

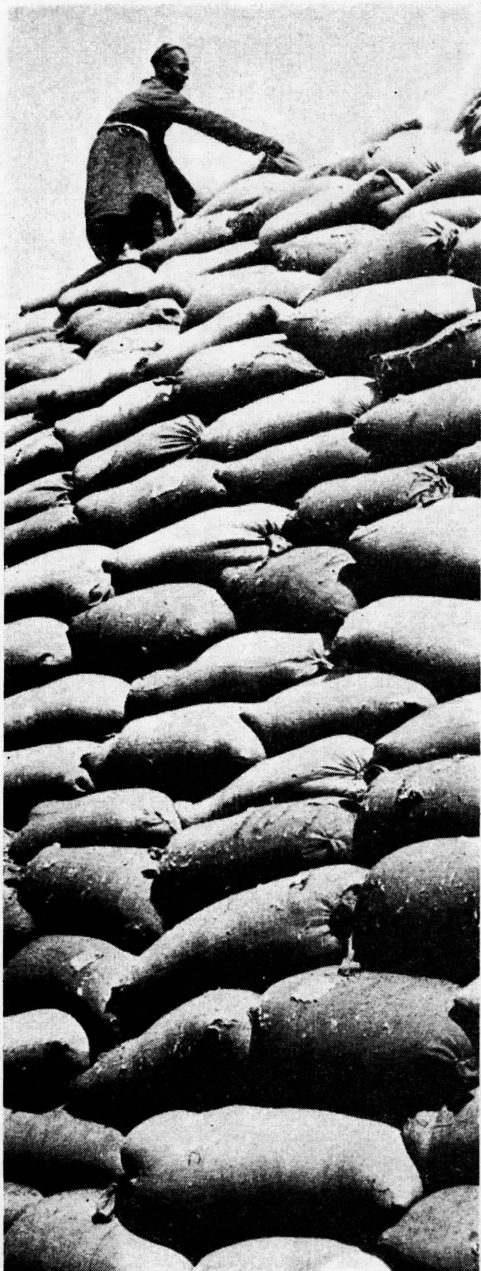
LABOR DEFENDER

10¢

JUNE 1930

Released
all War
Class Prisoners
Prisoners!

AROUND THE WORLD

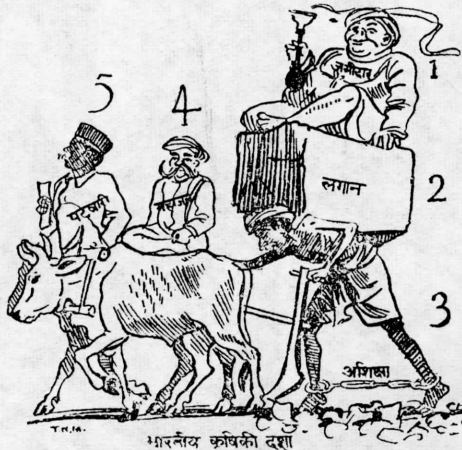


(Above) Mountains of bags of cotton seed in the town of Kokand, Uzbek, USSR, ready for the seed sowing campaign. This is the cotton center of the Soviet Union.



(Above) Some of the 10,000 motor bus conductresses and street-car conductors, striking in Tokio against the Government 10 per cent wage-cut. The economic crisis has hit Japan also, many are unemployed and there is an attack against the workers all along the front. The workers are fighting hard, as is shown by this strike, which was the largest in the city.

(Right) Harry Cantor, just released from Deer Island after serving one year for calling Governor Fuller the murderer of Sacco and Vanzetti, speaking before a huge crowd of workers on Boston Common on May 1.



AN INDIAN CARTOON—from "Saraswati," a workers' and peasants' paper. The Indian peasant (3) is ploughing. On his head is a heavy stone, the land tax (2). On the stone sits the landlord (1). The money-lender (4) and the Government Accountant have to be carried on the bullock.

(Below) The imperial government of Macdonald answers its election promises of independence for India at the point of the bayonet. British troops advancing on workers in Calcutta

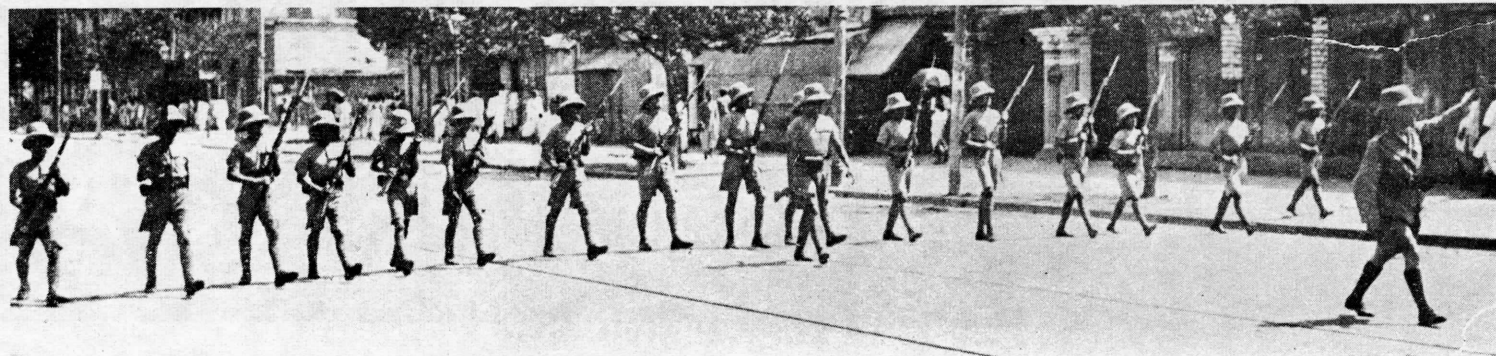




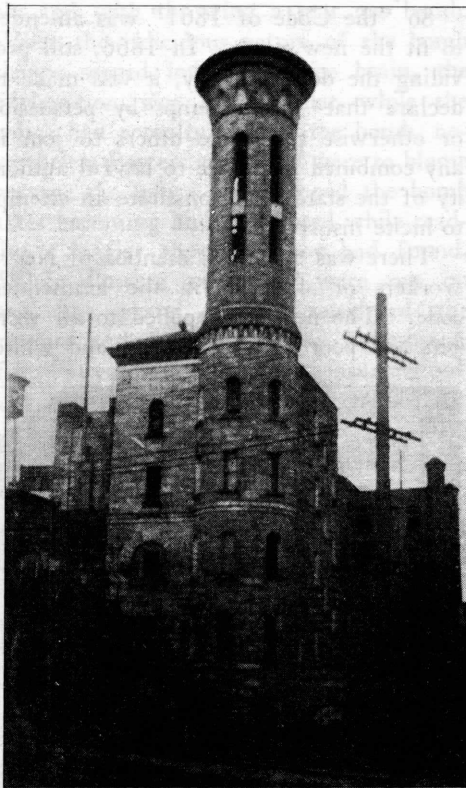
Photo: Labor Defender Photo Group

THERE is a storm raging over the United States. It is the growing whirlwind of discontent of the eight millions of jobless, of as many more partially unemployed, of many more millions sweating, underpaid, at their jobs, protesting!

The profit takers, fearing the growing storm, demand the blood, the lives of militant workers in their desperate efforts to stave off the further collapse of their social system. They gorge their jails and prisons with labor's spokesmen. Boasted "civil liberties" are flagrantly violated and set aside with brutal frankness.

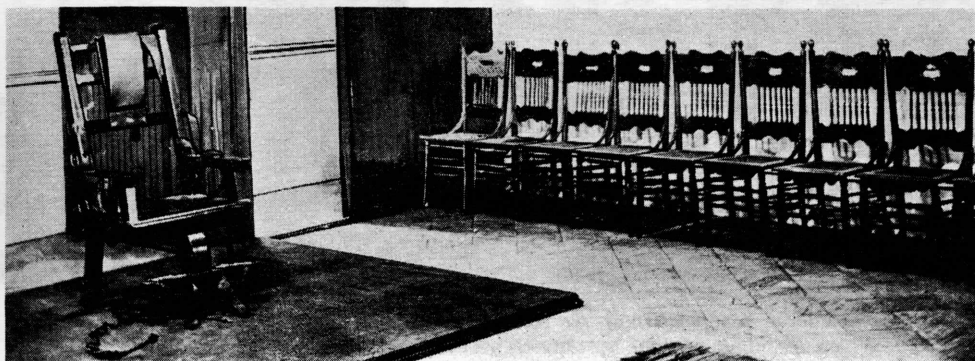
Thus twenty workers face "the death penalty" today in such widely separated sections of the nation as Massachusetts and Georgia, Kentucky and California. "Treason" is the cry of vengeance from the lips of the American Legionaire prosecuting attorney, Heald, in Imperial Valley, California, against 16 members of the Agricultural Workers' Industrial League. "Attempting to incite insurrection," "distributing insurrectionary literature," declares the Georgia prosecutor, Hudson, demanding death for M. H. Powers, Southern organizer of the Communist Party, and Joe Carr, organizer of the Young Communist League. In Boston, Leonard Doherty, marine worker, sits in Suffolk County Jail, facing a framed-up murder charge because of his

militancy on the needle workers' strike picket line in the city that saw Sacco and Vanzetti murdered three years ago. The Negro youth, Anderson McPherson, is being railroaded to a legal lynching in Crescent Springs, Kentucky. The verdict



(Above) George Saul, himself under six month chain gang sentence, speaking for release of Powers and Carr at New York demonstration (Left) Fulton Tower Prison, Atlanta, Ga., where Powers and Carr are imprisoned.

(Below) The electric chair is used for legal murder in Georgia.



of death has already been pronounced.

Death for the twenty is the reply of the masters of industry to the hunger cry of the many millions. Death for workers on the gallows, in the electric chair of capitalist class justice.

This on the first anniversary of the heroic struggle of the Loray mill strikers against the Manville-Jenckes tyranny at Gastonia, North Carolina, when on the night of June 7, 1929, police and lynch mob were forced to retreat before the

AN APPEAL TO SOUTHERN YOUNG WORKERS



The cover of the leaflet issued by the Young Communist League, on the basis of which the Southern rulers place their charge of "insurrection," because it shows a Negro and a white boy shaking hands.

armed guard of the strikers' tent colony. The whole world has since heard of the effort to burn 16 of the strikers and organizers of the National Textile Workers' Union in the electric chair for the death of the police chief, Aderholt, of the court maneuver of the textile mill owners changing the charges under pressure of mass protest and then securing the infamous guilty verdict against seven, condemning them to 117 years of living death in prison.

In June, 1929, it was "Gastonia!" Death was sought for 16. In June, 1930, it is "Atlanta!", "Imperial Valley!", "Kentucky!", "Boston!". Death is now being sought for twenty, to gag and strangle the storm.

The center of struggle remains in the South. It grows among the spindles in the mills along the Dan River, at Danville, in Virginia; around the blast furnaces of the Birmingham, Alabama, steel mills; in Tennessee's mines as well as rayon plants; continuing to swell in the textile mills of North and South Carolina, in Georgia; echoed in the battles of labor in New Orleans.

