them, and capable of carrying on a victorious struggle.

The capitalists retaliated as they have often done in the past. They framed up the leaders and put them on trial for their lives. But they are mistaken if they hope by these means to stop organization in the South. Even should they be successful, the work will go on. Other leaders will arise, the workers will be organized. The union will grow strong. Finally the workers will learn that they can end the frame-up system only by ending the capitalist system itself and erecting on its ruins a workers' republic.

But the capitalist class must not succeed in their efforts to railroad you com-

By HARRY J. CANTER

rades to the electric chair. The workers must set you free. The workers can do it, if they organize. They are many, the capitalists are few. The workers must raise money for the defense and send it to the International Labor Defense. They must work hard to see that you comrades are not compelled to pay the full price for



BALTIMORE WORKERS DEMONSTRATE TO FREE GASTONIA STRIKERS

your daring and courage as did Sacco and Vanzetti. Every union hall, every workers' meeting place must resound to the slogan: "Smash the Gastonia Frame-Up!" Protest meetings and demonstrations must be held in every city and town where a factory rears its smoky head. Every fact-



JOSEPH HARRISON, WOUNDED BY POLICE, CHARGED WITH MURDER

ory should be the scene of a real demonstration.

Just two years ago Sacco and Vanzetti were murdered by the State of Massachusetts, by the capitalist class of America, through its servant the state power. Today you go on trial in the same cause for which they died. You also are persecuted by the courts and the government, taking their orders from the mill owners, because you led a strike for better conditions. The

attack upon you, the same as the attack upon Sacco and Vanzetti, is not only aimed at the entire American working class.

Before Sacco and Vanzetti were murdered an international protest of the workers throughout the entire world was carried out. The workers of the Soviet Union, of Italy, China, England and Latin America, the workers throughout

the entire world, demanded their release. But the protest of the workers of America, was not strong enough, was not powerful enough.

Your case has now enlivened our memories not only of the Sacco-Vanzetti frame-up, but also that of Mooney and Billings, the Centralia prisoners and of the Chicago Haymarket martyrs who pioneered in 1886 in the fight for the eight-hour day.

Today the class struggle in the United States has sharpened. Today larger masses of the American workers are rallying to your aid. The workers have learned a lesson from the Sacco-Vanzetti case. They have learned that only their organized mass power can save their leaders, can save you Gastonia strikers, from legal murder at the hands of the bosses and their government.

Sacco and Vanzetti have not died in vain. The fight to free you is the same struggle as was the fight to free Sacco and Vanzetti. In memory of our dead comrades Sacco and Vanzetti, we swear that the same murder shall not be carried out against you. In memory of Sacco and Vanzetti we say, "The Gastonia strikers must go free; not a single Gastonia striker shall be sentenced to the electric chair—not one shall be sentenced to prison—all twenty-three must be unconditionally released".

Fraternally,
HARRY J. CANTER.

“WE CAN'T GO FURTHER LIKE THIS”

A TEXTILE worker, long and lean himself, told me the other day, after coming back from a trip to several mill villages, that he had to look at many of the workers he spoke to twice before he could see them once. He turned around and looked towards the Loray mill, squirted a mouthful of Brown Mule tobacco juice in its direction signifying his contempt for the blood suckers and added: “We can't go any further like this. One of those fancy lawyers for the law that wants to scorch the life out of our buddies in jail did some speaking at the Patriotic Sons of America the other day and told us we'd have to recollect the battle of Kings Mountain,



GASTONIA DEMONSTRATION IN NEW YORK

fought in 1776 and the piles of freedom we got out of it and that we'd have to preserve this here freedom we got from this dangerous movement you northerners are making to organize the union, the defense and relief. Well, this here freedom has been preserved for these many years, all canned up and the only ones that's tasting any of it is the mill owners, their law and their wise-cracking lawyers.

“All we get is hell, all we got is skin over our bones, and our flesh, dripping blood, hangs on the millions of dollars they make out of our hides.” Another squirt of Brown Mule's juice towards the Loray mill, a sinister oath spoken in its direction and he was off with the words “well, I'm signing up a bunch in the International Labor Defense today.”

The proletarian awakening here in the South, where the mill owners work God and the bible overtime to maintain the status quo, where a northern labor organizer is called a foreigner, where the color line is gabbed about but finds liquidation where the textile workers live and slave, where Reds are “exhibited in shame” as free-lovers but where the most astute free lovers are the bourgeois gentlemen of the south who go philandering with the bible in one pocket and a flask of whiskey in the other. The proletarian awakening here is a revelation to every militant.

It was the textile slaves of Shelby, who,

ALFRED WAGENKNECHT
Nat'l Sec'y Workers International Relief

the day after the Loray strikers heroically defended their union hall and the Workers International Relief tent colony, instructed a committee to secure attorneys to defend the one hundred workers arrested in the raid. And a group of workers in the Loray mill, garnered from the hills and farms of many southern states spoke very freely, probably with the tradition of Kings Mountain in mind, when they said they'd have a revolution first before they would allow the bosses to carry out a sentence against the defendants.

Ominous for the mill owners, the Gastonia city government and all those in league with both, is the inception of a spontaneous movement by the workers thru-out the county to march into Gastonia, on the date of the trial to speak their mind. Bessemer City is already laying plans for its march. Gastonia's law shakes in its boots as is evidenced by the rumors that it will close the court house to these textile workers and bar them from the city.

This is how imperialism is hitting the south. Rationalization, extreme exploitation, actual starvation—now the struggle is on. Radicalization of the southern textile workers, intensification of the class struggle—proof of this found in every mill town. These fill slaves are speaking their mood. “Send organizers!” “Send speakers!” “We want to join up!”—these are daily messages that reach headquarters here. The National Textile Workers Union, the International Labor Defense, the Workers International Relief are accepted by these workers, no matter how red or black the bosses paint these organizations.

The trial of Beal, Hendricks, Schechter, Melvin, Harrison, McGinnis, McLaughlin and the others will help to enlighten these workers and will open an era of more militant and decisive battles.

Without prompting, deep out of the struggle, these textile workers are repeating our favorite slogan when they say: “We got nothing to lose.” They know the mills. There they are swallowed with their wives and children, and then spewed out, pelegra ridden—wrecked. The lint chokes them and the cotton cloth becomes their

shroud. They sink into the grave, never having eaten decently, slept restfully, without even knowing readin', writin' and figurin'. Days of hard toil, a little “settin' round” and life is done.

That's why they say: “We can't go any further like this.” It is said with determination and when it's said like that down south, it's meant.

GASTONIA STRIKE SONG

By Odell Corley

(11 year old Gastonia striker's child)

*Come on, you scabs, if you wanto hear,
The story of a cruel millionaire,
Manville-Jenckes was a millionaire
And fought the Union mighty mean.*

*They throw'd rotten eggs at Vera and Beal
on the stand*

*They caught the man with the pistol in his
hand*

Trying to shoot Beal on the speaking stand

They took Beal to the Monroe jail

And they put him in a dirty cell

*They took him to Charlotte to have his trial
And they put it off until July.*

*Beal and the strikers put up a darn'd good
fight*

We will give the bosses hell and hear

Manville say:

*“It ain't no use to fight the Union this
way.”*

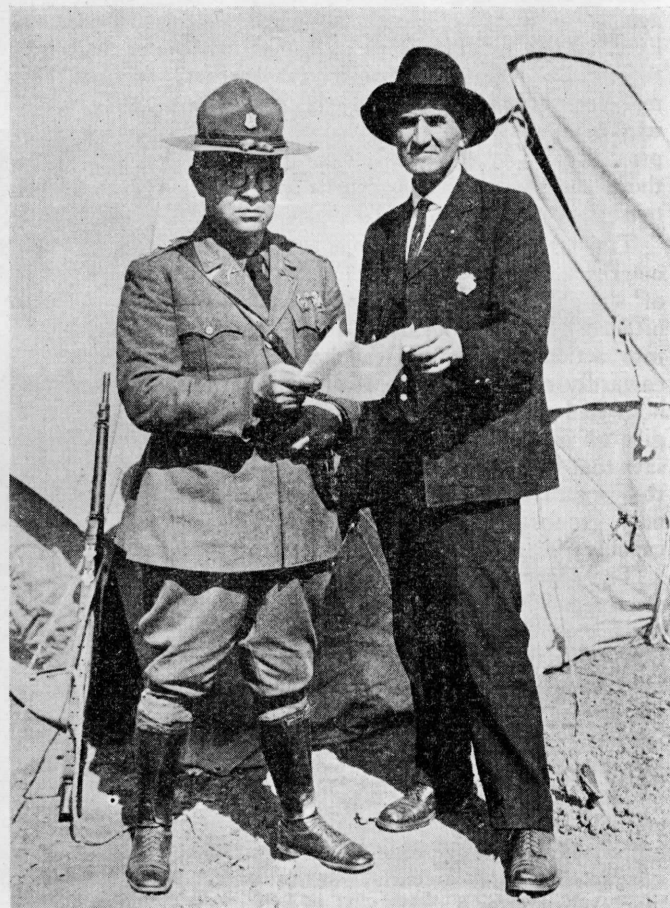


Photo: Int'l News.
Chief O. Aderholt (right), mill owners' servant, plotting terror against strikers with Major Dolley, now prosecution lawyer



GASTONIA AND THE NEGRO

EDITORS NOTE:—*Otto Hall worked in the Gastonia textile area as an organizer for the National Textile Workers Union. He was saved from lynching at the hands of a mob of mill owner's hangers-on by the Gastonia textile workers. This is the first time on record of white Southern workers saving a Negro from lynching.*

THE Gastonia frame-up, resulting from the determined efforts of the over-exploited mill hands of Gaston County, North Carolina, to organize, is concrete evidence of the desperation of the Textile Barons in the South. The Bourbon South, with its traditions of race inferiority, which has acted as a millstone around the necks of the great mass of workers in that section, black and white alike, seemed to Northern capitalists in search of more profits an excellent field for exploitation. This hatred which had been artificially stimulated by every method of propaganda, and which reacted to the detriment of both races, seemed a force that would forever keep the workers divided, thus facilitating the exploitation of the South. These conditions were widely advertised by the local "Babbits" to persuade Northern manufacturers to move their industries South. They made a lot of noise about cheap docile labor, cheap waterpower, 100% Americans who unlike those "damned foreigners" up North, would never strike etc., implying that this type of worker would stand for anything and could never be organized.

