

LABOR DEFENDER

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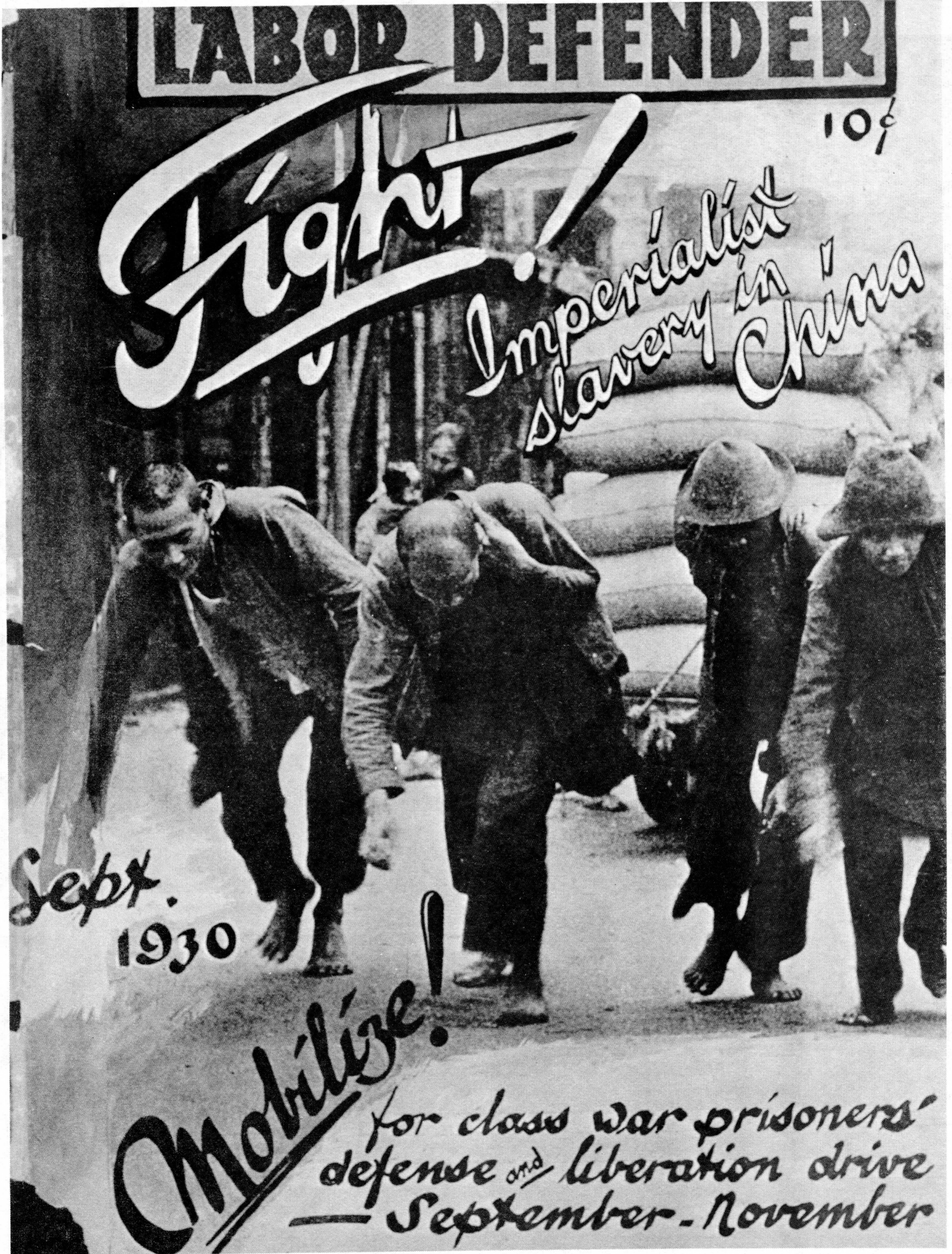
Fight!

Imperialist
slavery in China

Sept.
1930

Mobilize!

for class war prisoners' defense and liberation drive
— September - November



ANTI-WAR DAY—1930



30,000 workers poured into Union Square on August 1st to demonstrate against imperialist war preparations and for the defense of the Soviet Union



Photo by Labor Defender Photo Group

Below: Members of the Labor Jury chosen by working class organizations to consider the evidence and place the responsibility for the brutal beating of workers by police following the August First demonstration in New York.