In the early 60's of the last century, nearly 70 years ago, the Southern ruling class was continually haunted by the dread spectre of rebellious slaves, by the feared uprisings of Negroes held in chattel slavery on tobacco, sugar, cotton plantations. The Southern chattel slaves owners wrote this fear into laws against insurrection. In Georgia, "The Code of

1861," declared that "Exciting an insurrection or revolt of slaves or an attempt by writing, speaking or otherwise to excite insurrection or revolt of slaves is punishable by death."

In this same "Code of 1861" we have in 4215—Section 5, the following: "If any person shall bring, introduce or circulate, or cause to be brought, introduced or circulated, or aid or assist or be in any manner instrumental in bringing, introducing or circulating within this state any printed or written paper, pamphlet, or circular for the purpose of exciting insurrection, revolt, conspiracy or resistance on the part of *Slaves, Negroes or free persons of color* in this state against citizens of this state or any part of them, guilty of high misdemeanor which is punishable by death."

These days saw the Civil War sweep through the South. By 1865 the Negro slaves had been "emancipated" by the decree of rising Northern capitalism; but only to feel the heavy chains of wage slavery shackled on their limbs, the same slavery that claimed white workers.

So "the Code of 1861" was amended to fit the new times. In 1866, still providing the death penalty, it was made to declare that "any attempt by persuasion or otherwise to induce others to join in any combined resistance to lawful authority of the state shall constitute an attempt to incite insurrection."

There was no special mention of Negro workers or farmers in the amended code. The new law applied to all workers and poor farmers, Negro and white,

in 1866, under the new slavery—wage slavery.

This code is in force in Georgia, as in other southern states, today. It is for the South what the so-called criminal syndicalism or sedition laws are in 35 different states the nation over, vicious capitalist weapons against the working class.

Under this code in Georgia, Assistant Solicitor General John Hudson, the prosecutor, seeks the lives of Powers and Carr. The scene shifts from the Strikers' Tent Colony and the National Textile Workers' Union Headquarters, on North Lory Street in Gastonia, scene of the events of June 7, 1929, to the meeting hall at 158½ Auburn Avenue, Atlanta, where Powers and Carr tried to speak on Sunday afternoon, March 9, 1930.

The issues at Gastonia and Atlanta are pretty much the same; the right to organize militant unions, to unite Negro and white workers in class organizations. In Atlanta as at Gastonia, Birmingham and elsewhere throughout the South, the trade unionism of the American Federation of Labor is the staunchest ally of the bosses, prosecutors and capitalist courts.

The facts in the Atlanta case are quite simple. The tremendous March Sixth demonstrations of the unemployed had taken place in all parts of the nation and the world. Atlanta's workers arranged for a mass meeting on the Sunday following, March 9th. Unemployment had gripped the South. Mills were closing down. Breadlines were growing. The jobless throngs before the "Employment



The Gastonia local headquarters of the National Textile Workers' Union, which was attacked on the night of June 7, 1929. It recently burned down "mysteriously."

AN APPEAL TO SOUTHERN YOUNG WORKERS



The cover of the leaflet issued by the Young Communist League, on the basis of which the Southern rulers place their charge of "insurrection," because it shows a Negro and a white boy shaking hands.

Offices" of factories were increasing. At the same time Atlanta's municipal government was in the throes of a graft scandal. Officials were being indicted for plundering the city treasury. It was a time for straight-jacketing any serious thinking by workers.

Both Negro and white workers were called to the March 9th meeting to consider the unemployment situation and to discuss the graft exposures. The Communist Party, of which Powers is the Southern district organizer, was planning to enter the municipal and state elections.

Police arrived long before the scheduled time for opening the meeting. They proceeded to intimidate workers, and actually prevented Negro workers entering the hall. The Young Communist League member, Robert H. Hart, tried to open the meeting as chairman but was stopped by the police. When Powers protested he was seized by the police along with Carr and hustled off to the police station. Hart urged the workers to remain in the hall, hoping that Powers and Carr would return. Thereupon one of the policemen threw a tear gas bomb forcing the workers into the street. In the meantime Powers and Carr had been released and returned to the building in time to meet the audience leaving the hall. They urged the workers to return and continue the meeting.

"Let us go on with the meeting," declared young Carr, as he was again grabbed by the police, who yelled, "What are you trying to do, start a riot?" The youthful West Virginia coal miner was dragged off to the police wagon being condemned as a "Damn Russian Red." Powers who had managed to get into the building, called on the workers to follow him, but he, too, was seized by the police. This ended the meeting.

At first Powers and Carr were charged



Bessemer City Headquarters of the N.T.W.U. and the W.I.R. Ella May is seated on the chair propped up against wall with her hand to her face.

with disorderly conduct, unlawful assembly and with throwing a tear gas bomb. When the ridiculous nature of the bomb charge seeped into the police brain, the explanation was offered that while the police had actually thrown the bomb, nevertheless Powers and Carr were to blame because the police had dropped the bomb after becoming highly agitated while reading a leaflet they said they had found. While Powers and Carr were out on bail, the grand jury reconsidered the charges and finally returned indictments for "attempting to incite insurrection" and "distributing insurrectionary literature" on which they are now being held without bail in the Fulton Tower Prison at Atlanta, Georgia.

The metropolis of the South—Atlanta claims it is another New York—has thus

developed a persecution against labor that should rouse the world's working class as much, if not more than the Sacco-Vanzetti case, more than the Gastonia case.

The prosecution pins its hopes for a guilty verdict on the insurrectionary literature charge on a leaflet issued by the Young Communist League, the first page containing a sketch of a Negro and white boy clasping hands. This charge carries a sentence of 20 years' imprisonment.

These laws have never been put into force until now. It is exactly in the present period of growing industrialization in the South, increasing radicalization under the lash of the stretch-out system, that the boss class sharpens these legal weapons for the judicial lynching of Powers and Carr.

While the Gastonia trial was in progress at Charlotte, North Carolina, last September and October, a similar law was trotted out for use against the Marion strikers. But the legal lynching didn't work fast enough. Then came the bloody morning's massacre when Sheriff Adkins and his deputies opened fire on defenceless strike pickets, killing four of them outright, mortally wounding three more so that they soon died, while 30 more were less seriously wounded. This same lynching spirit, fostered by the textile barons in the Blue Ridge Mountain mill town of Marion, prevails in Atlanta under the title of "Georgia justice."

It was with the greatest difficulty that I was finally able to break through the obstacles raised and visit Powers and Carr in prison. Court and prosecutor had issued orders that they be not seen. Insistent demand, however, resulted in



George Powers and Joe Carr, facing the electric chair in the South

FOR CONGRESS



MAJ. A. L. BULWINKLE

Respectfully Solicits the Support of the Democratic Voters of the District at the Primaries on

SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 1930

A placard to be seen pasted all over Gastonia these days. Notice that the vote takes place exactly one year after the "Black Hundred" raid on the strikers tent colony in Gastonia. Bulwinkle expects to reap his reward from the Manville-Jenckes Corporation!

Assistant Solicitor General Hudson joining with Judge Moore in issuing the required order.

"You can't go galavanting around here the way you do in other parts of the country," declared the prosecutor Hudson, who then proceeded to recite the case of the lynching of the white Hungarian worker, John Hodaz, supposedly arrested on some "bombing" charge, taken from the arresting officers by a mob, his body being found later riddled with bullets, hanging from a tree.

"That is what happens down here," said the prosecutor, with evident pride in and approval of these lynching activities.

In defense of the policy of holding Powers and Carr incommunicado, and of refusing bail, the prosecutor had declared that letters had been intercepted coming from Powers and Carr, which were of a very threatening nature.

The prosecutor, Hudson, did not produce the alleged letters. He claimed they threatened dynamiting of the court house, blowing up of the jail, etc., etc.

This is only an attempt to excite the lynching fever that is necessary to put through the electric chair burning to death of Powers and Carr. Threatening letters can easily be provided by the Ku Klux Klan or the American Legion, or they can be written, as has often been the case, by capitalist "brass check" newspapermen anxious for a "story." The Hearst organ in the South, *The Atlanta Georgian*, actually did publish such a concoction in its usual style.

It is under cover of such a barrage of malicious misrepresentation that Carr is

put away in a death cell in "Murderers' Row" in the Fulton Prison, with three slayers condemned to death, with the very evident intention of seeking to break his spirit. But this will also fail.

The Atlanta prosecutor, Hudson, is trying to take a page out of the note book of Major A. L. Bulwinkle, one of the Manville-Jenckes' attorneys who openly participated in the Gastonia prosecution, who is now democratic candidate for congress and hopes to be sent to Washington at the fall elections to speak for the textile mill owning interests. The democratic primaries, in which he seeks nomination, will be held June 7th, the anniversary of the attack on the Gastonia strikers' tent colony. Major Bulwinkle was identified as leader of the lynching mob that kidnapped and lashed organizers of the National Textile Workers' Union on the very eve of the Gastonia trial last September.

The electric chair, prisons, chain gangs, lynching mobs constitute the reply of the South, as in the nation, to the storm of labor's protests. At the very moment of the arrest of Powers and Carr the Conference for Social Service, an employers' organization, meeting at High Point, North Carolina, had to admit that deaths from the dreaded scourge of the textile areas—PELLAGRA—from 1929 to 1930 had increased eight times as fast as the population; that the death rate for infants in the South still remains the highest in the nation, that the starvation wages forces whole families to seek work in the mills. Editorial pleas in the capitalist press (Greensboro, N. C., *Daily Record*, May 16, 1930) for finances to keep the breadlines going, constitute an open confession of increasing unemployment. But the Greensboro *Daily Record* isn't satisfied with promoting charity against labor's demand for "Work or Wages!" to dope the discontent of the jobless. It also published such editorial propaganda as can be found under the heading, "Opportunity Still Lives," pointing to the "glorious" rise of the Cleveland real estate sharks, the Van Sweringen brothers, who went into the railroad gambling game in 1916 and are rated as being successful. Speaking of this mythical thing called "opportunity," and forgetting about the breadlines, the Greensboro *Daily Record* declares, "It is here just as it was in 1916."

Just as in the days of the Gastonia strike, Gypsy Smith, the hell roaring evangelist is back in North Carolina with his usual racket about sky opportunities in the hereafter, which the bosses utilize in the effort to get the minds of the workers off their troubles here and now.

Sending children into the mills at an early age, the killing work day, failure to provide proper school facilities, especially

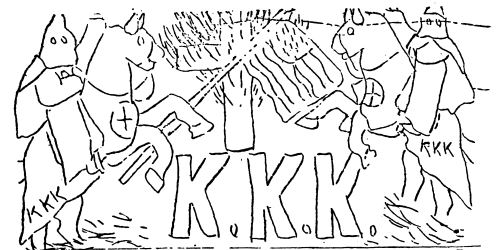
for children of Negro parents, breeds illiteracy in the South as well as pellagra.

Frank J. Loesch, notorious as the chairman of the infamous Chicago Crime Commission, that uses the crime situation as an excuse for attacking foreign-born workers, tells the Chattanooga University's Institute of Justice that illiterate voters must be disfranchised, even at the cost of revising every state constitution, if a social revolution is to be prevented. This is merely another method of disfranchising large numbers of Negro and white workers who should be qualified voters.