But, recent events following the introduction into the mills of the vicious speedups and starvation wages, which is part of the modern process of industrialization,

By OTTO HALL

have shown the bosses that they have created a "Frankenstein Giant" which will eventually bring about their destruction. The Southern ruling class has always held the "poor white" classes in contempt, even considering them less useful than the Negroes. But they were shrewd enough to know that in order to keep atop of both of them, they must create and stimulate an artificial division. Every means possible is used by these Bourbons to intensify this hatred. The "poor whites" are told that if they did not look out, the Negroes would gain political control and would seize their women by force and thus destroy the purity of the great white race. The only consolation offered the white worker was not the betterment of his conditions, but the fiction that he was better than the Negro. On the other hand, the Negro carrying over a tradition from chattel slavery, was taught to look down on the "poor white" workers and to consider them as nothing but "poor trash" 'The slave was considered valuable property that had to be protected while the poor white was of no particular service to the ruling class. They were not interested in "free" labor as long as they could secure slave labor, which was more profitable.

But these workers could only be exploited to a certain degree which was prov-

en by the many spontaneous strikes that broke out in that district. It was under such conditions that the National Textile Workers Union entered the Southern field, and in spite of all the agitation by the manufacturers against this so-called "Red" union, controlled by "foreigners who were not even American citizens," the workers joined this union and under the leadership of this union fought against the speedup and low wages, for better living conditions. In spite of the many years of racial hatred that existed among these workers, the National Textile Workers Union was able in the heart of the Bourbon South, to bring out their program of organization of black and white workers into the same union, and actually accomplish in this vicinity, this work, which proves what has always been contended that under conditions of struggle against capitalist exploitation, workers of all nationalities and all races, no matter how intense their hatreds, can be brought together on a common basis for struggle.

The Southern white workers soon learned that all of this talk of race superiority did not mean anything to the exploited workers, that the Southern custom of segregation, Jim-Crowism, etc., did not benefit them in the slightest. The white mill workers were living in the same kind of tumble-down shacks, propped up on stilts, as the Negro workers, the only difference being in location. In spite of the fact that they were told they were superior, the mill-owned police had no hesitation in clubbing and bayonetting them even if they were members of this great superior race. They have learned that the capitalists in exploiting workers, do not consider color as a factor. This was the reason that these workers volunteered to protect the Negro organizer that was sent down to organize the Negro workers, against the terroristic threats of company thugs. The Southern ruling class realizes

(Continued on Page 164)



The Gastonia Gazette's idea of a member of the National Textile Union



CONFERENCE OF CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE (Red Aid), IN MEXICO CITY

The Blood Bath Against Caribbean Workers

(Statement of Caribbean Secretariat, I. L. D.)

To the Working Class Organizations of the United States:

The Caribbean Secretariat of the Red Aid International herein addresses itself to all the working class organizations of the United States of America, appealing for their solidarity in the fight we are waging in the Caribbean countries against the advancing reaction and in favor of the victimized workers and peasants.

Since the end of the past year, the reactionary wave instituted in the interests of American imperialism and other imperialist powers has been rapidly advancing in all countries of the Caribbean. The bloody massacre in the banana zone in Colombia gives us the appalling balance of 1000 dead, 3000 maimed, the destruction of the Magdalena Trade-Union Federation and the imprisonment of over 120 workers who received sentences of 5 to 25 years hard work. Among the latest is the valiant leader, Alberto Castrillon, who is now serving sentence in the notorious penitentiary of Uanoutico in Bogota. Lately, under a new fascist "Law of Social Defense", more than a hundred working class militants were condemned, among whom are three members of the Central Committee of the Colombia Revolutionary Socialist Party, a section of the Communist International.

In Venezuela, the tragic events of last April were sealed in the later months of the year by the tyrant Juan Vincente

Gomez, with scores of imprisonments and persecutions. Now the government is not satisfied with persecuting its enemies at home. The assassin's hand reaches beyond the national frontier and kills Hilario Montenegro in Curacao and is preparing itself to use the same methods in order to crush the rebellious movement organized by Venezuela's Revolutionary Party.

In Guatemala, the May Day demonstration was broken up by the bayonets of the federal army. Many of the participants were arrested and are still held behind steel bars.

In Cuba, more than seven hundred comrades are under trial, charged with "betrayal of the country" and "intent of rebellion", while in reality they are detained for having dared to protest against the bloody regime of the imperialist tool, Machado. Like Venezuela, Cuba is not satisfied with keeping "peace" at home, but its hand reaches out to strike its death blows against its political emigres. The culminating act of this form of persecution was the murder of Julio Antonio Mella, a leader of the Cuban workers.

In Mexico, where reaction has assumed a savage character, we witness daily executions of the militant leaders of the workers and peasant organizations. Among these martyrs is Comrade Jose Guadalupe Rodriguez, executed in the state of Durango by order of the Secretary of War Calles.

Our peasant comrades who fought on the side of the government against the latest reactionary rebellion, are now being forcibly disarmed and the leaders of the peasant guerrillas are being executed throughout the country. Late reactionary events are the closing up of the Central Offices of the Communist Party of Mexico and the suppression of its official organ, "El Machete". The monthly review "Mella", organ of Red Aid, has been censored and now has to fight many difficulties in order to be issued. "Cuba Libre", organ of the Cuban Political Emigres Revolutionary Association, has been suppressed and its editors jailed. The number of trade-unionists, peasants and other comrades imprisoned since the beginning of the year is way above five hundred.

All over the Caribbean sector, governmental reaction is intensifying in the measure that the sharpening of the internal economic contradictions brought about by the increasing imperialism of the U. S. makes it necessary to submit the working masses to a regime of brutal exploitation.

All the revolutionary manifestations of the working classes of the Caribbean countries are met by the machine guns of the "national armies", which instead of being utilized to sustain the independence of the Latin American peoples, are used to serve as an auxiliary force of the invading United

(Continued on Page 166)

MY LIFE STORY

By K. O. BYERS

(one of the 15 Gastonia strikers charged with murder)

I was born on a farm near Cliffside, Rutherford County, North Carolina November 23rd, 1929. My father before me had been born on this farm and farmed it until I was 13 years of age. My mother was born near Spartansburg, Cherokee County, South Carolina in 1888.

When I was in my thirteenth year we moved to Gaffney, S. C. and I went to work for The Gaffney Manufacturing Co. and learned to run cards, remaining there two years. My father was working alongside of me and we averaged 16 dollars per week. We left Gaffney and went to Huckleberry, S. C. and worked for The Mary Louise Cotton Mill and averaged about \$14.85 per week as cardhands. After staying about a year we returned to The Gaffney Mfg. Co. as cardhands again and worked for another year. We then moved to Gastonia, N. C. and got a job in the Loray Mill. I worked for about a year, then went to Schoolfield, Va. and worked for three months in the Dan River Cotton Mills.

I decided to go north and left Schoolfield for Chester, Pa., stayed there several days looking for work and finding none went

into Philadelphia. I took a job washing dishes, held it down for several weeks and then left for Trenton, N. J., but found no job. I then returned to Philadelphia, went to an employment agency and got a job with the Phoenix Utility Co. This firm was erecting a power line between Philadelphia and Wilkes Barre.

I remained with them for about two years and then returned to Gastonia and went to work in the Loray Mill as a cardhand. I was averaging about \$14 per week. I had been working about a year and a half when they tried to make us clean up three times a night and do our own oiling. We had never done our oiling and had been cleaning up once each night. Twenty eight of us refused to do this and walked out. They paid us off and told us we could never get another job in the Loray Mill. Several days later they sent for us and told us that if we came back to work they would not ask us to do the extra work. We went back to work and remained until we came out on strike April 1st in response to a call made by the National Textile Workers Union.

On April 3rd Manville-Jenckes asked for the National Guards so as to be able to prevent us strikers from picketing the mill. Failing to break the strike by legal methods the Manville-Jenckes Co. gathered together a bunch of thugs and on the 16th of April these men came to the union and relief headquarters at 3 A. M. They wore masks so that they could not be identified.

This masked mob were armed with pistols and shotguns and brought picks and sledge-hammers which they used to tear down our headquarters.

They threw all the provisions belonging to the relief committee into the street. After they left the National Guards arrived and placed me and nine other union members under arrest and took us to the city hall. We were told that if we went back to work they would turn us loose. We refused and were released later under fifty dollars bond, and told that we would be tried next day. We have never been tried yet.



K. Y. HENDRICKS
Gastonia striker charged with murder.

I went back to the union and did everything I could to help win our strike. I spent six weeks in Lexington doing union work, then went to Elizabethton to give out leaflets advertising a massmeeting that was to be held by the National Textile Workers Union. Eight of us were arrested and our leaflets confiscated. Later we were released and I went to Gastonia.

I arrived here Thursday night, left on Saturday for Spartansburg where I was arrested with Beal and taken to Monroe jail. After remaining a week we were taken to Charlotte to appear at a habeas corpus hearing. We were held without bond on a charge of murder. We were then committed to Gaston County Jail where I am still confined.

What does the future hold for me? That is a question I cannot answer. Only the American working-class can answer it for me. Shall the final chapter of my life tell that I was electrocuted because the Mill bosses were successful in framing myself and 14 other loyal union members?