From left to right: F. E. Elsh, American Negro Labor Congress; C. Popodulus of the Food Workers' Industrial League; George Simon, foreman of the jury, Ex-Seremen's League; Narkow of Marine Workers' Industrial Union. The labor jury found the police guilty!

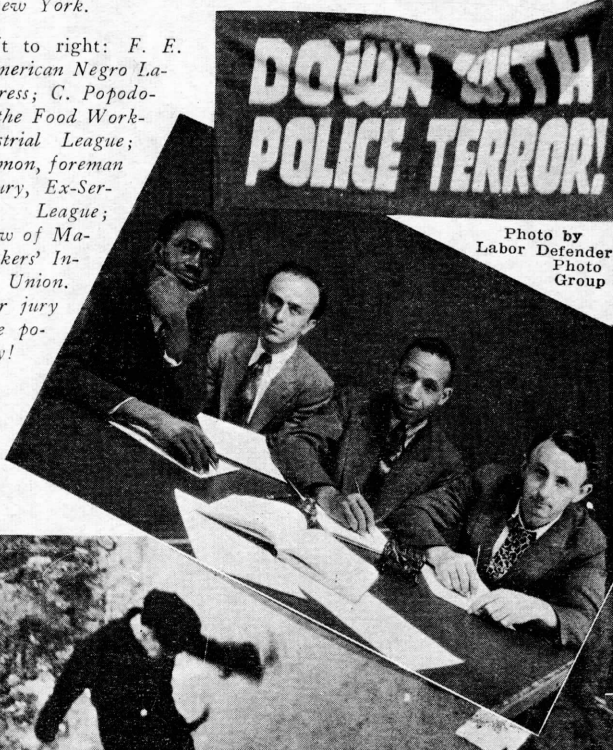


Photo by Labor Defender Photo Group



On the Pacific Coast, thousands of workers gathered to protest against war.



Sixty workers were given this treatment when the N.Y. police, using clubs and blackjacks, pounced upon a crowd of workers as they were leaving the anti-war demonstration.



Workers in Ford-owned Detroit came out in mass to demonstrate against war.

ON BREAD and WATER

By J. LOUIS ENGDahl

THE North Carolina State Supreme Court has upheld the savage conviction and vicious sentences to 117 years in prison of the seven Gastonia strikers and organizers—Fred Erwin Beal, William M. McGinnis, Louis McLaughlin, George Carter, Joseph Harrison, K. Y. Hendricks and Clarence Miller.

In support of the judicial lynching carried out in the lower (Mecklenberg County) court, the highest court of North Carolina now gives its approval.

Exactly on the same day that the black robed persecutors of rebels against the "new industrialism" and its slavery in the South were putting the finishing touches on their bloody edict, the official record of which might well have been illustrated with dangling rope, swishing lash and burning faggot, symbolic of mob law justice, Frank Goldberg, president of the American Cotton Mills, Inc., was telling the committee of striking workers at Bessemer City that the workers should:

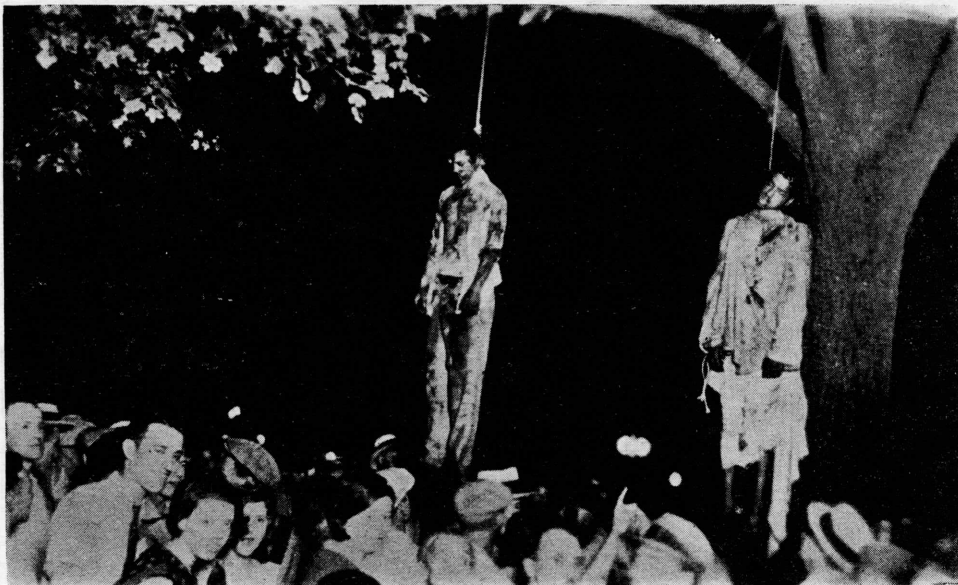
"WORK AND LIVE ON BREAD AND WATER. WORK LIKE HELL FOR PRODUCTION!"