Under pressure of the storm the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association, meeting at Pinehurst, N. C., hypocritically goes on record for the 50-hour-week for night work and the 55-hour-week for day work, as labor raises the demand for the seven-hour-day and the five-day-week.

In the midst of it all the employers' weekly, *Atlanta Life*, hysterically declares that, "The indictment of Powers and Carr is the answer of the state of Georgia to Communism."

Yet it is exactly the capitalist lust for the lives of Powers and Carr that illustrates perfectly the claims of the International Labor Defense that it is the most simple activities of workers in their own interests, the distribution of leaflets, the holding of meetings, calling on members to join the militant unions under the banners of the Trade Union Unity League, that meet immediately with the most repressive measures of the bosses.



EMERGENCY CALL MEETING OF EAST ATLANTA - KLAN - NO. 215 - REALM OF GEORGIA - ALL MEMBERS OF EAK-215 GA ARE INSTRUCTED TO APPEAR AT THE MEETING - TO-NIGHT - THIS TUESDAY - THE 6TH DAY OF MAY - 1930 - AT 7:30 O'CLOCK - MATTERS OF GREAT AND IMMEDIATE IMPORTANCE - DEMAND OUR ATTENTION - PASS THE WORD - KLANSMAN TO KLANSMAN - HEAR ALL - SEE ALL - SAY NOTHING TO ALIENS - BEFORE THE CONSIDERATION OF THESE MATTERS - A PUBLIC PARADE WILL BE HELD AND OLD TIME KLAN PARADE THROUGH THE SECTIONS OF OUR TERRITORY - THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO WITNESS THIS PARADE - KU KLUX WILL RIDE TO-NIGHT - BY ORDER OF B-Y-F-U-D -

A. K.K.K. leaflet, calling a secret meeting in East Atlanta, Georgia. Lynch law, directed against Negro workers and militant white workers, rules here. It is the realm where they are trying to burn Powers and Carr on the electric chair.

FOR CONGRESS



MAJ. A. L. BULWINKLE

Respectfully Solicits the Support of the Democratic
Voters of the District at the Primaries on

SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 1930

FOSTER SAID:

(The following is the speech of William Z. Foster in the courtroom before he, Robert Minor, Israel Amter, Harry Raymond and Joseph Leston, unemployed delegation of the New York workers, were sentenced.)

I WISH to protest against this whole procedure of our trial and conviction as a political attempt to prevent the organization of the unemployed and the struggle of these unemployed workers in defense of their interests. The breaking up of the parade, our arrest, our being held without bail, the framing of the various charges against us, our denial of a trial by

jury, our forced appearance before judges who have their minds made up to sentence us before the evidence is heard, are an excellent example of capitalist class justice. This will serve to wake up, in part, at least, the American workers to the true nature of the capitalist State and how, in all its branches, it is used for the oppression and persecution of the workers. But it will not prevent the organization of the unemployed under the leadership of the Communist Party and the Trade Union Unity League.

The economic crisis deepens thruout the country. The unemployed army grows and becomes more and more permanent. But the workers are not going to starve upon the streets. They are going to fight. The Communist Party proposes a program under which it can clearly fight, and presents its central demand of work or wages — unemployment insurance for these workers. You may send us to jail, but you will not prevent the unemployed workers from making a fight in defense of their interests, and they will understand why we are being sent to jail. The unemployed in this country will have to be conceded unemployment insurance. As I stated, the unemployed army grows and becomes more and more permanent. These work-

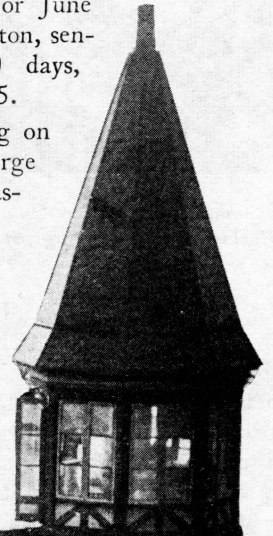
ers will not starve. They will fight. More than that—these workers will learn that even the concession of unemployment insurance will not solve their problem, that the problem of unemployment, in the final analysis, can only be solved—it is bound to grow progressively worse in the United States as it is in all the capitalist countries—by the abolition of the capitalist system and the establishment of a workers' and farmers' government in the United States; and the Communist Party and the Trade Union Unity League organize the unemployed, not only for the purpose of these immediate demands but for this ultimate revolutionary goal.

In spite of all efforts on the part of the International Labor Defense attorneys to release the delegation of the New York unemployed workers on bail pending the appeal against the vicious sentences, bail has been refused by Justice Ford of the Supreme Court.

William Z. Foster and Israel Amter imprisoned on Hart's Island, Robert Minor sick on Welfare Island, and Harry Raymond on Riker's Island, all sentenced from six months to three years, must sit in prison to await the argument for appeal before the Appellate Division of the State of New York which has been set for June 3. Joseph Leston, sentenced to 30 days, released May 5.

The hearing on the second charge of felonious assault in the first degree, carrying with it a sentence of from 5 to 10 years, has also been postponed until June 3.

Wm. Z. Foster speaking at the March 6 demonstration. He speaks with the same force from behind prison walls.



FIVE OLD YEARS

By GEORGE MAURER.



At the home in the Soviet Union for the children of class-war prisoners in capitalist countries.

THE International Labor Defense was organized in Chicago on June 28th, 1925. It has been apparent for sometime that militant and revolutionary labor in the U. S. A. needed a defense and class-war prisoners' relief organization based on the class struggle, uniting the masses of the workers on a non-partisan basis of international solidarity. The example of the Russian workers who had organized the M. O. P. R.—Society for the Aid of Revolutionary Fighters, of the Rote Hilfe (International Red Aid) in Germany and other International Class-War Prisoners Aid organizations in various countries—was an inspiration to those class-conscious workers in the U. S. A. who were particularly concerned with the fight against capitalist persecution and class-justice. In previous years sporadic and temporary defense groups and "prison comfort clubs" for class-war defendants and "political prisoners" had been set up and functioned—but with many short-

comings—for Mooney and Billings, the Centralia prisoners, and for the Communists arrested in the Bridgeman Raids in August 1922 in Michigan.

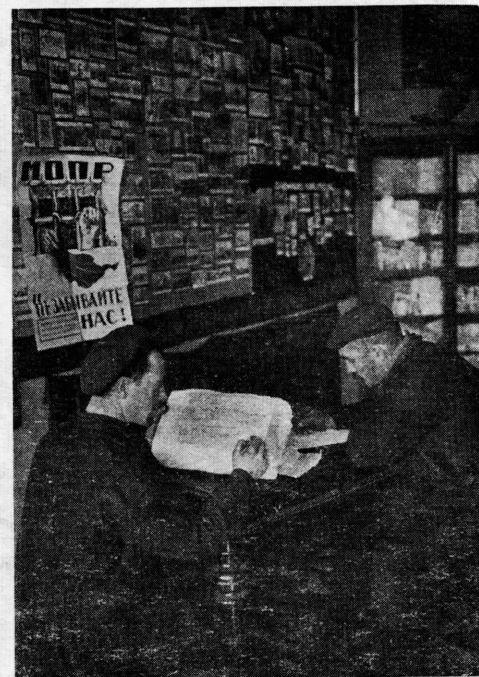
So in May 1925 the executive committee of the Labor Defense Council which had been set up for the defense of Foster, Minor, Ruthenberg and the other Communist defendants in the Michigan syndicalism cases, issued a call for an organizing conference for the purpose of establishing a non-party, united front, individual and collective membership defense organization. It was made clear that such a body would stand ever-ready to defend every worker persecuted by capitalist forces or government because of working class activities or political beliefs. The result was gratifying, and on June 28th the hundreds of delegates elected a national committee, which in turn selected an executive buro and officers. Eugene V. Debs, Wm. Z. Foster, Bishop Wm. M. Brown were among the members of the first national committee.

Within a few months, December 1925, there were 120 locals and branches throughout the country, thousands of individual members. Everyone of the 106 class-war prisoners (in 1925 scores of I. W. W. prisoners in California jails) were receiving monthly relief checks—to brighten the hard conditions of prison life; and dependent families of those prisoners were also getting monthly aid. In January 1926, the first issue of the "Labor Defender" was published. It has appeared regularly ever since.

When the workers of the U. S. S. R. founded the M. O. P. R. in 1923 stressing the note of international solidarity, they did it because they knew what it meant to struggle for bitter years against oppression, they had a feeling with the struggling workers of capitalist and colonial countries and they were responding to the call of the thousands of persecuted and imprisoned comrades in those countries. American workers had not been so much advanced along the line of international solidarity. Under the banner of the I. L. D. however, campaigns were developed on behalf of European and colonial class-war fighters. One of the first such campaigns was in behalf of Mathias Rakosi and his comrades who were in 1925 facing death by Horthy's hangmen in fascist Hungary. Later, campaigns were conducted in behalf of victims of capitalist persecution in such fascist countries as Poland, Lithuania,

Rumania and Italy, against the White Terror in colonial countries, against mass slaughter of revolutionaries and peasants in China, etc. So workers of the U. S. A. expressed their solidarity with their brother fighters in other countries and realized better that world imperialism in its exploitation and oppression of labor must be fought by the united working class of the world. Nevertheless the I. L. D. did not in the past, and has not even yet, become the staunch mass champion of the victims of white terror, fascism and class-justice *throughout the world* that it should have been and must be.

Major mass campaigns were carried out on a tremendous scale on behalf of Sacco and Vanzetti in 1926-7 and the Gastonia prisoners in 1929-30. The international protest movements in connection with these two historic trials in the U. S. A. were the two largest campaigns conducted internationally by the International Red Aid, to which is affiliated the I. L. D. and similar organizations all over the world—in 50 or more countries and colonial lands. Millions of workers in the U. S. A. alone were mobilized in protest by the I. L. D. This was done in the face of opposition by the anarchist and liberal controlled defense committee for Sacco-Vanzetti which had been operating in Boston, and in spite of socialist and social-fascist betrayal of



Russian workers of the MOPR group in the factory "Caoutchouc" in Moscow sending a parcel to one of the German class-war prisoners under their patronage.



The insignia over the entrance to the I.L.D. headquarters in Mexico City, before it was raided and the organization banned. The sign reads: "For the Defense of the victims of reaction and imperialism! Secretariat of the Caribbean I.L.D."

the cause of the working class in these cases.

In such great struggles as the strikes of the textile workers in New Bedford and Passaic, of the Miners in Pennsylvania and Colorado—the I. L. D. was the ready defense shield of the many hundreds of arrested workers. In deportation and criminal syndicalism cases, etc., the I. L. D. was on the job. No worker persecuted by the capitalist courts, government or extra-legal forces of capitalism was neglected by the I. L. D. All class war prisoners were greeted, in the words of Clara Zetkin, international president of the I. R. A. (I. L. D.) . . . "Do not despair, rely on your comrades who feel with you, understand your situation, help you and fight side by side with you against the common enemy! Be strong! Those organized in the I. L. D. and those who sympathize with their work will increase their zeal and intensify their work to relieve your misfortune by international solidarity and to win for you the right to be freed by your sufferings."