Remember Frank Little

Frank Little, fearless leader of the Butte copper miners strike of 1917, was martyred 12 years ago this month, lynched by the bosses' henchmen. While Little, a cripple, was lying asleep, unguarded, the lynching posse, spurred on by the press and the state authorities in the pay of the copper bosses, broke into his room. They slugged him into unconsciousness, dragged him thru the streets tied to the back of an automobile, and next morning his mangled body was found hanging under a trestle.

This month is the twelfth anniversary of Little's martyrdom—and again fifteen valiant fighters for the working class are in danger—this time of legal lynching. Only the working class for whom they fought so bravely, can save them from the electric chair that flashed out the lives of Sacco and Vanzetti, also in August, two years ago.



GASTONIA STRIKERS CHILDREN IN TENT COLONY, SELLING "LABOR DEFENDER"

THE GASTONIA GUARD

By JIM REID
(President N. T. W. U.)



SOPHIE MELVIN, CHARGED WITH MURDER

THE goal toward which labor fights slowly, stubbornly, but surely is a workers' world, where robbery is no longer rampant and slavery has succumbed to the power of a united solidarity of useful workers of factories and farms.

Of the many battles between the robbers and the robbed which has marked the progress of the workers forces, none in recent times has loomed larger and foretold in more unmistakable terms the firmness with which the American section of the working class is forming its fighting forces for the overthrow of the robber class than the present strikes in the south.

Gastonia no longer wakes in the mind the sickly thought of the miserable Manville-Jenkes slave pens. When we say "Gastonia" now to a working class audience they visualize the class war.

"They who would be free; themselves must strike the blow".

Among the cotton workers of the South, this axiom is being materialized into action. They realize that the workers of each country must overpower the robber class of their own country. In America the American workers realize that they must form the vanguard of the fighters. This is the pledge which the cotton slave workers of the South are now making by the thousands, in rallying to membership in the National Textile Workers Union. "A fighting union controlled by the workers"

The "Gastonia Guard" of labor fore-

shadows the creation of Labor Defense Corps in every mill town of the South. The lessons of Gastonia are being rapidly absorbed by the southern workers. They see every other division of southern society banded against labor. They see the prostitute press grovelling at the feet of the Manville-Jenkes Co., spewing venom at those who would fight with the workers, lying, misrepresenting and viciously twisting the truth against the workers. They see the Bulwinkles acting as downright gangsters and trying to stimulate the Chamber of Commerce and the crumb crushers to lynching bees and outlawry of the workers.

They see the "law" giving badges to the Roaches and other spawn of the devil on the orders of Manville-Jenkes. They see them arming the Roaches with clubs and guns to intimidate and beat down the cotton workers so that that greedy, gouging, grasping gang of slave drivers may make more profits from the sweat and blood of southern American workers to invest in Germany, India, China and other foreign countries.

The Gastonia "Guard" will live in history as the germ that generated the creation

of the American Labor Defense corps with units in every union and in every town and hamlet to prevent the lawless thuggery, badged or unbadged, from crippling and injuring and the killing the workers' fighters in their battles against the ruthless robber mill owners of the Manville-Jenkes type.



FRED BEAL
Leader of Southern Textile Strike

ARE WE MURDERERS?

By FRED BEAL

The following statement by Fred Beal, Southern District Organizer for the National Textile Workers Union, and himself one of the fifteen defendants whom the mill-bosses and the state of North Carolina will try to railroad to the electric chair in the trial starting July 29, corrects the distortion of facts regarding the Gastonia case which appeared in a recent issue of the N. Y. "Nation".

THE last issue of the Nation gives a distorted account of the Gastonia case, thus aiding the enemy. Their account of what happened is almost as bad as the Gastonia Gazette, organ of the mill bosses. The Nation lifts one incident out of the dramatic and historic struggle lasting months and gives a misleading account without relation to the entire problem. Their editorial does not show that since the beginning of the strike on April 1st, the mill owners' police and troops were constantly harrasing the union leaders and strikers, destroying their headquarters. It does not tell about Loray mill and police breaking up the picket line, the evening of the shooting, which went to the mill to call out the night shift, fifty to seventy percent

of whom were ready to strike. We have dozens of affidavits showing threats had been made to destroy the W.I.R. tent colony that night.

"Unquestionably, Aderholt and his gang intended to raid the colony and the strikers defended their lives and homes. Later the committee of One Hundred came and looted and destroyed the colony. They had planned to follow Aderholt and get rid of the union. Mass massacre or lynching probably was prevented by the heroic defense of the strikers.

"The Nation articles show that the editors believe that either the union should have surrendered to the bosses as the United Textile Workers did at Elizabethton, betraying the workers, or else be pacifists and allow their headquarters property to be destroyed and themselves shot down without defending themselves. The fact that the Nation prints such misleading articles and does not support the defense appeal for contributions shows the magazine as anti-labor, supporting the reactionary bureaucrats of the American Federation of Labor, and with policies of cowardice and betrayal—lying with capitalist sheets about left-wing unions".

AGAINST FASCISM and WAR *by Henri Barbusse*

THE First International Anti-Fascist Congress fulfilled the expectations that were put in it, despite manifold difficulties. All the delegates have returned to their countries to take their places as fighters on the international anti-fascist front.

The Congress, although ended, has just begun its work. We met to exchange our experience gained in order to continue our fight against the enemy in an improved manner, better armed and with increased fighting capacity. Through personal contact we also strengthened the connections in our own ranks, and I personally can say that these contacts were a mighty strengthening for me and that the bond which connects me with the revolutionary proletariat has become still stronger.

The call of the First International Anti-Fascist Congress must penetrate to the exploited and oppressed masses to show them this is the fate which your oppressors and exploiters are planning for you everywhere—this is the slavery, the chains which they want to forge still tighter everywhere, to save their domination, their system of exploitation, from definite decline and to build still higher their mountains of wealth from your flesh and blood—the slavery from which you only can save yourselves and from which your class has freed itself so far only in one part of the international front.

To lead the struggle successfully and to a victorious end, it is necessary that the great masses of the exploited and oppressed

take part in it. Every working class organization must become an army in this fight. The struggle must be led in the factories, in the Trade Unions, in all mass organizations. We must tell the masses clearly: Get to know your enemy thoroughly! Step by step you must answer his attacks and repel them decidedly, and you must be so armed that you can also prevent his attacks! Form the anti-fascist army, but keep in mind to choose as your leaders not those that prevent you from advancing but choose those who lead your army forward.

Anti-Fascism has another name, this name is: Revolution! In this contradictory time we can establish a fact which seems peculiar but is nevertheless true: the fact that before revolution, counter-revolution has made its appearance. This could not remain without consequences. And we see in fact that the proletariat which in the past years was still in the retreat, in a status of self defense, lately is making serious preparations everywhere to advance with the counter attack. It is not the defense that we need, but the attack. The attack only will secure us victory!

The First International Anti-Fascist Congress has stressed emphatically the threatening bloody war danger, but on this we must still more concentrate our attention and our daily fight, because, without and against our will, this danger forms the central point of interest of the whole of humanity. It dominates the world events of the near and nearest future, yes of the

present, of to-day already—the threatening danger of a new imperialist war, surpassing by far everything past in its horror, destruction and devastation, before all an imperialist war of intervention against the first state whose supporters, the workers, have definitely shaken off the yoke of Capital and have started the building up of socialism: against the Soviet Union.

We who have clearly recognized the class character of fascism in all its variations, we who also clearly see the class character of the war which the imperialists of the world prepare with tenacious persistence against the first workers' state, the Soviet Union, we who know that this war has two fronts, inseparable from each other, the front along the borderline of the Soviet Union and the front inside each capitalist country against its "own" proletariat, against its "own" peasantry, against its "own" intelligentsia whose fate in life and death is inseparably connected with that of the proletariat, against its "own" middle classes, who can only profit from the overthrow of capitalist exploitation, against the suppressed national minorities, whose national emancipation can only be accomplished together with their social liberation, the front against the whole toiling population—we must also clearly recognize the role which Fascism in all its variations plays in the preparation of war. We must recognize this role of Fascism and must make every worker, every intellectual, every member
(Continued on Page 164)



REMEMBER SACCO AND VANZETTI—MURDERED BY CAPITALIST JUSTICE, AUGUST 22, 1927.



REMEMBER SACCO AND VANZETTI—MURDERED BY CAPITALIST JUSTICE, AUGUST 22, 1927.

FOR LABOR'S DEFENSE AGAINST IMPERIALIST WAR

THIS is being written at the moment when the reptile press of American imperialism is emitting an endless stream of poison propaganda against the Union of Soviet Republics. It is the poison brewed by jingo hatred inciting to war; preparing the way for the rapidly developing attack of imperialism against the First Workers' Republic of which the seizure of the Chinese Eastern Railroad by the puppet Nanking Government of

pampered hirelings of Wall Street, Chiang and Chang, claiming in every edition that the Red Army is overrunning Manchuria, that the Red Cavalry is raiding far and wide, that poison gas warfare has been opened along the Suifenho River, that even the Japanese residents were withdrawing to Harbin from Pogranichaya and Manchuli, border cities East and West, all constituting a heavy smoke screen under which imperialism advances,

Soviet consulates at Mukden, Harbin and other Manchurian cities, leading up to the seizure by the Nanking and Manchurian warlords of the Chinese Eastern Railroad, which had hitherto been conducted jointly and successfully by the Russians and Chinese.

The position of the world infamous hangman of the Chinese worker and peasant masses, Chiang Kai Shek, is weak. His economic position is not sufficiently strong, nor does he control a centralized government capable of developing an attack of any considerable proportions against the Soviet Union. There should be no doubt in any worker's mind that the great imperialist nations, especially the United States, Britain, France and Japan, not only knew about but actually planned every move that was made. There is here repeated the same careful and sinister direction that the United States, France and Great Britain have given to the European border countries, to the terror governments of Poland, Roumania and the smaller Baltic and Balkan states.