There is no mention of the bread and water diet in the Supreme Court's decision. Yet this decree of capitalist class justice holds up the spectre of the electric chair and living deaths in prison dungeons for all workers who would struggle for more than bread and water, or the sow belly and beans that Southern labor is forced to feed on.

It was this month a year ago that 23 textile strikers and organizers were held in Gastonia jails because they fought to win a better life for the "mountain folks" who had been drawn down into the mill towns of the Piedmont district to a serfdom of endless toil, condemned to the horrible death of slow starvation called pellagra, because their meager wages could not provide the food diet necessary to life.

During this year capitalist class justice has carefully, energetically defended its own. Let every worker study these facts:

First: North Carolina "capitalist justice" has not sentenced to one single day in prison the murderers of the six Marion textile strikers, massacred in cold blood by



21 lynchings, the toll of boss terror against Negro workers to September, 1930. Thomas Shipp, 19, and Abraham Smith, 20, were the victims of this brutal lynching in Marion, Indiana.

assassins wearing deputy sheriff's badges, while a score more were wounded. Instead Marion strikers are ordered to jail.

Second: The assassins of Ella May, Sept. 14, 1929, remain at liberty, free to commit or join in new lynchings or killings of workers. It is significant that the new textile strike broke out in Bessemer City, where the songs of Ella May, the International Labor Defense and National Textile Workers' Union organizer, summoned labor to greater battles of worker against employer.



Israel Prager and two other speakers were arrested at the Boston Sacco Vanzetti demonstration which was broken up by the police.

Third: The kidnapers and floggers of Lell, Saylor, Wells and others, who were bent on lynchings, are all still at large. Major A. L. Bulwinkle, the mob leader, later one of the prosecutors at the Gastonia trial, has now been nominated by the Democratic party to go to congress. His chief aide, Solicitor Carpenter, church leader of the Manville-Jenckes mob called "The Committee of 100" helped to plot new violence in the days just past against the Bessemer City strikers.

Fourth: Headquarters of the National Textile Workers Union and the Workers' International Relief have been smashed and destroyed with no one called to account.

Fifth: North Carolina provides the latest of the 21 lynchings in the nation, of Negro workers during the last eight months. The 29-year-old Negro farm laborer, Oliver Moore, was taken by a mob from the Edgecombe County Jail, at Tarboro, strung up to a tree and in front of his home, and his body riddled with hundreds of bullets. The sheriff and his deputies, as usual, "didn't recognize" any of the mob. Lynch law is capitalist class law, the law of the boss class against the working class. The lynchers do not fear punishment from their own laws.

Thus capitalism's harlot "Class Justice" stalks through city and country-side in North Carolina, the same ugly spawn of the profit social system that seeks the lives of the six workers in Atlanta—H. M. Powers, Joe Carr, Ann Burlak, Henry Story, Herbert Newton and Mary Dalton