In 1930 we are faced with increasingly great tasks as capitalist rationalization, exploitation, speed-up, mass-unemployment, preparations for imperialist war and the use of the "Iron Heel" against militant struggling labor increase. Three to four thousand workers have been arrested since January first because of their class activity or opinion, dozens of Negro and some white workers have been murdered or lynched by the boss class. Hundreds face long terms in prison. Powers and Carr in Atlanta, Ga., and Leonard Doherty in Boston, Mass., face death

sentences. The seven Gastonia defendants face 15 and 20 year sentence. The champions of the Unemployed are in prison or face jail—by the hundreds. Foster, Minor, Amter and Raymond are serving three year terms and face additional six year sentences. Dozens of workers face 5-10 years in prison under Sedition charges in Pennsylvania, Ohio, California, New Jersey, etc. The total number of class war prisoners actually serving sentences increases from day to day, at an even faster rate.

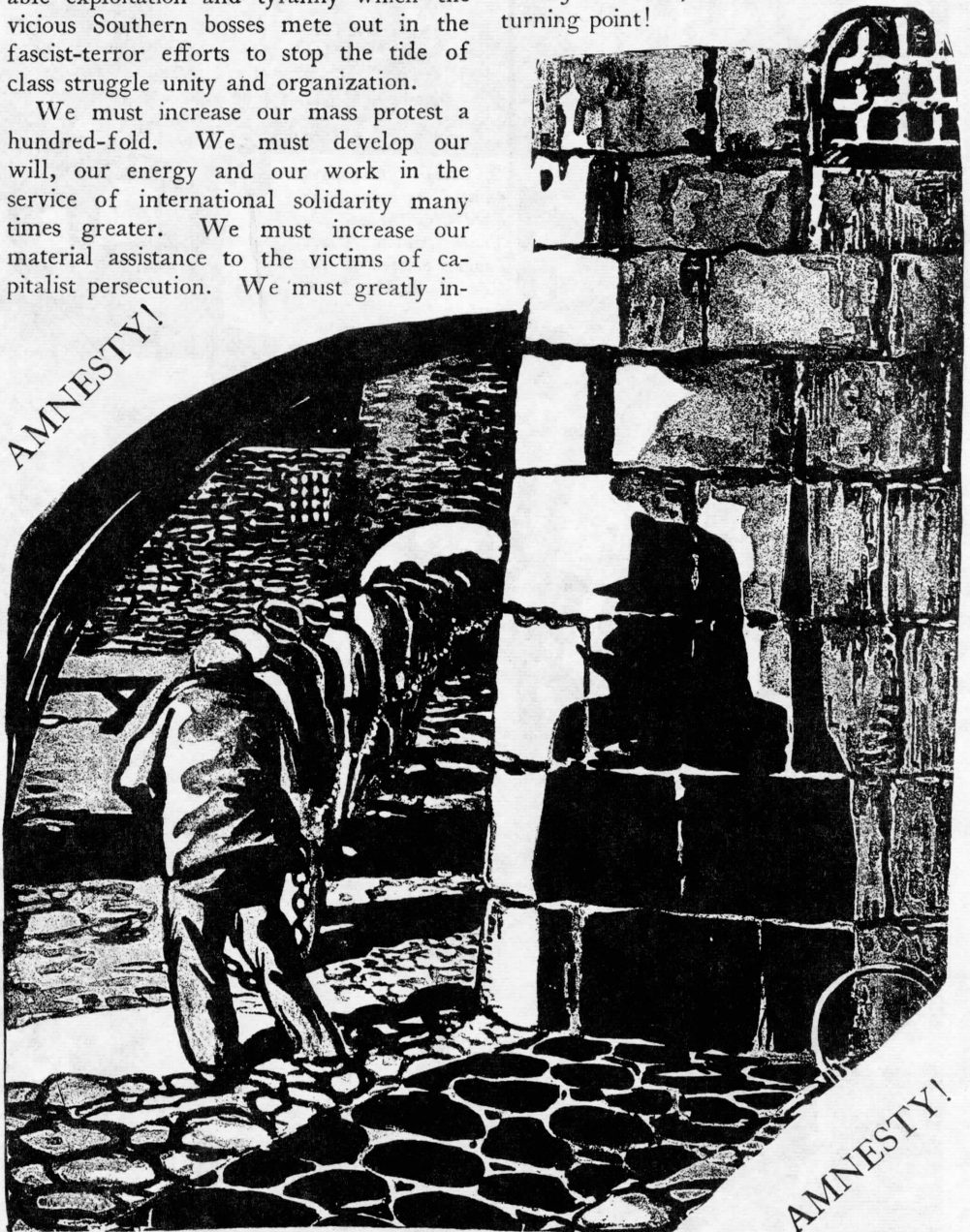
The I. L. D. calls upon all workers to carry on with greatly increased energy, immediately and from now on, the campaign for the release of all class war prisoners in the U. S. A. and internationally, for the solidarity of Northern and Southern workers in the fight for the liberation of Powers and Carr, the Gastonia seven and other workers in the South who have organized Negro and white workers together against the miserable exploitation and tyranny which the vicious Southern bosses mete out in the fascist-terror efforts to stop the tide of class struggle unity and organization.

We must increase our mass protest a hundred-fold. We must develop our will, our energy and our work in the service of international solidarity many times greater. We must increase our material assistance to the victims of capitalist persecution. We must greatly in-

crease the influence of the I. L. D. upon the masses of workers. There are many millions of workers whose ears must hear our call, whose hands must be made active in our cause. The need for and tasks of the I. L. D. have increased tenfold.

The duty of every one of us to the working class and to the victims of *class-justice* and *white terror* is to *actively do our part* to help the I. L. D. effectively meet the immense obligation in this new victimization of more thousands of workers and peasants. Six million workers fight under the banner of the International Red Aid (I. L. D.) throughout the world. New millions must and will join the workers' international "behind-the-lines" corps which gives aid to those who fall and suffer in the front-line battles. Hundreds of thousands more must rally to the American section, the I. L. D. in the U. S. A.

To the task! Forward to meet the challenge of 1930 and the Sixth Year! Let June 28th, 1930 mark a historic turning point!



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Let June 28th, 1930 mark a historic turning point!

AMNESTY!



AMNESTY!



(Above) The May First Parade through the streets of London. Hunger marchers from many parts of England took part in the parade. Prominent part was played by Indians who demanded complete independence.



(Above right) The head of the parade in New York City of about 25,000 workers, as it looked coming up Avenue C at 9th Street. Crowds lined the pavements along the route of march. Photo: Labor Defender Photo Group



(Above) The demonstration in the Lustgarten, Berlin. Over 200,000 workers reported to have taken part in the Communist demonstration. The large sign reported to have taken part in the Communist demonstration. The large sign reads: "Join the Party of Lenin." The sign in the background reads: "Defend the Construction of Socialism in the Soviet Union."



(Left) This sign, painted by the John Reed Club, headed the Trade Union Unity League Section in the New York May First Parade. Photo: Labor Defender Photo Group

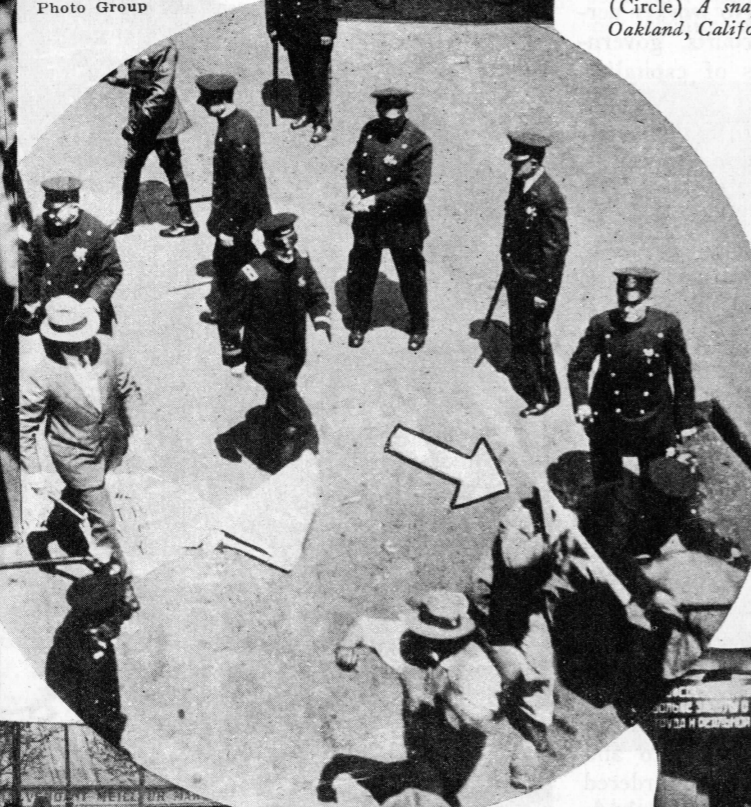
MAY DAY, 1930!

(Top, extreme left) As the May Day Parade in Chicago poured into the Ashland Boulevard auditorium where the meeting was held. The parade and demonstration were held here in the face of extreme police brutality and provocation.

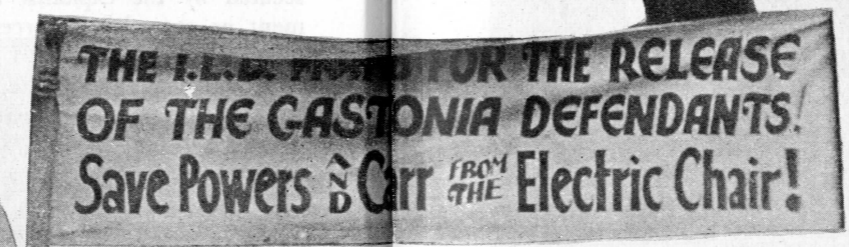
(Extreme left) Not all veterans marched in the fascist parade in New York City on May Day. Many of them marched in the veterans' section of the revolutionary workers' parade, as shown in the picture. Photo: Labor Defender Photo Group

(Left) Two members of the Young Communist League. Photo: Labor Defender Photo Group

(Circle) A snap of the brutal police attack on the May First Parade in Oakland, California, where many workers were badly beaten, then arrested



(Left) Hundreds of police, on horse and foot, were mobilized in Paris to prevent May Day demonstrations. Demonstrations were held, however.

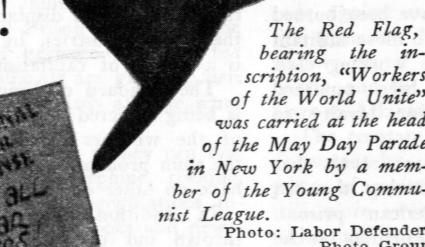


(Below) The House of the Moscow Labor Unions, as it looked on May Day. Over a million workers and soldiers took part in the May First Parade in Moscow and the day was observed in all sections of the USSR.