In these war preparations the socialists have supported the whole program of the imperialists. In Germany, the social-democratic minister, Mueller, has led in the western orientation of Germany, away from its Eastern outlook toward the Soviet Union written into the Treaty of Rapallo. This was the goal sought by the American multi-millionaires, J. Pierpont Morgan, Thomas W. Lamont and Owen Young, Wall Street's spokesmen at the Paris war debt conference. It was Paul Boncour, the French socialist, who actually took the lead in the making of the new French military laws anticipating "the next war."

The Soviet Union, alone among all the nations of the world, has always taken a friendly attitude towards the Chinese people. It has given up the Boxer Indemnity, the heavy burden imposed on the Chinese people by the imperialist nations, including czarism, as a result of the Boxer Rebellion. It surrendered all of its extra-territorial rights, still so jealously held by the imperialist countries. To give up its rights in the operation of the Chinese Eastern Railroad would not result in the railroad being turned over to the Chinese people. It would merely fall into the grasping claws of Japanese imperialism, which now controls the Chinese Southern Railroad and strives to develop complete domination over Manchuria surrender by the Soviet Union of its treaty rights in the Chinese Eastern Railroad would be a concession to Japan and not to China.

It is clear that the several conversations between J. Ramsay MacDonald, the "labor" premier of Great Britain, and Charles G. "Hell an' Maria" Dawes, the Chicago banker, busy Yankee ambassador to the Court of St. James, have hinged on the united attack planned against the Soviet Union. This is the only subject on which the two imperial-

By J. Louis

Engdahl

isms can come to an understanding. It is very evident that the differences over battleship strength were ironed out on the basis of united action against the Soviet Union.

No matter what their differences may be, the imperialist powers unite for the attempted destruction of their common enemy, the Workers' and Peasants' Republic. The louder the imperialists scream about their pacifist intentions under the League of Nations and the Kellogg Pact, the more feverish are their war preparations. Bourgeois pacifism is the screaming eagle of imperialist warmongers who fought viciously against the disarmament proposals of the Soviet Union made at Geneva, providing an effective program for the abolition of armies and navies. This program the bandit capitalist powers completely and cynically rejected.

The International Labor Defense, a proletarian defense organization, must play an important role in the struggle against the imperialist war. The workers and farmers organized under the banners of the I.L.D. must be in the forefront of the defense of the Soviet Union, among the best fighters for the class interests of labor in all countries. This must be especially so in the United States, the most powerful imperialist nation and therefore one of the leading aggressors. The membership of the I.L.D. must come to the front aiding actively in the preparations for and take an important part in the strikes and demonstrations on International Red Day Against War, August First.

The I.L.D. supports in every way all persecuted, arrested and imprisoned fighters against imperialist war and militarism, irrespective of their political opinions.

The I.L.D. functioned efficiently in the first action of labor protesting against the new imperialist aggressions against the Soviet Union on the Manchurian front. This was the picketing demonstration carried out against the Chinese Consulate in New York City of the Nanking Government of Kuomintang butchers. The I.L.D. fought the charges against the 13 who were arrested, turning the capitalist courts into a field of struggle against the war, putting imperialism on trial in its own stronghold.

On the very eve of the Anti-War Demonstrations and Strikes on August First, the nervous capitalist rulers order raids against the Communist dailies of France and Czechoslovakia, making many arrests and ordering the suspension of numerous publications. The Social-Democratic rulers of Prussia plan to repeat their terror of last May Day against labor in Berlin. The first anti-war protest in New York City is attacked by the police under "strict orders."

It is impossible to isolate the class war struggles in the United States from the resistance to the imperialist war developments. They are all part of the same struggle. The

strikes in the Southern textile mill areas, the heroic battles of the New Orleans street carmen; the growing resistance of the workers in the auto industry centering about Detroit; energetic efforts to organize the workers in a number of trades and industries in New York City, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Chicago and elsewhere are all expressions of the radicalization of labor as the war clouds thicken. It is precisely the tremendous and growing production of the textile and other industries, with a diminishing market at home, that forces the great profiteers through their dollar government to wage war for the conquest of new markets; at the present moment for the complete crushing of the revolutionary movement in China and India, for the smashing of the Soviet Power in Russia, in order to convert the Soviet Union into an imperialist colony, and make all colonial and semi-colonial countries, now centers of protest and growing anti-imperialist struggles, obedient imperialist slaves.

Thus the mobilization of the executioners in Gastonia, North Carolina, for the wholesale execution of the fifteen workers under indictment for murder because the mill owners' chief of police died in an unwarranted attack on the strikers' tent colony, parallels the calling to arms of the white guard

(czarist) Russians in Manchuria to carry out the bloody work of the imperialists against the Russian workers and peasants. A chief characteristic of the new imperialist war is that it will not only be a war of capitalist countries against the Workers' Republic; but of the capitalists against the workers in all countries, of which the Gastonia prosecution is an integral part.

It is clear that the International Labor Defense will not be in a position to wage an effective struggle against the imperialists if its forces are weak and disorganized. The struggle against imperialism's war plans should stiffen the ranks of the I.L.D. everywhere, energize the campaign for 100,000 members in the shops and factories, the mills and mines, the railroads and the farms of the nation. Build the I.L.D. in the storm of the growing war crisis. No death sentences, no prison sentences at Gastonia! Free our fellow workers! Restore them to the ranks of the working class! Defend the right of the workers to defend their lives and their union against the attacks of the armed forces of the Bosses' government.

Defeat the imperialist war. Establish the rule of the working class for the abolition of classes, for the emancipation of mankind from the capitalist ruling class tyranny.

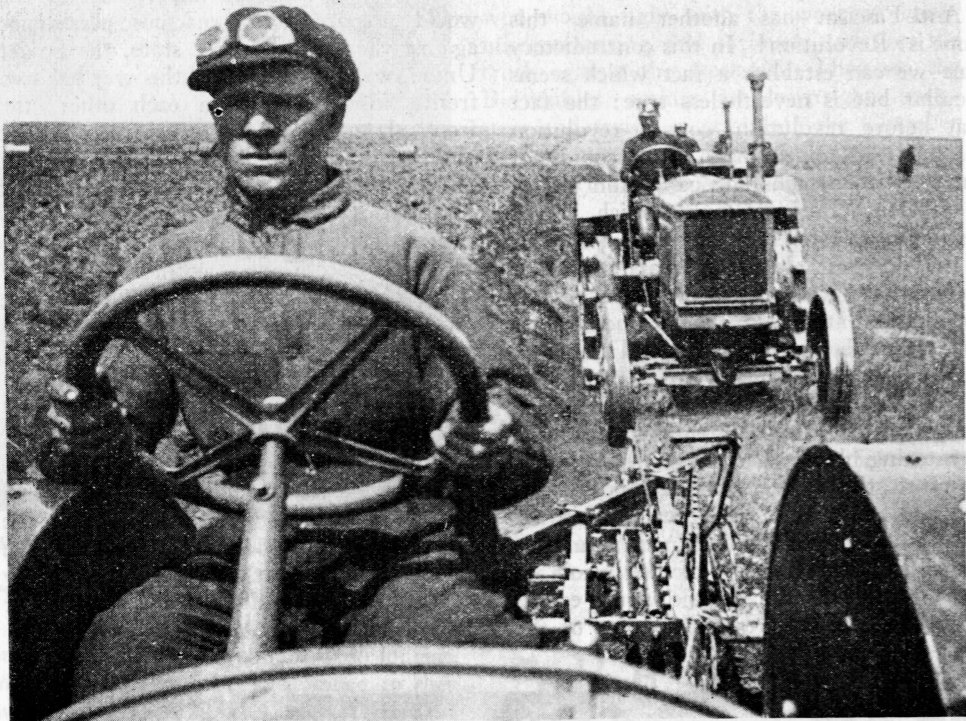


Photo: Press Cliche
WORKERS AND PEASANTS CARRY ON PEACEFUL CONSTRUCTION IN SOVIET RUSSIA

Chiang Kai Shek is only a preliminary skirmish. Events are developing rapidly. It is difficult to tell what point they will have reached by the time this appears in print. This much is certain, however, that a new stage has been reached in the imperialist offensive against the First Workers' Republic, the period of open attack in the Far East, to be followed by aggressions on all fronts.

At the moment Yankee imperialism is masking its sinister designs in several ways. It tries to deny that it has any selfish interests in Manchuria; that its investments there are meager, that American trade with Manchuria is infinitesimal. It tries to hide under the mantle of the Manchurian war lord, Chang Hsueh-Liang and the Nanking butcher, Chiang Kai Shek. It hypocritically calls on the Soviet Union and China to remember their adherence to the Kellogg Pact, the pacifist fig leaf intended to cover up the ambitious military and naval programs of the Washington government, that develops speed in the armament race while making pretensions to peaceful intentions.

For a whole week now (July 22nd) the capitalist press battery, scattering its 35 million copies daily, has sobbed sympathy for the

throwing up as it shock troops the czarist emigres, proteges of the American financial overlords, 20,000 of whom are concentrated in Manchuria.

This campaign of villification, of slanders and falsehoods, reaches proportions that will rapidly surpass the repeated waves of malicious lies let loose against Soviet Union when the workers and peasants seized power in 1917. This attack was but the prelude to the military intervention that followed the Versailles Peace. This preliminary barrage of printer's ink dealing in the wildest fabrications, is as necessary to the imperialist attack against the Soviet Union as warships, battle planes and armies, with all their munitions of war. It is necessary to understand this press bombardment to be able correctly to gauge the imminence of war itself.