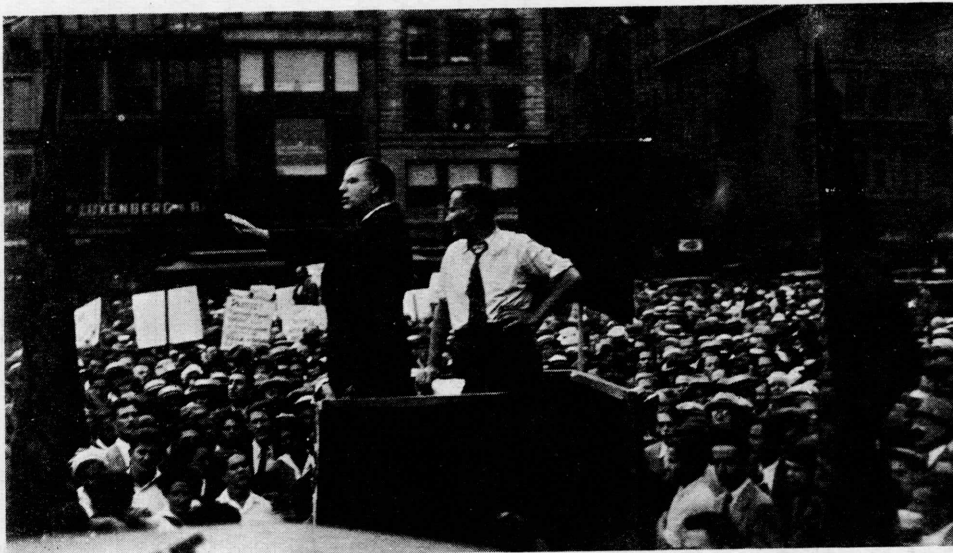


Photo by Labor Defender Photo Group

J. Louis Engdahl, general secretary of the International Labor Defense, speaking at the Sacco-Vanzetti demonstration on Union Square, New York

—that arrest and jail workers wherever they raise the protest of labor, whether at Birmingham, Alabama; Chattanooga or Memphis in Tennessee; Winston-Salem, Mount Holly, or elsewhere in North Carolina; Norfolk, Virginia, or Rome, in Georgia, that saw the attempted mobbing and lynching of Ann Burlak, the organizer of the International Labor Defense.

It was the Bessemer City strike that again blew the lid off the barbarous conditions under which Southern labor toils. Here was a rebellion voted "practically unanimously" between two and three o'clock, the early morning hours of Monday, August 18th, after an almost all-Sunday night discussion of miseries unbearable.

The outraged workers had refused to accept the third successive wage cut since Christmas, declaring that they could not live and pay their grocery bills under the old scale, and that, "It's better to perish at home than on the job." Even the first day of the strike saw the ghost of starvation stalking the mill villages, so close were the workers to the hunger line, even while they toiled.

But it is not only food that is lacking. Winter is coming on and there is no money for clothes. The so-called schools are soon to open but there are no pennies for books. The mere mention of free school books is denounced as "revolutionary" and "Bolshevism" in North Carolina. "The law," the same law that sends mob leaders to congress and working class leaders to prison, declares that children must go to school, but it provides these children with neither clothes, food nor books, and certainly not with proper shelter, either at school or at home. One landlord laments that he tried to collect rent at fourteen shacks, called "homes," that he owned,

but could not get a penny from any one of them, so poor are his tenants. The future of "American youth" in the Southern textile mills is told in the story of the boy employed in Mill No. Two, of the American Cotton Mills, Inc., at Bessemer City, since he was fourteen years old. He is now twenty-one and has been in the same job all the time. His wages under the different cuts has brought his pay down from \$18 to \$12 per week. The earnings of many Bessemer City strikers for the week preceding the walkout totalled only \$6 or \$8 according to the showing on their pay envelopes. Some declared that they toiled the twelve-hour day, but that they were being openly robbed of one hour's wages and being paid for only eleven hours.

These are the conditions that resulted in the spontaneous walkout at Bessemer City. Revolt smolders for the time being in multitudes of other mill villages as the



Photo by Boston I. L. D.

Walter Paananen and part of the memorial monument to Ella May, from the New Hampshire granite workers. The monument will be presented to the workers of North Carolina by the West Concord, New Hampshire branch of the International Labor Defense.

result of similar conditions. It will flare into open rebellion.