(Right) The signs carried in the May Day demonstration and parade in Philadelphia. The demonstration was held on City Hall Plaza in the very heart of the city. Photo: Phila. I.L.D.

(Right, below) As the May Day Parade passed through the working class sections in Milwaukee, where over 30 workers were arrested by the police of this socialist city. Photo: Milwaukee I.L.D.



The Red Flag, bearing the inscription, "Workers of the World Unite" was carried at the head of the May Day Parade in New York by a member of the Young Communist League. Photo: Labor Defender Photo Group



The Columbus Holocaust and the Class War

By BILL DUNNE



Carrying their murdered fellow-prisoners from the ruins at the Ohio State Penitentiary

secretary of the National Miners' Union, and Tom Johnson, organizer for the Metal Workers' Industrial League, were in the Columbus prison, shortly before the fire, awaiting release on bail pending appeal of their five to ten year sentences under the criminal syndicalism law. Their crime was to organize workers into militant unions.

Guynn, with three other prisoners, was confined in a cell on the fifth tier where most of the deaths occurred. *The three prisoners who shared the cell with him were burned to death.*

Had he and Tom Johnson not been released on bail they would have been burned to death. Two more militant leaders of the working class would have been punished with death for loyalty to their class.

Revolt after revolt has taken place during the last year in American prisons. They are the attempts on the part of the ever-increasing

The real explanation is to be found in the worsening conditions of the masses—the creation of a permanent army of unemployed through rationalization, in the permanent displacement of hundreds of thousands of workers by labor-displacing machinery, new chemical processes, the speed-up, and finally by actual curtailment of production as a result of the deep economic crisis.

The relation of "crimes against Property" to "bad times"—industrial depression, periods of exceptionally high prices for the necessities of life, unemployment, etc.—has long been recognized. Both Marx and Engels pointed out how the increase in certain crimes in England paralleled bad crop periods and high prices for wheat.

Prices in the United States are dropping but an army of workers displaced by rationalization have for a long period now found it impossible to get jobs in other industries. "The absorption" of workers displaced by rationalization in the older industries, by the "newer" industries is a fiction of capitalism.

The standard of living of the working class is being lowered rapidly. A certain percentage of the workers are forced into the ranks of the slum proletariat and criminal element. They have no other choice except starvation.

In addition to the hundreds of thousands thrown out on the street by labor-displacing machinery and the speed-up, the chronic and

THE American capitalist policy of "bigness before everything, bigness in everything," found a splendid avenue of expression in the recent roasting to death of 322 prisoners in the Columbus, O., penitentiary.

The ruling class and its dupes and degenerates, especially in the South, long ago learned to like the smell of roasting human flesh, and the burning of Negroes at the stake took on the character of a social function.

In Sherman, Texas, just the other day, the whole white population of the town turned out, according to news dispatches, to express its sadistic lust by burning a Negro alive in a jail and burning the jail as well.

But it took Northern capitalist justice to stage a holocaust the like of which has not been seen since Nero dipped hundreds of early christian converts in bitumen and used them as torches to light his gardens and games.

In any other capitalist country such a horror would be followed by the resignation of the government in power. In democratic America it is merely a nine days wonder. One searches in vain for any further reference to it in the capitalist press. Not a single responsible official is removed. The Governor of Ohio puts the blame on the unfortunates whose 322 charred corpses made a happy harvest for the undertakers.

More than this. One of the thousand national guardsmen who surrounded the scene of horror shot two sleeping prisoners a week after the mass murder. He was excused on the ground of "nervousness."

No distinction is made in the Ohio prisons between political prisoners and those convicted of ordinary crimes. Charles Guynn, national



National Guard masses at the prison. Two prisoners were killed "accidentally" by guardsmen

prison population to force better treatment.

Jails and prisons are filled to overflowing. Hundreds of new criminal laws make a net work in which thousands of the poorest section of the populace are caught. "Law enforcement" committees composed of businessmen continually demand more stringent statutes for this and that offense and more drastic administration of the criminal laws.

Prohibition law violations send thousands to jail but it is noticeable that powerful gangsters and racketeers rarely see the inside of a prison. It is the small fry that is caught and jailed.

But the mere existence of the prohibition law does not explain the rapid increase in the prison population. Neither does it explain the increasing severity of the punishments inflicted nor the passage and enforcement of such medieval measures as the Baumes law—making life imprisonment automatic for the fourth offense.



Prisoners forced to dig a common grave for their comrades



deepening agricultural crisis is driving some 200,000 farmers into the industrial centers every year. Furthermore, between 1,500,000 and 2,000,000 children reach working age every year.

These contingents swell the ranks of those looking for jobs in industries where production is increased with less workers employed.

The answer of the ruling class is the enactment of more restrictive laws, the erection of more jails and prisons. The most "liberal" section of the capitalist class advocates "better prisons and a better prison system."

To say that prisoners in the United States are treated like beasts would be wrong. A peasant who treated his live stock like prisoners are treated would be brought to task by his neighbors for cruelty.

Four and six men are jammed into cells too small for one or two. Prison food, for the most part, is slop and garbage fit only for fertilizer. The prison officials are grafting pets of crooked politicians, the guards are the scum of humanity.

The few prisoners who have money can buy *anything* in a penitentiary—morphine, cocaine, whiskey, prostitutes. But prison regulations regarding visitors, letter writing, books and newspapers are very strict—because, so the officials say, the above commodities might otherwise be smuggled in. Tobacco is precious enough to serve as a medium of exchange but this too must pay its toll of graft to the prison ruling class—from screws to warden.

The number of prison revolts is not the remarkable fact—what is remarkable is that there have not been more of them.

Socialists, Norman Thomas, for instance, claim to see in the numerous exposures of corrupt city, state and federal judges, and in their resignations and removals, a turn for the better. Capitalism is cleansing itself, they say, and they are overjoyed. Socialists, of course, are for honest capitalist judges and policemen and capitalism is proving that democracy means something to the working class after all in spite of Communists' claims to the contrary.

What is actually happening is that the more intelligent capitalists see the tremendous process of disillusionment that is taking place among workers as a result of permanent mass unem-

The elected committee of the prisoners comes to lay their demands before the deputy-warden. They refused to see the warden

ployment, rationalization and the growing suppression.

It is therefore necessary to pick out a few scapegoats upon whom all the sins of capitalism, and its courts and police, against the working class can be heaped. They are sacrificed and the capitalist press loudly calls attention to the fact that the scales of justice will not be permitted to remain in dishonest hands. "Rich and poor are equal before the law," but the poor fill the jails and prisons. Rich and poor alike, said Anatole France, have the right to sleep under bridges.

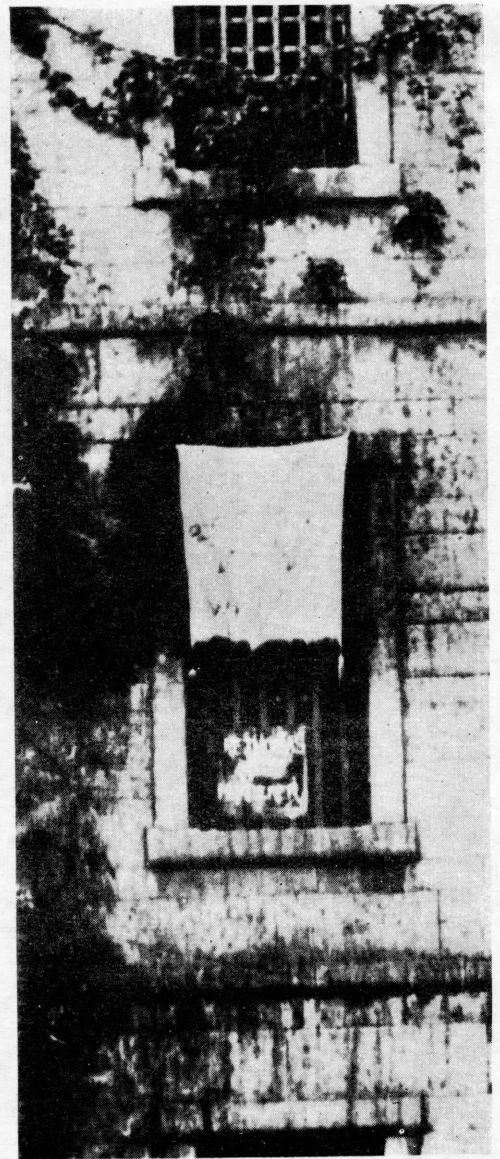
No better examples of the use of the criminal code against workers are to be found than in the treatment handed out to Comrades Foster, Minor, Amter and Raymond by the New York courts, and the jailing of Comrades Powers and Carr in Atlanta, Ga.

The constant clamor for more rigid law enforcement by press, preachers and other mouth-pieces of capitalism is essentially preparation for still more sweeping suppression of all militant union and revolutionary activity.

The campaign has two objectives—to secure the passage of more drastic anti-working class legislation, and to create a situation where protests against legal suppression will meet with little response. Under the guise of crime suppression the capitalist class is preparing further onslaughts on the legal liberties of the working class—especially upon the Communist Party and the militant trade unions. The A. F. of L. leaders, like Woll, take the lead in the campaign.

The widest agitation must be carried on against this offensive. Mass agitation must be followed by mass organization and protest. We must fight stubbornly for every inch—we must not fatalistically surrender by failing to fight against further restrictions on press, speech and assemblage.

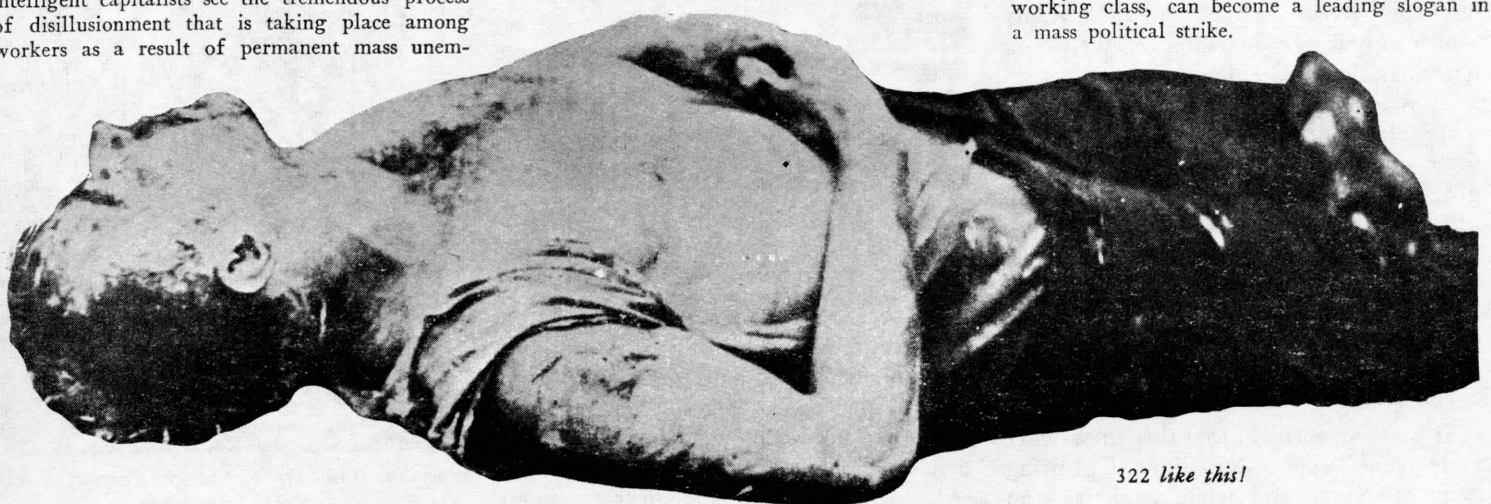
We must show the difference between the criminal code in the Soviet Union, its legal system, and the criminal code and prison system