World labor stands before historical developments that concern it vitally. Labor is today witnessing the beginning of the general imperialist attack against the Soviet Union. New links are being forged rapidly in the developing chain of events that have seen the provocative raids on the Soviet Embassy in Peking (1928-29); new provocative arrests of Russian railroad workers in Harbin; raids on



Photo: P. & A.
NEW ORLEANS CAR STRIKER, SHOT BY POLICE, DIES IN ARMS OF FELLOW-STRIKER

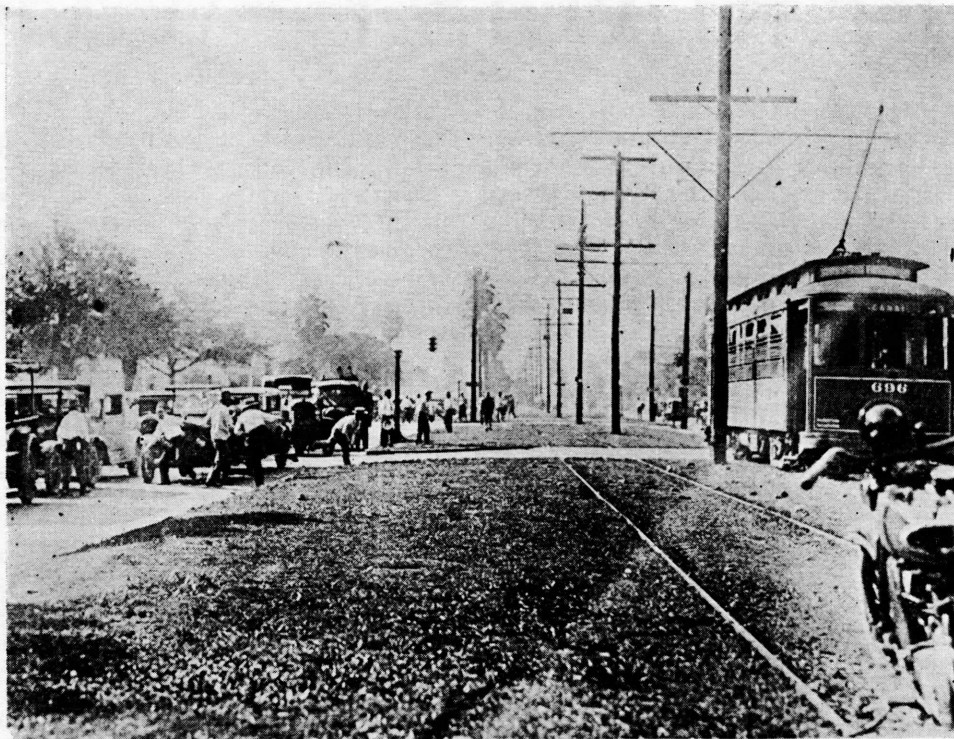


Photo: Int'l News
WORKERS BATTLE POLICE IN NEW ORLEANS CAR STRIKE. SOUTHERN LABOR STRIKES AGAINST CAPITALIST RATIONALIZATION.

CAR STRIKE

In New Orleans

The New Orleans car strike, another front of the revolt of the Southern workers, is characterized by the treachery of federal conciliators working hand in hand with the A. F. of L. leaders.

At one time a general strike was voted by the entire working class of New Orleans, in sympathy with the car men. While the unions were begged not to go out on strike by a citizens committee, negotiations were opened with the Public Service Company, which have dragged on while the company perfected its strike-breaking machinery.

Attorney General Mitchell, acting for the Hoover administration, authorized the use of 100 deputy United States marshals to guard strike-breakers on street cars in New Orleans.

Since the strike began, a month ago, two workers were killed, and nobody was put on trial for their murder.

The strike flared forth in full strength at the outset—police actually refused to fire on the workers and handed in their badges—the other workers of the city were in fullest sympathy and anxious to go out on a general strike.

But the familiar story of the A. F. of L. bureaucrats and conciliators was enacted again—and strike-breakers were brought in to operate the street cars, with federal guards for protection.

Trade Union Unity Convention

ONE of the principal weapons to fight the capitalist class program to embroil the proletariat of the capitalist world in an imperialist conflict against the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics will be the Trade Union Unity Convention to be held in Cleveland August 31-September 2.

Warned by the brutal drive of speed-up and wage-cut the rank and file workers from the mine, foundry, loom, sweat-shop, and every industrial section of the country, will go to Cleveland to create a powerful new trade union center. This will be the central point from which will be directed the drive to organize and mobilize the workers for struggle to improve their conditions.

A powerful turn-out to the Cleveland convention will be the strongest argument in favor of freeing the Gastonia class war prisoners. It will be the collective working-class fist to brandish in the face of capital preparing to drive the workers into a world war of the most frightful immensity.

Imperialist war is upon us—the inevitable result of the contradictions of capitalism, and the workers must mobilize their entire strength to defeat and overthrow this desperate and murderous profit system.

The center of the militant unions must be strengthened to mobilize constantly the oppressed masses of workers. New unions will be formed, the 3,500,000 unemployed thrown out of the factories by rationalization will be organized, the wage cuts of ten, 20, 30 per cent will be fought.

Due to the great growth of rationalization and cuts in wages, more class struggles are taking place—Gastonia, New Orleans, Detroit, etc., and more class war prisoners are being thrown into jail.

With the growth of the Trade Union Educational League, with the increased militancy of the new unions, with the battle against the dry rot of the old A. F. of L. and the hypocrisy of the so-called progressive movement of Muste and Thomas, the number of class-war prisoners will also grow.

The International Labor Defense will find its duties tremendously increased. It will need scores of thousands of new members, hundreds of thousands of dollars to save the workers from rotting in the capitalist prisons.

Support of the Trade Union Unity Convention carries with it at the same time the immediate necessity of support for the International Labor Defense.

Send your name, as a member, to the I.L.D. local secretary or to the national office, and send funds to save the Gastonia strikers, the Mineola frame-up victims, the hundreds of class war prisoners looking to you for aid today.

Without organization the working-class cannot cope with the organized bosses and their state-power. Rally to the militant mass organizations of the working-class, to the militant, rear-guard defense, the International Labor Defense, which helps all front-line fighters who become victims in the class-war.

AUTO STRIKE

In Detroit

The auto-workers of Detroit have reached the limit of their strength and patience. Goaded on by a 20 per cent wage cut, angered by the ever-increasing speed-up, 3000 workers in the Murray Body Plant, which supplies bodies for Ford cars, walked out on strike under the guidance of the Auto Workers Union, the Communist Party and the Young Communist League.

This is the largest movement of auto workers since the immediate post-war period.

As usual in the strikes of today, the police and mounted state troopers were early on the scene savagely attacking the picketers. Daily strike conferences are being held in the International Workers Home and rallies are taking place at the Auto Workers Union—Trade Union Educational League headquarters.

Over 1400 went out on strike at the Buick plant in Flint, in which city a Ford walkout was called for two hours when workers on five lines refused to work on material for the Murray Body plant.



TENT COLONY OF GASTONIA STRIKERS AT ARLINGTON MILL, SET UP AFTER DESTRUCTION OF FIRST COLONY BY POLICE

In The Gastonia Strike Area

GASTONIA presents a very different picture today than it did upon the first entry of our comrades into that city after the shooting at the Union Headquarters on the evening of June 7th.

On June 10th and 11th our comrades went into the field and began the work of establishing the International Labor Defense. Representatives of the National Textile Workers Union and the Workers International Relief also entered the city on the same days. All had similar experiences.

Gastonia was an armed camp and ruled by mill-owned thugs and imported gunmen. The Manville-Jenkes "Committee of One Hundred" paraded the streets and toured from one end of the city to the other in trucks and automobiles flashing rifles and shotguns.

Having failed to arouse sufficient lynch spirit on the night of the shooting and the day after, the mill crowd and Chamber of Commerce crowd, were doing all in their power to "make good". They had failed in their plans for a quick lynching of Fred Beal and had failed in getting a mob together to "run all them strikers out

By WALTER M. TRUMBULL

of town". Now they were wearing the cloak of "Law and Order" and were set up as "the Law" in Gastonia and environs. All trains, busses and automobiles entering or leaving Gastonia were carefully watched and every "stranger" entering the city was haled before the Police for questioning.

Juliet Stuart Poyntz, National Secretary of the International Labor Defense was arrested and gave the police a bad half hour. As the saying is here in the south, "She got them told plenty!"

Wagenknecht of the Workers Interna-

tional Relief, Reid and Dawson of the National Textile Workers Union, and Crouch, representing the Youth Section of the I. L. D. were watched from the time they entered the city. The houses of strikers and sympathizers were being searched time after time within a few hours and every method possible was used to keep things "stirred up".

Paul Crouch, Ellen Dawson and I went into the worker's section of the city to reach, if possible, all of those who had been released from the jail. Our task was to form the basis for a large Defense Committee. We found that the terroristic tactics of the bosses had not been absent in the treatment of these workers. They had

been released on the condition that they "tear up their Union book" and in most instances of active strikers, "leave town as soon as possible".

In some instances we found that the workers were in doubt as to whether they should stay in town but in almost every case, the demand to tear up their Union Books was steadfastly ignored. Upon our appearance, they were reassured that the Union and the I. L. D. were on



Photo: P. & A. DEMONSTRATION IN UNION SQUARE, NEW YORK DEMANDS FREEDOM OF GASTONIA STRIKERS

(Continued from preceding page)

the job and meant to stick with them. They immediately began plans for entrenching themselves.

Now, after four weeks have elapsed since the shooting, Gastonia presents a very different picture. True, the case against Beal, McLaughlin, Buch, McGinnis and the others is being manufactured diligently. A certain Mr. Lumsden, notorious detective and strike breaker, was in charge for a time of manufacturing evidence against the imprisoned workers. He is the same person who failed to get evidence against the persons responsible for the destruction of the former Union headquarters. The evidence which his trained army of evidence manufacturers gather for this case will probably be more efficient.

The county health officer has tried unsuccessfully to find some excuse for declaring the tent colony "unsanitary." These and other petty annoyances are, for the moment, the only attempts of the authorities to interfere with our work there.

In spite of alarms, rumors and wild tales of impending doom to the W. I. R. tent colony, meetings of the I. L. D. Gastonia Strikers Defense Committee are held regularly at the colony on Thursday and Sunday afternoons. A branch of sixty-five members has been formed in Gastonia and one of thirty six members in Bessemer City. Workers in Charlotte are joining the I.L.D. and a Branch is organized.