Against this growing workers' discontent the boss class mobilizes its electric chairs, its prisons, its chain gang system, its state militia, police and hiring courts; it rallies its extra-legal forces in the form of pay-triotic organizations like the American Legion, the Ku Klux Klan and the more recent American Fascist Association and Order of Blackshirts; lynching mobs and other punitive expeditions against the workers, such as the recent invasion of Bessemer City by Manville-Jenckes gangsters from Gastonia.

The reply of the working class was clearly registered in the mass demonstrations organized and carried out under the banner of the International Labor Defense on the third anniversary of the ruling class murder of Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti. The textile and shoe multi-millionaires thought that working class protest would die in the electric chair with Sacco and Vanzetti as the midnight passed on August 22, 1927. But during the three years since and especially on August 22, 1930, labor has raised higher than ever its banners against capitalist suppression.

In more than three-score cities many scores of thousands of workers pledged themselves to revenge the burning alive in the electric chair of Sacco and Vanzetti. This revenge is being registered through greater struggles in defense and for the liberation of the increasing number of political prisoners of today, demanding the immediate and unconditional release of the New York and Milwaukee Unemployed Delegations; against the electric chair and for the release of the Atlanta prisoners—*No death sentences! No prison sentences!*—immediate release of the Imperial Valley prisoners; defeat of the infamous Gastonia verdict; release for Mooney and Billings, and for the Centralia, Washington prisoners; repeal of the sedition and insurrection laws; dissolution of the so-called Fish commission, instrument of the United States government in its attack on the working class, especially foreign-born workers threatened with registration, finger printing and photographing by the police bloodhounds of Wall Street oppression, accompanied by an increasing wave of deportations, especially to the fascist countries of Europe where firing squads and the gallows await all militant workers.

Fight against all ruling class efforts to put the American working class on a "bread and water diet"! For the Bessemer City textile baron speaks with the voice of capitalist class greed against which increasing masses of the working class rebel and struggle.

Workers' Children Defy Patriots

By BEATRICE CARLIN

THE W.I.R. Children's Scout Camp at Van Etten, N. Y., has just had an experience with American "patriotism" that must make a lasting impression on the one hundred children, mostly of Finnish parentage, who were in the camp, and on all the adult workers who witnessed the senseless frenzy of those small-town "patriots."

When the camp was first opened, word spread to a neighboring town across the state line, Sayre, Pa., that "Red

activities" were going on in the New York camp. The Rev. Mr. Shepson, a revivalist preacher, wrote an inflammatory article in a local newspaper concerning the camp, and certain super-patriots undertook to "learn" the children respect for the flag. They organized a Ku Klux Klan demonstration in front of the camp, and burned a cross of fire; on another occasion a fiery wheel was burned near the camp. As this threat of terror failed to intimidate the children or the leaders of the camp, a group was delegated by the American Legion of Athens, Pa., to present a large American flag to the children's camp, and to make them fly it.

Driving up to the camp about twenty strong, on August 8, they offered the flag to the two young leaders of the children, Mabel Husa, 20, and Ailene Holmes, 23, both members of the Young Communist League. The girls politely refused the gift, stating that there was no law to compel any camp to fly a flag, and that they did not wish to fly it. When pressed for a reason, they said the flag represented the interests of the boss class of America, the exploitation of the workers and farmers, and the imperialistic repression of colonial peoples.

The visitors then tried to force the two girls and the children to kiss the flag by pushing it into their mouths. The children resisted, and several of them were roughly handled. The children formed into line, and led by Comrades Husa and Holmes, began to sing their camp songs, and to shout slogans against their enemies. "Down with the enemies of our camp—boo, boo, boo"; "Down with the Ku Klux



Young Pioneers at Workers International Relief Scout Camp stood by their camp and were ready to fight back the frenzied patriots and raiders.

Klan"; "Down with the American Legion," giving three boos after each shout. They marched with their camp banner, a Red banner inscribed with the words, "Van Etten W. I. R. Scout Camp," a hammer and sickle, and the Pioneer slogan, "Always Ready."

The sight of this banner infuriated the patriots and they attempted to take it away from the children. One of the boys, about twelve years old, took the camp banner, and climbed a telegraph pole with it. This was interpreted by the visitors as putting the Red banner "above" the American flag. Several of them grabbed the two girls, put them forcibly into an automobile, and drove them down to the Klan

grounds and then to the Justice of the Peace of Van Etten, to have them arrested.