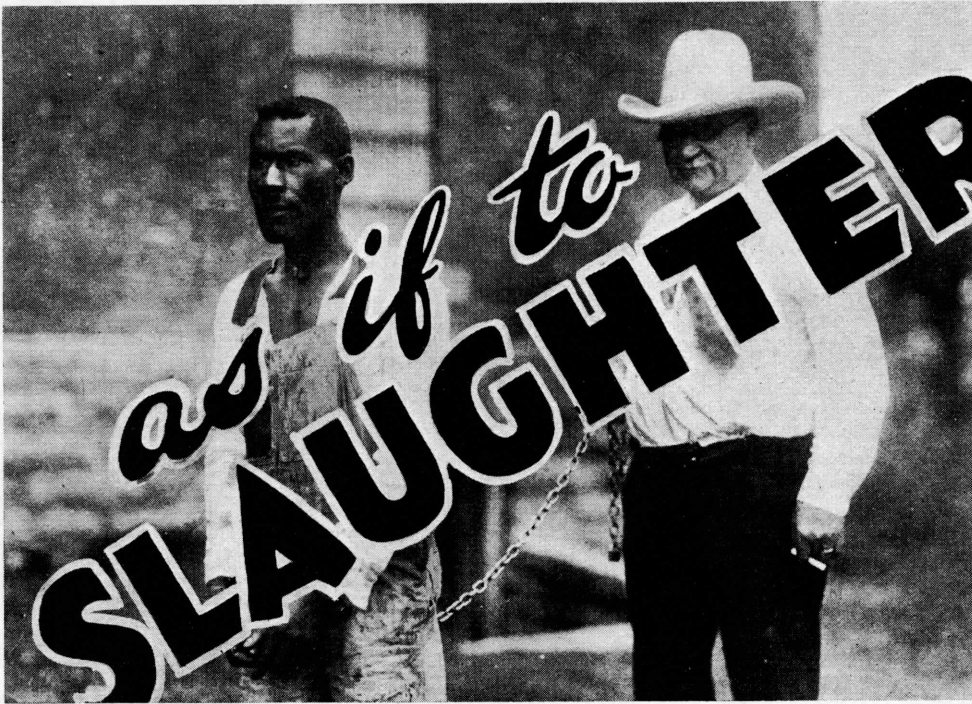
On strike against the regime of burning flesh, the prisoners express their opinion of the capitalist jailers and oppressors in the words "Pig" and "Murderers," printed on these signs which they hung from their prison cells

of American capitalism.

We must now carry out a huge mass mobilization for the unconditional release of all class war prisoners—one of the outstanding political issues confronting the working class. It is an issue which, properly connected with the other basic issues arising out of the drive against the working class, can become a leading slogan in a mass political strike.



322 like this!



By A. JAKIRA

AT Sherman, Texas, a white mob brutally lynched George Hughes, a Negro, by burning down the prison where he was locked up for "safety." The furious savage mob then proceeded to ride through the city searching for more Negro blood to be shed, and burned down several blocks of houses in the Negro section. The government authorities, who are so vigilant when it comes to breaking strikes or disrupting workers gatherings and demonstrations, had this time, as on similar occasions, "become helpless and unable to cope with the situation." They permitted the wild orgy to proceed unhampered, making a few sham arrests and staging a mock investigation after the lynchers had achieved their purpose.

This savage act of the Texas mob, following closely on the heels of the brutal lynchings of John H. Wilkins, Dave Harris, Jimmie Levine, Laura Woods, Allen Green, John Hodaz, Chester Fugate and others which had taken place within the last few weeks. The cynical brutality which so strikingly marks all of the recent lynchings, is not accidental.

It is not a mere accident that all this takes place at a time when more than seven million workers, both white and Negro, are walking the streets in vain search of employment; that it takes place at a time when wages continue to be cut, when Wall Street goes through one crash after another, when the capitalists the world over are feverishly preparing for new imperialist wars, especially for war against the Soviet Union.

It is not an accident that this "new wave of lynching" appears at a time of growing unity of Negro and white workers, who

George Hughes, handcuffed and chained, being led to the courthouse by the sheriff. The photographer was tipped off by the authorities of the planned lynching, or how else would he have come to take this photo?



After dragging the body of George Hughes from the rear of an auto thru the Negro neighborhood, the lynchers hung the body from a tree and kindled a fire under it.

both feel the iron heel of exploitation, and at a time when thousands of militant workers, both white and black, who are fighting against unemployment and exploitation, are thrown into prisons; when workers' gatherings and demonstrations are

brutally broken up by the police and thugs; when an intense campaign is carried on against the foreign born workers; when many militant workers are threatened with legal lynching in the electric chair for their activities in the class struggle.

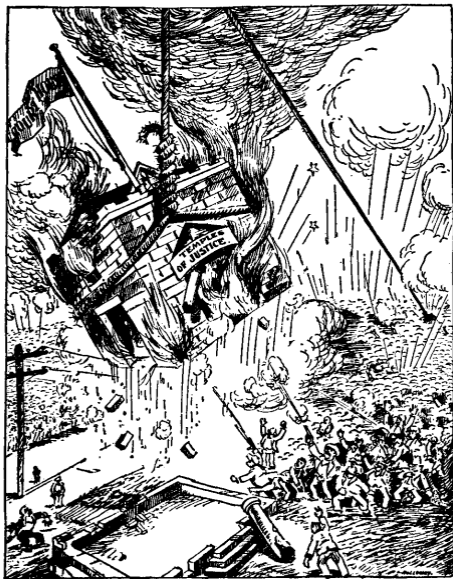
It is an old trick of the master capitalist class to pit one race against another, one nationality against the other in order to be in a better position to exploit the workers. This old trick always in operation in capitalist countries, is intensified especially during periods when the master class finds itself in a difficult situation in order to break the unity of the working class and to divert its attention from a militant struggle against oppression and exploitation. It was in the old czarist Russia, when the workers began to awaken and to organize against their oppressors, that the pogroms (race riots) against the Jews reached their height in brutality. At present in Rumania and Poland, two servile tools of imperialism, pogroms (mass lynchings) against the Jews grow in numbers and brutality. It is in this period, when the United States goes through a severe economic crisis, for which the capitalist class can find no solution, that "race riots" against the Filipino workers take place in California, that lynchings of both white and Negro workers are organized by the master class in various parts of the country. The capitalist class and their government are directly responsible for the bloodshed in Sherman, Texas, and in all other lynchings.

The International Labor Defense in cooperation with other class struggle organizations is carrying on a persistent and militant struggle against lynchings and the entire lynch law system. It calls upon all workers, both white and Negro, to unite and jointly fight against lynching.

TO HELL WITH THE LAW—WE'RE FROM TEXAS By Holloway



Cartoon from the Pittsburgh Courier, weekly Negro newspaper.



*Cartoon from the Pittsburgh Courier, weekly
Negro newspaper.*



WARREN K. BILLINGS will soon mark on gray prison walls his 14th anniversary in Folsom Penitentiary, California. Sentenced to life imprisonment, he was sent to the penitentiary in September, 1916. He has been there ever since. He was 22 years old when he went in. Now he is 36. Tom Mooney, also on life sentence, marked his 13th anniversary in San Quentin four months ago.

Billings appeal for pardon is now held up by the California Supreme Court on legalistic grounds. The court contends it is able only to study the court records of the case and has no power to subpoena witnesses who have knowledge of the frame-up. "The petition for pardon," explains Chief Justice Waste, "is based largely on affidavits obtained since Billings' conviction and repudiating the testimony of a number of prosecution witnesses. There is no machinery provided for investigating angles of a case that happen subsequent to conviction."

Yet, for the last twelve years, every judge, statesman and public official in California has known that neither Billings nor Mooney had any connection whatsoever with the Preparedness Day bomb explosion of July 22, 1916, for which they were tried, convicted and imprisoned for life. Federal government investigators, in 1918, proved to President Wilson beyond a shadow of doubt that the two militant labor organizers had been framed up on perjured testimony by the all-powerful utility interests of California. Liberal and working-class opinion was aroused by this case and brought together in a half dozen committees.

Why then do the two men still wear out their lives in narrow prison cells? The California Supreme Court could have

(Left) Warren K. Billings, who has already spent 14 years in Folsom Penitentiary. (Right) Tom Mooney in San Quentin for the last 13 years 5 months.

granted them a new trial when even trial Judge Griffin requested it. Governor Young could have pardoned them four years ago, when Mooney first applied for pardon. President Hoover, himself a Californian, could have spoken out on their behalf. Why are they still in prison?

The answer is simple. Capitalist class justice controls California as it controls every other state in this country. Governor Young seeks re-election as governor of California, where the great utility companies hold the election outcome in the hollow of their hands. Public utility and electric power interests put Mooney and Billings out of the way 14 years ago, because the two labor men were organizing the street car workers of San Francisco, had taken an active part in a strike against the Pacific Gas and Electric Co., and had participated in strikes of food and water front workers.

These "employer interests," as the U.S. government investigator called them, engaged a private detective, Martin Swanson, from 1913-1916 to "get" Mooney and Billings. Having "got" their victims, by the use of perjured testimony and manufactured "evidence," they have held them more than 12 years after their innocence was completely proved.

Governor Young knows that if he moves now to release the two labor organizers, the power magnates of California will defeat him in the election. So he stalls for time on one legalistic point after another, insisting that the state Supreme Court must pass on Billings' pardon petition before he will decide on a pardon for either Mooney or Billings. State primaries will be held in August. Class conscious workers of California predict that Governor Young

will still bow to the anti-union power interests and will still do nothing about the release of the two innocent prisoners even after he is sure of his own re-election.

Who are the power magnates that framed-up Billings and Mooney? They are named by investigators as the presidents, officials and owners of the following corporations: United Railroads of San Francisco (Mellon-Byllesby); Pacific Telephone Co.; Pacific Gas and Electric Co. (Byllesby); San Joaquin Light & Power Co. (Insull); Western States Electric (Byllesby); and the Sierra & San Francisco Power Co. (Byllesby). Through Mellon, Insull and other connections these men are identified with the dominant, financial class of the country.

But the working class will speak out and will demand to be heard.



Dominick Flaiani, Communist organizer in Newark, found guilty of "Sedition" after railroad trial, as this issue goes to press. To be sentenced June 16, can get 17 years. 8 others face trial.