At the meetings in Bessemer City, workers, untrained except in the struggle for better wages and working conditions which they have been conducting, take the rostrum and speak to their fellows on the issue of the defense of their leaders in jail. Meetings at Paw Creek and the Rex Mill discuss the defense of their leaders. Activity is the key word in the strike area.

Instead of "throwing a scare into them" the activities of the bosses have strengthened the morale of the strikers. Other workers have taken up the struggle for better conditions and wages and are determined that the jailing of these leaders shall be answered by more intense work for organization. "We will organize, and, by our organization at this time, issue a challenge to the bosses that they cannot very well answer."

This is the general sentiment among the workers in Gastonia and vicinity as well as in Charlotte and vicinity. The defense has been offered the services of many workers in the work of organizing distribution of literature and "Jimmy Higgins" work. Strikers are preparing to take the road to get in touch with outside towns. Requests are made daily for Union speakers from surrounding mill towns. The first issue of the "Gastonia Labor Defender", a four page Bulletin, has been distributed in and around Gastonia.

Far from being scared, the Gastonia strikers are strengthened for better fighting and are more confident because they have been tried.

GASTONIA

A murder frame-up has become the typical climax in the history of every big American strike. The result each time has been a trial of strength. There have been times as in the Moyer-Heywood-Pettibone case and in the trial of Ettore and Giovannitti at Lawrence when the working class has been able to put forth enough strength to win.

More recently, due to the immense consolidation of the power of the business interests, these murder frame-ups have been tragic defeats for the working class. Sacco-Vanzetti—Centralia—Mooney still in jail.

Gastonia is as typical as a case in a handbook of economic. The mills moved down there, attracted by cheap labor and child labor and the low cultural standards of the tarheel poor whites; there follows a boom in business, real estate, etc., a thousand and meanminded parasites spring up, not one of them able to see further than their own house and lot and bank-account, realtors, county politicians, smalltown editors, chamber of commerce organizers. The minute the workers strike for a wage up to the standards of the rest of the country, for the right to eat enough—it's not generally known for some reason that pellagra is a disease of malnutrition like scurvy and berri berri, a disease of indigence—and to send their children to school instead of to the looms, all these small town parasites feel their prosperity endangered and start yelling for a lynching.

No wonder the millowners feel they own the state body and soul. What follows is inevitable. Some local office-holder raids the tent colony where the strikers,

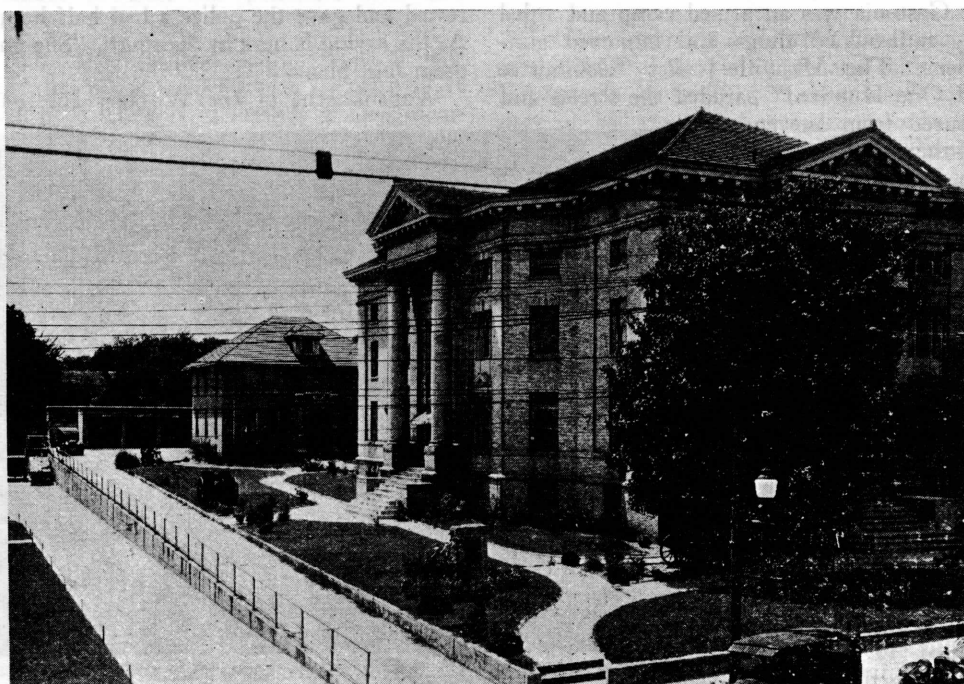
evicted by the mill-owners who own the very sky in the mill-towns, have taken refuge and are standing

guard in hourly anticipations of mob violence. There is a shooting, casualties on both sides, and the mill-owners hand themselves a magnificent opportunity to take vengeance on fifteen men and to terrify their workers into submission for another term of years.

Will they get away with it? That depends on the ability of American workers to display their solidarity, to unite and to stand solidly behind the men threatened with death in North Carolina. Will the American liberals (by liberals I mean people who have no direct economic stake one way or the other and who are therefore open to feelings of sympathy) have the intelligence to see that the standards they pretend to worship: justice, right, fairplay, are eased out of existence in this prosperity-mad business man's nation, and to use what power they still have to influence public opinion?

I think the least that any man can do is to make it known as widely as possible which side of the fence he's on in this fight. Is he on the side of the mill-owners who are trying to sweat money out of the poor whites of the South (no question of foreigners here, it's the purest Scotch-Irish-English stock; as it happens it's the mill-owners who are the foreigners) by a return to the low wage child labor system, or is he on the side of the workers?

Speak out.



GASTON COUNTY COURT HOUSE, GASTONIA, N. C., WHERE TRIAL OF 23 TEXTILE STRIKERS BEGINS JULY 29, UNLESS CHANGE OF VENUE IS GRANTED.



MEXICAN WORKERS AND PEASANTS IN ANTI-IMPERIALIST DEMONSTRATION

ANTI-IMPERIALIST CONGRESS

By WILLIAM SIMONS

Of the All-America Anti-Imperialist League

THE Second World Anti-Imperialist Congress at Frankfurt-an-Main, Germany, beginning July 20th, will be of even greater significance than the First Brussels Congress. The struggle between the imperialist powers is sharper, the danger of war looming ever larger, the revolutionary working-class movements in the imperialist countries have grown, and the workers and peasants have become a more powerful force in the colonial movements for national independence. The present Congress will undoubtedly rally to the defense of the Soviet Union, and condemn the reactionary government of Nanking, the tool of the imperialist powers. But yesterday at Brussels, Nanking officials pretended to be national revolutionaries; now they are unmasked. Delegates will attend from the entire world, especially from the colonies: India, 27 delegates, Indonesia, 13. There will be a strong delegation from the various countries of Latin America. While in South

America, recently, I met the delegates from Uruguay and Argentina.

The U. S. Section of the A.A.A.I.L. will be represented by 6 delegates, from the revolutionary trade union movement, and from the colonial groups residing in the U.S.A. Upon its return to the United States, the U. S. delegation will bring to the American anti-imperialist forces a message from this powerful world center known as the Anti Imperialist League. The U. S. delegation has been especially instructed to establish closer relations with the colonial masses, particularly those of Latin America, and with the Indian workers, whose leaders are being tried by the British Crown for sedition.

The I.L.D. has a vital interest in the successful march of the Anti-Imperialist League, since it rallies to the defense of those anti-imperialist fighters who fall victims to the oppressors, whether in imperialist or colonial countries. The Anti-Imperialist League is on its way, and nothing the imperialists can do will stop it.

The I.L.D. and Anti-Imperialist League must fight shoulder to shoulder to put an end to imperialist war and capitalist persecutions.

A Million Signatures For Gastonia!

The names of a million workers protesting against the Gastonia, N. C. terror will rain down upon the court-house in Gaston County during the trial when all the mass petitions sent out by the International Labor Defense and the Workers International Relief will be turned in. August 10th is the date set for the goal of one million signatures to be reached.

This is the greatest petition in the history of the American working class, and although it is recognized that greater action than merely voicing a protest is necessary, it will graphically picture the mass solidarity of the American working class behind the Gastonia strikers.

This will be part of the nationwide activities of the Gastonia Defense week, July 27 to August 3rd, when the International Labor Defense and the Workers International Relief will combine forces to rally the American working class on behalf of the Gastonia strikers. Strikers, including a number of workers out on bail charged with assault with intent to kill are touring the country speaking on behalf of the fifteen men and women who go on trial July 29. The sum of \$50,000 is set as the amount necessary for the defense and relief of the Gastonia strikers.

Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, New York and scores of other industrial centers have held or are planning more conferences of workers' organizations to mobilize for the Gastonia defense.

Everywhere mass movement must raise its powerful head throughout the land—demanding the immediate freedom of the twenty-three members of the National Textile Workers Union jailed because they fought for the right of workers to organize into unions for better conditions and for the right of workers to defend themselves and their families from the murderous onslaughts of boss-controlled police and gunmen.



DEATH MASK OF YAMAMOTO



Funeral of Senji Yamamoto, elected to Japanese Parliament by left-wing Workers and Peasants Party, murdered by agent of Japanese imperialism

The Labor Defender

Published Monthly by the International Labor Defense

KARL REEVE, Editor

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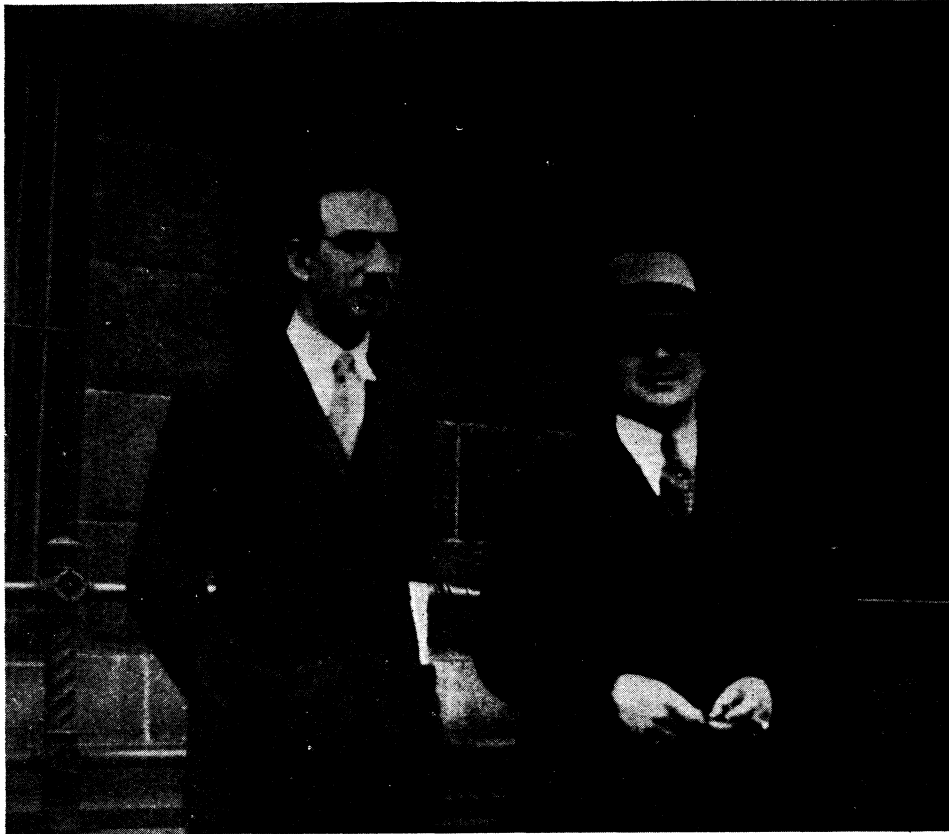
National Officers of I. L. D.

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Juliet S. Poyntz, Executive Secretary

Carl Hacker, Ass't Secretary.



HARRY CANTER (left) AND HIS ATTORNEY HARRY HOFFMAN. CANTER IS SERVING A YEAR IN PRISON FOR LABELING GOV. FULLER AS ONE OF THE MURDERERS OF SACCO AND VANZETTI.

UPTON SINCLAIR ON GASTONIA

"THE GASTONIA CASE WILL BECOME ONE MORE INTERNATIONAL SCANDAL—IF THE CAPITALIST CLASS IS PERMITTED TO CARRY OUT ITS PURPOSE. AS USUAL, IT ALL DEPENDS UPON PUBLICITY AND MASS DEMAND, WHICH AS A RULE COMES TOO LATE, BUT IT IS UP TO THE WORKERS."

MOBILIZE FOR GASTONIA!

100,000 members in the
INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE

Join — Sign UP — On This Blank

Int'l Labor Defense — Nat'l Office.
80 East 11th St., New York City

APPLICATION

I want to help in the Gastonia Defense,
and join the I. L. D.

(Initiation 25c; Dues 15c per mo.)

Name

Address

City & State

Affiliations

AGAINST FASCISM AND WAR

(Continued from Page 157)

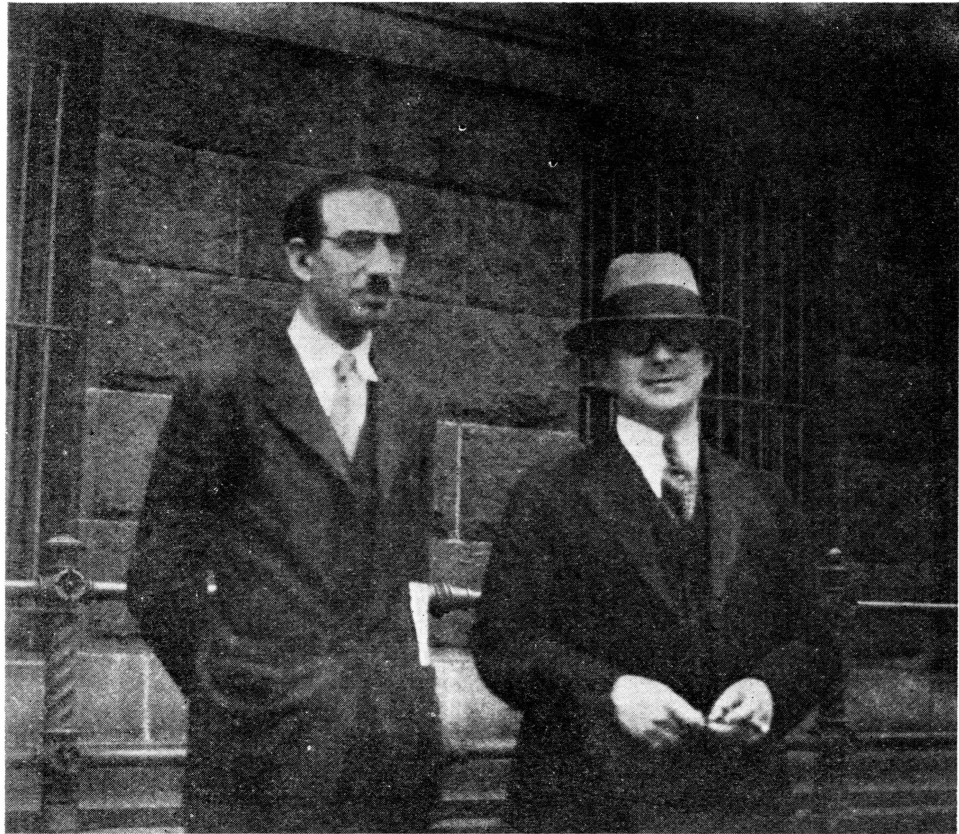
of the middle classes and of the suppressed national minorities conscious of it, so that they all understand that the fight against fascism is the fight against capitalist slavery, but also at the same time the fight against war, the danger of which is becoming more threatening and more imminent monthly and weekly.

The role of Fascism in the preparation of war is an all-sided one. Fascism—means increased imperialist activity, pressure for more colonies and spheres of influence. Fascism—means overmilitarization, militarization of economy, putting the whole population, including women, the aged and children into war service. Fascism—means gagging every free thought, reintroduction of clerical inquisition. And before all: Fascism—means a combination of open oppression of the class struggle by brutal destruction of its organizations and its veiled and cunning strangling by killing the spirit of class struggle, which is the all-dominating decisive weapon against capitalist, exploitation, against fascist oppression, against war—for the winning of social and national liberty, for securing peace!

that once the black and white workers overcome their antagonisms and form a solid fighting organization, that it means the downfall of their power.

The work of our union in organizing black and white workers together in the South for a common fight should convince Negro workers that it is only the left wing unions with a fighting policy of class struggle that can bring about the unity of workers and thus break up racial prejudices and secure better living conditions for both. It is only thru the destruction of the capitalist system which keeps up this race prejudice can we stop lynching and all forms of discrimination. The action of the white union members in Gastonia who helped myself, the Negro organizer, escape the police who were determined to lynch him, should convince all workers that race prejudice can be destroyed thru organization. While we know that we cannot change the mind of people who have for years been propagandized on this question, overnight, and we do not say that race prejudice is altogether done away with in Gastonia, we have made a decisive step in this direction, thru our union policy, and it is up to the Negroes themselves to support all left wing unions and thru organization, which will bring about the final overthrow of the capitalist system, we will be able to effectively eliminate all racial and national antagonisms.

If as yet the workers throughout the United States are not aware of the need of solidarity, the capitalists are well aware of this and will not hesitate to break up if possible, all attempts of the workers to organize. We have the history of the Haymarket frame-up, Mooney case, Haywood, Moyer and Pettibone case, lynching of the I.W.W. organizers in Everett, Washington, the lynching of Little in Butte, Montana, the recent and countless other cases, up to the recent electrocution of Sacco and Vanzetti, to prove to us that if we are to continue our fight for the betterment of our conditions, we must build the I.L.D. which is the rear-guard of the fighting front of the workers, against capitalist oppression. We must not allow ourselves to be lulled to sleep and forget that the capitalists are ever vigilant and ready to destroy the most militant fighters of the working class. Therefore every worker must rally to the defense of these newest victims of capitalist frame-ups, the fifteen workers of Gastonia who are now in danger of electrocution.



HARRY CANTER (left) AND HIS ATTORNEY HARRY HOFFMAN. CANTER IS SERVING A YEAR IN PRISON FOR LABELING GOV. FULLER AS ONE OF THE MURDERERS OF SACCO AND VANZETTI.

:-: VOICES FROM PRISON :-:

Gaston County Jail,
Gastonia, N. C.

Editor, Labor Defender:
Dear Comrade,

We are writing to let you know that we are all keeping up a good spirit. We send our greetings to the membership of the I. L. D. We realize that it is only thru their efforts we shall be freed from prison. They are the ones whom we trust to mobilize the workingclass and demand that the mill bosses be prevented from railroad-ing us to the Electric Chair.

(Signed)

The 15 strikers held on murder charges in Gastonia.

Fred Beal, K.O. Byers, Louis McLaughlin, George Carter, Joseph Harrison, J. C. Heffner, Robert Allen, Vera Buch, Amy Schechter, Sophie Melvin, Russell Knight, N. F. Gibson, K. Y. Hendricks, Delmar Hampton, Wm. McGinnis.

Gaston County Jail

Editor, Labor Defender:
Dear Comrade,

I am writing to let you know that myself and the rest of the prisoners are in the best of spirits. Personally I am getting along and feel as good as usual. I have the feeling that it wont be long before I shall again be walking the streets. I have not committed any crime and it is because I was an active member of the N. T. W. U. that I was thrown into jail. It was one of the mill-bosses that dragged me out of bed and took me to the city lock-up. He was my overseer when I was slaving in the Loray mill.