The

Comrade Sailors

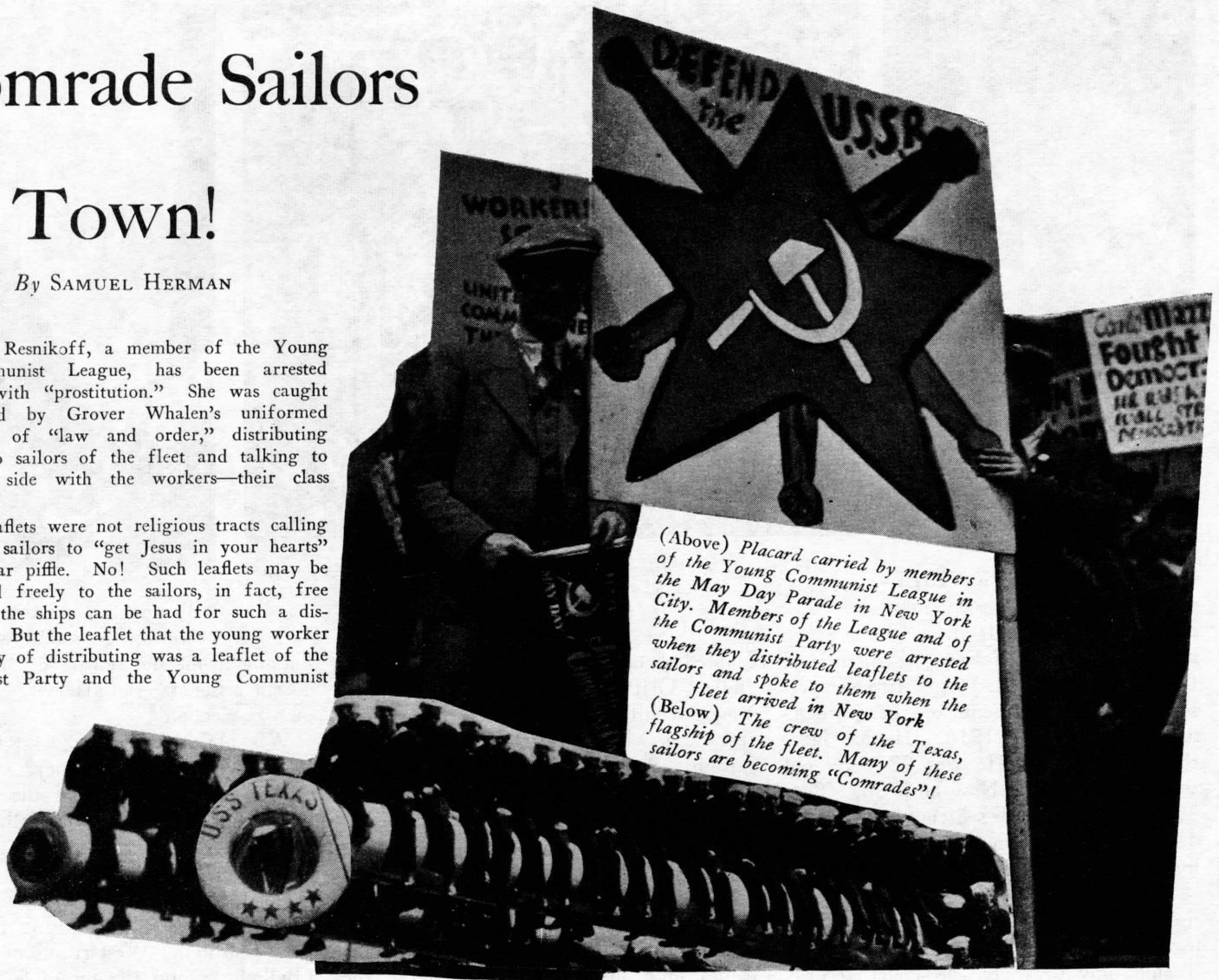
Are

In Town!

By SAMUEL HERMAN

ROSE Resnikoff, a member of the Young Communist League, has been arrested charged with "prostitution." She was caught red-handed by Grover Whalen's uniformed upholders of "law and order," distributing leaflets to sailors of the fleet and talking to them to side with the workers—their class brothers.

The leaflets were not religious tracts calling upon the sailors to "get Jesus in your hearts" and similar piffle. No! Such leaflets may be distributed freely to the sailors, in fact, free access to the ships can be had for such a distribution. But the leaflet that the young worker was guilty of distributing was a leaflet of the Communist Party and the Young Communist



(Above) Placard carried by members of the Young Communist League in the May Day Parade in New York City. Members of the League and of the Communist Party were arrested when they distributed leaflets to the sailors and spoke to them when the fleet arrived in New York
(Below) The crew of the Texas, flagship of the fleet. Many of these sailors are becoming "Comrades"!

League. These leaflets were being distributed by many workers to the 30,000 sailors of the United States fleet that recently visited New York City.

The leaflets ruthlessly exposed the miserable conditions of the workers in uniform, as well as the preparations going on for the coming Imperialist war and attack on the Soviet Union. They called upon the sailors to fight for higher wages, the right to resign from the service at any time, the right to elect their own officers, and to defend the Soviet Union from Imperialist attacks. For this reason Whalen had his hired uniformed thugs arrest Rose Resnikoff, as well as several other workers. May Miller, another young worker arrested was charged with "criminal anarchy"; and several others with the usual "disorderly conduct."

It is very fitting to recall that the same Whalen who placed a charge of "prostitution" against the young worker, is the very individual who as manager of Wanamaker's Store over a year and a half ago, preceding his acceptance of Chief clubber of workers, exploited the young girls working in Wanamaker's to the limit, cut their wages, to as low as \$12 to \$15, helping to force many of them into a life of prostitution.

The sailors of the fleet forced into the service by low wages and unemployment, brutally treated by the officers of the ruling class, suffering under the most miserable conditions, are

coming more and more to realize their common interests with the workers of the factories.

The sailors who have witnessed these arrests and who read about the charges concocted against the workers by Whalen, the anti-Soviet forger of fake documents; and Admiral Pratt, famed for his services to U. S. Imperialism against the colonial workers, will see through the hollowness of this capitalist "democracy." They will join hands with the workers of the

shops in support of the campaign of the International Labor Defense to free the arrested workers and all class war prisoners. The working-class sailors will add their demand to that of the workers for the immediate release of the Committee of the New York Unemployed; Powers and Carr, the many workers jailed on charges of "Sedition" and thousands of workers arrested in the increasingly sharp struggles.

SIX MORE FACE DEATH IN ATLANTA!

As we go to press comes a wire from Atlanta, Ga., that six more militant workers have been arrested there at an American Negro Labor Congress meeting, and held without bail on the charge of insurrection—the same charge by which the rulers of the South hope to send George Powers and Joe Carr to the electric chair.

Those arrested are: Gilmer Brady, organizer for the American Negro Labor Congress; Mary Dalton, organizer of the National Textile Workers' Union; Anne Burlak, International Labor Defense organizer; Julius and Libby Klarin and H. Storey.

Following the example of the Manville-Jenckes Corporation at Gastonia the capitalist interests in Atlanta think they can keep the Negro and white workers divided and unorganized by making wholesale arrests and starting a reign of terror.

Some of the workers are reported to have overheard a conversation among officers about plans for a raid on the National Textile Workers' Union headquarters.

The bosses in Atlanta are trying to repeat the story of Gastonia. Nation-wide mobilization of all working class forces must defeat this attack. Our comrades must stay in the South, free, to continue their organization work among white and Negro workers. They need the support of every worker in the country more than ever before! Give it to them!

Voices ^{FROM} Prison



FROM THE NEW YORK UNEMPLOYMENT DELEGATION

We wish to thank you for the telegrams and the money which you have sent us.

The arrest of our Unemployed Delegation is only one of the many cases before the working class and its defense organization, the International Labor Defense, the most prominent among which is the attempt to burn comrades Powers and Carr on the electric chair; the Gastonia, Harry Eisman, Ohio cases, etc.

The fight must be carried on energetically all along the line and by the mass pressure of the workers cause the liberation of these comrades and the hundreds more in prison or before the capitalist courts. Now, more than ever before the International Labor Defense must be built into a tremendous organization, and its excellent organ, the Labor Defender must find its way into all workers organizations and homes.

Assure the comrades that we are with them in the work, even tho we are locked up in prison.

I. AMTER.

YOUTH ASK FOR LABOR DEFENDER

New Haven County Jail, Conn.

Thanks very much for defending me and my fellow-workers in the boss-controlled courts of Waterbury. The I.L.D. and the representatives made strenuous efforts and sacrifices to obtain capable attorneys for our defense.

The fact that Borgris, besides getting brutally beaten up, got a three months jail sentence which will injure him and his family tremendously proves that if the I.L.D. hadn't been on the job they certainly would have pounced much harder on him.

As for Hersh and myself we certainly are grateful to the I.L.D. for in our activities of rousing the young workers to class consciousness we often clash with the law and order.

Although our sentences is 4 and 3 months

which is very insignificant compared to the Gastonia sentences and criminal syndicalist verdicts nevertheless I know the I.L.D. did not stop working in our defense but will recharge its energies and mobilize not only the organization itself but the masses of workers to protest against the unjust trial especially directed against Borgris.

Comrades Taft and Jack Ruth will you please bring us the LABOR DEFENDER to read. I was deprived of literature I had.

Too bad our plans of increasing the LABOR DEFENDER subscription list were broken, but just as soon as I'll be out I'll be right there Comrade Taft to do all that I can.

Pencils are a luxury in jail, so will you please bring me one of those luxuries so I can write to you and my friends.

Three cheers for the I. L. D.

ROSE ROSS

YES, THE WORKERS WILL LEARN

Walla Walla, Wash.

Your letter with \$5.00 relief check for March enclosed. Received last night. I thank you for it. I also thank you for the two books which I received a few days ago. They are fine books.

The church report on our case is supposed to be out soon. I think it will be favorable as the investigator had the appearance of an honest man, though one can never tell which way a frog will jump by looking at it. It has taken the churches over ten years to find out about the injustice done us. But they could jump up and attack Russia in a week's time on the strength of lying newspaper reports which every editor knew were untrue. And the people are still gullible enough to gobble up such stuff after all the exposures and admissions of the lying propaganda that was used to force us into the last murderfest. Will people never learn?

With best wishes, I remain,

EUGENE BARNETT,

HOW ARE YOUR SPIRITS?

New Bedford, Mass.

Just a few lines to let you all know that I am well, and do hope all of you are the same. Comrades, how is your spirit? Mine is growing every minute of the day. All of you know that the cause of my coming here was the result of my constant fighting for the working class.

Friends I have received fruit, cigarettes and letters and thank you very much for them. I also received the leaflet of "Work or Wages" and it is certainly a very good one.

I conclude with my best regards to all the revolutionary workers thruout the entire world. And when I get out of here I will be more active than ever.

Sincerely yours,

AUGUST S. H. PINTO.

August Pinto is in jail for 6 months. Picket captain in New Bedford during the textile strike. A very active and militant worker.



Fire opened this cell door at the Ohio State Penitentiary—Opened it to death!

Columbus, Ohio.

Glad to know that you had taken time to inquire of the Warden of the welfare of D. Venturato. At the time of the Penitentiary disaster Venturato was staying at the London Prison Farm which is situated thirty miles west of Columbus. Again, I wish to thank you most sincerely for your splendid attitude and interest in the lives of these men.

MRS. MADALENA VENTURATO.

Kindly accept my customary acknowledgment and my sincere appreciation for your efforts in trying to make things easier while I'm incarcerated.

So with all good wishes and thanks, please find enclosed receipt indorsed.

FRANK GODLASKY,
Sioux Falls, S. D.

Received your check for \$20.00 which I am very grateful for.

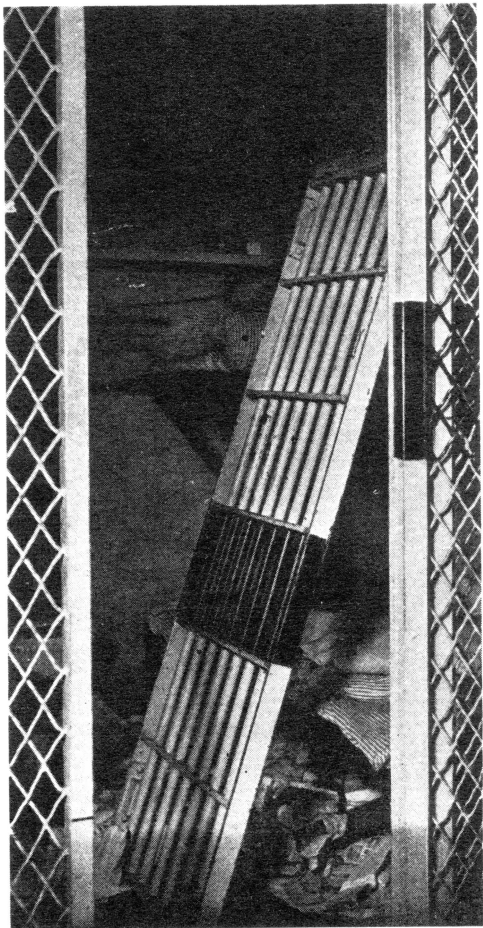
I am in very poor health, and the money sent by your committee comes in handy for doctor bills.

My heartiest and good blessings to your noble work.

MRS. MARY MOONEY.

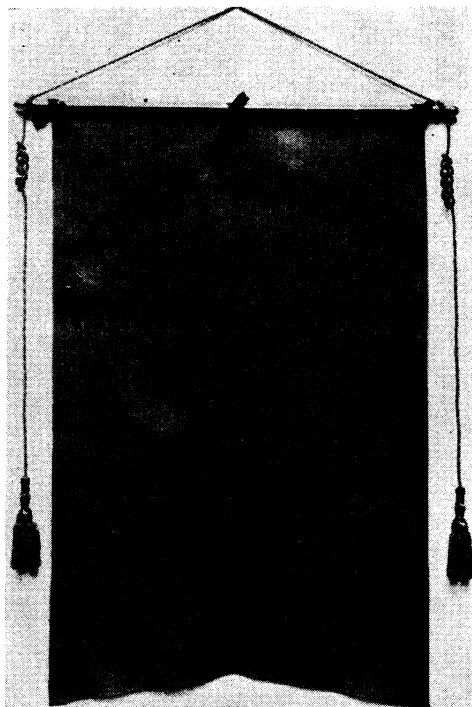


"Release All Class-War Prisoners!" Drawing by Refugee



Fire opened this cell door at the Ohio State Penitentiary—Opened it to death!

OUR SUB DRIVE



The banner awarded to the New York District. A similar banner was awarded to the Sacco-Vanzetti Branch of Chicago.

THE Labor Defender Sub Drive, which began on November 11, 1929, came to an end on May 1, 1930. The total number of new subscribers obtained during this period was 3,150.

Our greatest successes occurred in the New York District where Comrade Isabelle Kleinman, Labor Defender Agent, succeeded in setting up a good apparatus for the sale and distribution of the LABOR DEFENDER. New York, as a result of this good organizational work, obtained 792 new subs to the Labor Defender during the drive and raised its Labor Defender sales from 2,000 per month to 5,000. It was the only district which fulfilled one of the two aims set in the drive—the doubling of the Labor Defender sales. The banner for the best District, therefore, went to New York.

The Illinois District was a very far second, obtaining only 373½ subs during the course of the drive and Michigan came third with 308 subs.

Much of the work in Chicago was done by the Sacco-Vanzetti Branch under the direction of Eva Greenspoon, Labor Defender Agent for the Chicago District. This Branch alone brought in 131 subs, more than any other Branch in the country. The banner for the leading Branch, therefore, went to the Sacco-Vanzetti ILD Branch of Chicago.

Splendid work was done by individual comrades in many districts, showing their realization of the importance of spreading the Labor Defender far and wide among the workers. It was with great devotion to the work of the ILD and its organ, the Labor Defender, that these comrades entered into the sub drive.

Comrade Theodore Tiriris, of the Nick Sponoudikis ILD Branch of New York City, was the most successful of these comrades, himself obtaining 79½ yearly subscribers to the Labor Defender. To him went the special gold ILD medal.

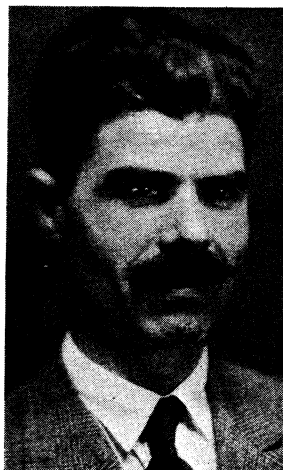
Helen Rosenbaum, of the Newark ILD Branch, and A. Malinsky, of the Sacco-Vanzetti Branch of Chicago, both obtained 62 new subscribers each. Both received the special silver ILD medal. Mary Ostrow, of the Los Angeles ILD, who had obtained 52 new subscribers, was awarded the special bronze ILD medal.

Bound volumes of the Labor Defender for the years 1928-1929 were presented in recognition of the fine work done in building the Labor Defender to: Esther Decovny, of Philadelphia; Anne Maulin, of New York; Sarah Wand, of Buffalo; George Moore, of New York; Anna Block, of New York; F. Ulrich, of New York. These comrades obtained more than 25 new subs each.

Volumes of Ralph Chaplin's Poetry were presented to: S. Xedes, of Detroit; F. G. Butler, Oakland; Otto Evanoff, Campbell, Ohio; L. C. Jarvis, Los Angeles; Rose Fomin, New York; A. Schneider, New York; Israel Prager, Boston; Luis Martinez, New York; S. Kasman-sky, Detroit; M. Grossman, Detroit; S. Rubin, New York; Zlata Horwich, Chicago; Georgoulis, Detroit; Dan Agolas, San Regis, Mont.; O. J. Arness, Williston, N. D.; Stevens, Chicago; S. Belenko, Gary, Ind.; A. Bakunin, Flint, Mich.; D. McCarthy, New York; A. Evanoff, Johnstown, Pa.; Julia Schulner, Milwaukee; Rudolph Strangler, Los Angeles; Chas. Moore, New York.

Warm fraternal thanks are due to Tyomies Society, the Greek Communist paper Empros, and the Lithuanian Working Women's Alliance for the help given the Labor Defender during this drive.

Remember that the quota we had set for the drive was 50,000 readers by March 18, 1930, of which 25,000 were to be subscribers. The drive was extended to May 1, for many of the branches had only begun to work about the beginning of March, and at the close of the drive we had reached a paid circulation of close to 30,000, of which only about 5,000 were yearly subscribers.



Comrade Theodore Tiriris, of the Nick Sponoudikis Branch of New York City, who obtained 79½ new yearly subs and was awarded the Gold I. L. D. medal at the very successful Labor Defender Night, held in New York City for the presentation of the sub drive awards.

With the experience gained out of this drive, especially with the knowledge that a drive can be successful only when every branch of the ILD functions in an organized manner and the work is properly coordinated and understood from the National Office, we should all begin to prepare immediately for a powerful drive to begin in September, having as its goal:

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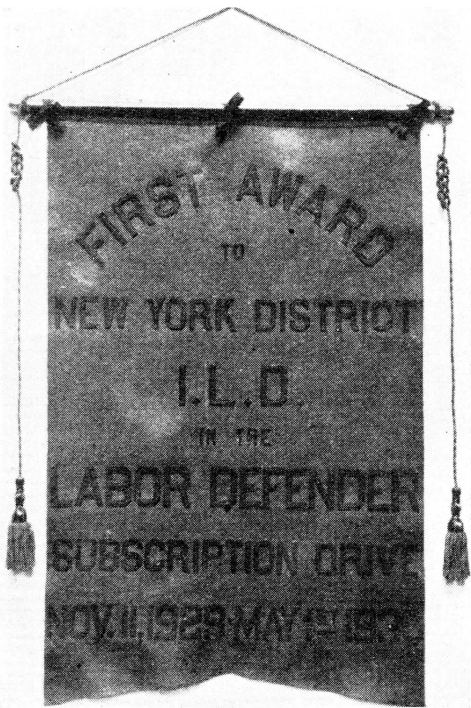
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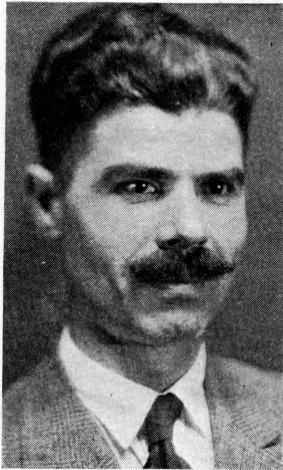
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The banner awarded to the New York District. A similar banner was awarded to the Sacco-Vanzetti Branch of Chicago.



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SHALL THEY STAY IN PRISON?



M. H. Powers, Organizer for the Communist Party in Georgia, charged with "inciting to insurrection."

Communist organizers facing death in Georgia because they organized Negro and White workers for militant struggle.



Joe Carr, Organizer for the Young Communist League in Georgia, charged with "inciting to insurrection" and facing the death penalty because he organized both Negro and white workers into one organization.



[[The Gastonia Seven facing a living death in North Carolina's prisons because

they championed the cause of the exploited textile workers of the South.]]

FOSTER—MINOR—AMTER—RAYMOND—LESTON

The Leaders of the New York Unemployed Delegation on March Sixth Sentenced to Three Years Imprisonment on An "Unlawful Assembly" Charge and Facing Five More Years On An Additional Charge of "Felonious Assault."

The Newark, N. J., Sedition cases.
The Imperial Valley, California Conspiracy cases.
The Fred Beal, Pontiac, Michigan Sedition Case.



DEPORTATIONS
REGISTRATION OF ALIENS
NEGRO LYNCHINGS

Over 125 Workers Face Long Prison Terms on Charges of Sedition, Criminal Syndicalism and Conspiracy.

Hundreds of Arrests of Workers for Distribution of Literature, and for Speaking at Factory Gate Meetings.

The fight for the release of all political prisoners is the responsibility of the entire working-class

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