The defense has been treating us first class and we have been well provided with books, magazines and other reading matter. We also get mail from all over the country.

There are 11 of us in a cell together. Russel Knight is in a cell by himself. He is just recovering from small pox. The girls have a room in the new addition to the jail.

I will close now hoping to hear from you very soon. All the boys would like very much to have you come down and visit them here in Gaston Jail.

As ever your comrade and friend

K. Y. HENDRICKS.

Gaston County Jail,

Dear Friend Karl:

I am just dropping a line to let you know that I am getting along alright. The only thing I don't like is that I'm in Gaston County Jail charged with murder. I got in here because I tried to help win the strike.

Russel Knight has small pox and is off in a cell by himself. He is getting better now.

We all want to see you and hope you



GASTON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA JAIL—WHERE 15 TEXTILE WORKERS AWAIT MURDER TRIAL.

will try to come down and visit us here in jail. Are you going to be at the trial?

We all liked the last issue of the Labor Defender and the only trouble was that we all wanted to read it at once. We have lots of fun, we all want to read the Daily and all the rest of the papers at once. It is a scramble to see who gets all the papers etc. first.



SOPHIE MELVIN, 19 YEARS OLD, FACES ELECTRIC CHAIR

Well that's about all I have to write about. Give everybody you know our greetings. Tell them that we are all in good spirits and are pleased to know that the workers all over the country are fighting to free us.

As ever your friend

LEWIS McLAUGHLIN

Moundsville Penitentiary, Ohio.

Am only too glad of an opportunity of expressing my deepest sympathy for our fellow workers in Gastonia, North Carolina. Have followed the strike through the papers. Their delegation to New York and Washington raised my hopes that this publicity of their treatment and working conditions would arouse National help and sympathy.

The writer has been in Gastonia and is familiar with the situation. Your efforts have my heartiest endorsement and only wish that I were in a position to help.

With best wish, I am yours

LAWRENCE ALLEN

P. S.—Appreciate very much the receipt of your check for \$5.00 and assure you that unless I was in great need of same, it would not be used.

Box 911, Sioux Falls, S. D.

Dear Fellow-Worker:

Please accept my appreciation and thanks for the relief which was sent me by you of five dollars, also enclosing receipt for said amount signed.

I don't know what support I can give to the Gastonia strikers but if any I could give, you are most welcome to it as all rational men have nothing but praise for the wonderful fights, you, I.L.D., are putting up in behalf of the workers who are unjustly incarcerated in the dungeons of the master class. May you keep up that splendid work. May the day be short that I may be out and join your ranks for the good of the workers as a whole.

Yours with good wishes for the O. B. U.
FRANK GODLASKY

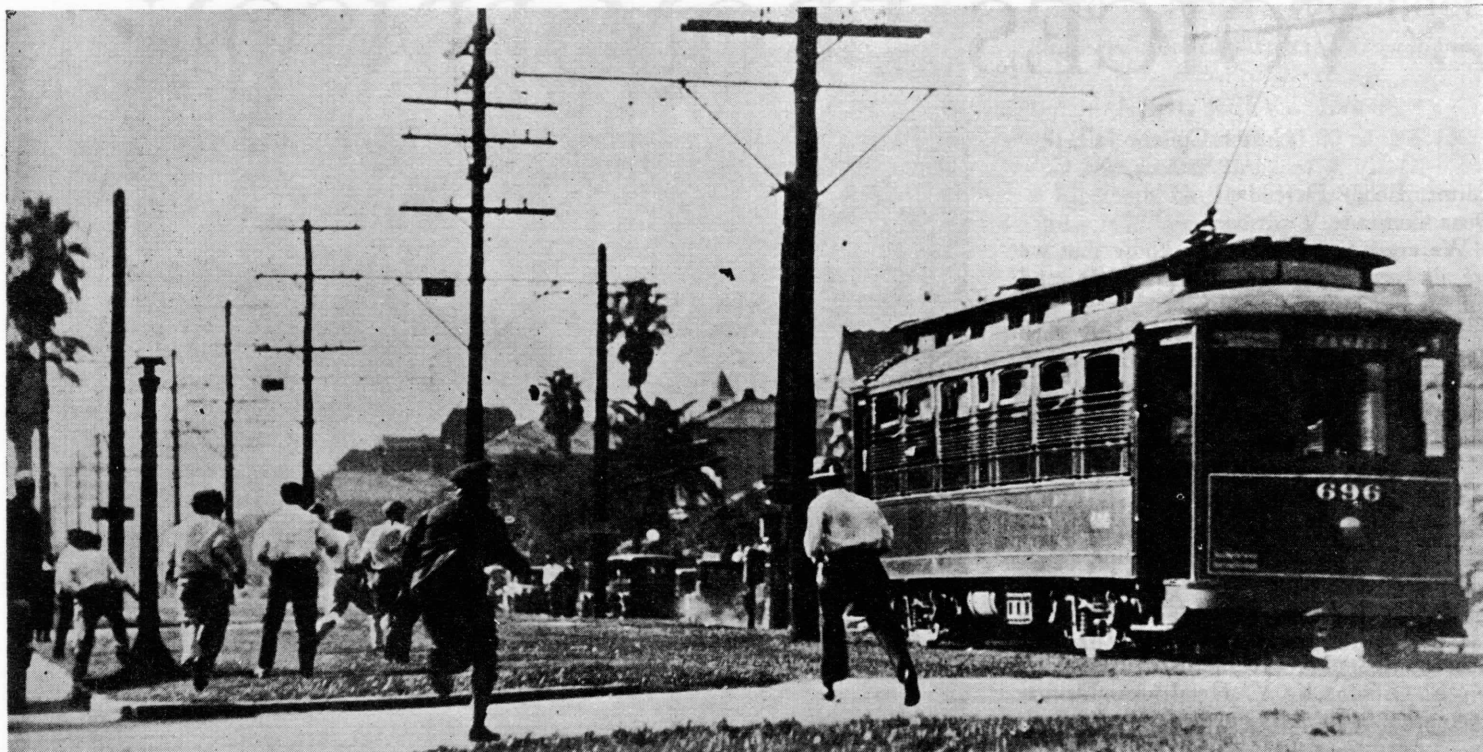


Photo: P. & A.

SCENE OF ACTION IN THE NEW ORLEANS CAR STRIKE, WHERE STRIKERS MET POLICE ATTACKS.

New Frame-Up In Cheswick Case

TWO years ago, August 22, 1927, the miners of Acmatonie, Pa., near Cheswick, met to protest the murder of Sacco-Vanzetti. Many of them had come from the same part of Italy as the two martyrs, and all of them knew they belonged to the same class.

The infamous Pennsylvania State Cosacks, under orders to break up the peaceful meeting, rode down on the men, women and children, clubbed some of them into unconsciousness, gas-bombed the workers, broke Tony De Bernardini's neck and arms with a club, and threw twenty-one miners in jail.

During the brutal raid, somebody shot Trooper John J. Downing who died almost immediately afterward. The third degree was handed a number of the workers but nobody knew who did the shooting.

Two years after, Salvatore Accosti, of Grasmere, Staten Island, is taken in custody on charges preferred by Pennsylvania authorities that he is the man who shot Downing.

The Pennsylvania authorities say two "witnesses" will identify Accosti as the trooper's assailant. They are Detective J. J. Toner and Trooper William M. Brown. Brown claims that he was 300 yards away and saw Accosti fire the shots that killed Downing. There is proof, however, that at the coroner's inquest, Brown said he did not know who did the shooting.

When the Pennsylvania authorities were questioned why they did not arrest Accosti at once, they claimed "he ran away". As a matter of fact, Accosti worked for seven

months after the Cheswick attack, in a town a few miles from the scene.

Not satisfied with their attack on the miners meeting, with fracturing the neck of one miner and seriously injuring the wife of another, gassing and bombing the workers, the Pennsylvania authorities seek to frame-up Salvatore Accosti, two years after Sacco and Vanzetti were burned on the electric chair.

They seek his extradition. The final hearing will be held August 25. Governor Roosevelt's agreement to extradite is being bitterly fought by the International Labor Defense, for if Accosti is taken back it means the certain brutal torture of the third degree.

U. S. Aids Terror Regime of Jugo-Slavia

The White Terror raging thru Jugo-Slavia is being aided by the U. S. Government which plans to deport Rade Radikovitch, of Arizona, to that land.

Radikovitch was arrested April 1, on charges of membership in the Communist Party and distribution of Communist literature. He is now in Ellis Island, suffering from tuberculosis. His friend John Voich, who was arrested at the same time and saved from deportation by the efforts of the International Labor Defense, says it is doubtful whether Radikovitch will survive the damp climate long enough to be deported to Europe.

The I.L.D. is fighting the government's desire to send him to death in Jugo-Slavia.

THE CARIBBEAN BLOOD BATH (Continued from Page 154)

States army. The mouths of our peasants are being shut forever with hot lead whenever they raise the cry of "Land!" When the workers even partially demand their rights, some of them recognized by the law, they get their answer from the army.

Our Secretariat finds it impossible to carry out alone its task of defending and helping the working classes of the 14 countries brutally exploited by imperialism and the reactionary governments at its service. Notwithstanding the contributions which we receive from the workers' organizations of the Caribbean, the continual pauperization of the masses renders these contributions absolutely insufficient to care for the ever increasing number of victims.

We need help in aiding the imprisoned comrades and their families and to pay the legal expenses of the thousands of comrades we are trying to defend. A united struggle of the American proletariat and the workers and peasants of the Caribbean in favor of our victims, will prove very useful in establishing close bonds of brotherhood and a step further towards the solidarity of the American and the colonial and semi-colonial workers and peasants in the fight against imperialist reaction.

The revolutionary spirit of the American proletariat must become evident in this opportunity and duty.

The workers of the United States must help us in aiding the 2000 and more comrades jailed—with publicity, protest and demonstration, and also aid in supporting the 3500 families of the persecuted workers!

Long live international working-class solidarity!

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