The justice, William Westbrook, is an old man, close to seventy years. Hesitating to offend the Finnish farmers who have settled in that neighborhood, he refused at that time to issue a warrant for the arrest of the two girls. He was threatened with lynching by the Klan if he did not make the arrests. Finally, he issued a warrant, sworn out by a Mr. Dennis, an ex-commander of an

American Legion post in Pennsylvania, and Mrs. Daisy Felt, member of a patriotic organization in Waverly, New



Mabel Husa and Ailene Holmes, Young Communist camp leaders sentenced to three months imprisonment and \$50 fine on a framed charge of "insulting" the flag.



Children attending World Congress of workers' children in Berlin show their solidarity with striking miners in the Ruhr. The banner reads "We Fight With Our Fathers in the Northwest."

York. The girls were arrested on the basis of an obscure subdivision of a section of the penal code of New York, providing for the punishment by six months' imprisonment and fifty dollars fine, of anyone who "insulted" the flag. The patriots swore that the girls had instigated the children and had themselves been guilty of saying: "To hell with the American flag," "Down with the American government," "We will make a dish rag out of their flag in four years"; and also accused them of leading the children in pledging allegiance to the Red flag of Soviet Russia.

A representative of the Workers International Relief and International Labor Defense secured a postponement of the trial, which angered the "patriots."

Armed with black-jacks and revolvers and in an ugly mood, they drove to the camp grounds. We met their vanguard, and asked them to leave the grounds of the camp. They responded that "everything belonged to Uncle Sam," and gave an ultimatum to "clear the children out of the camp in thirty minutes."

The children had had a mass meeting during the day, and had voted unanimously to stick by the camp, and not to allow themselves to be intimidated into dispersing before the scheduled break-up on Saturday morning. The spokesmen for the camp were able, because of the perfect morale of the children, to defy the raiders, and to accept their challenge with the declaration that the camp would fight back if the mob made any move to attack them.

In the meantime, someone had raced

down to the village, and put in a call for the county sheriff and the state troopers. These veteran enemies of the working class, who never lose an opportunity of smashing a demonstration of the workers against unbearable conditions of exploitation, or of breaking the heads of strikers on picket duty, had known for two weeks of the molestation of the camp by the fascist baiters of the children, but had made no move for the protection of the camp. It took these guardians of "law and order" about five hours of gentle persuasion to clear the camp grounds.

The trial of the two girls, Mabel Husa and Ailene Holmes, was conducted in the tiny village court room, crowded to overflowing, on the one side with sympathetic workers and farmers from the immediate neighborhood; on the other side, with angry, murmuring members of the Klan, the American Legion and the local patriots under their influence. All the approved methods were used by these hypocrites in the name of "The People," who were called the plaintiffs. Hysterical references to "the boys who died in the war for the flag"; the spectre of a "Red revolution" within four years, made by the attorney for "The People," called on the aged justice to stamp out Communism in America by putting the two young women behind prison bars.

The sentence was a fine of fifty dollars and three months' imprisonment for each girl.

The two girl comrades, Mabel and Ailene, unflinchingly cheerful, courageous class fighters, were remanded to the county jail, when an appeal was refused pending eight days' written notice.

The attempted break-up of the Workers International Relief Children's Scout Camp must be answered with the building of more and bigger camps by the Workers International Relief. Class-conscious working class parents must boycott the bourgeois Boy and Girl Scout movement. A concerted effort must be made on the part of all friendly and affiliated working class organizations to draw workers' and farmers' children out of the bourgeois Boy and Girl Scout camps and into the Workers International Relief working class Scout Camps.



Delegates attending the New York State Nominating Convention at Schenectady that placed the Communist Party ticket in the field. William Z. Foster, secretary of the Trade Union Unity League, now in prison, was ratified as candidate for Governor, J. Louis Engdahl for Lieutenant Governor, and Robert B. Moore, for Attorney General. Moore recently spoke at a demonstration in Spencer, New York, against the Ku Klux Klan raid on the W.I.R. Children's Camp.



Trade Union Unity League speakers urge throngs of jobless to join Unemployed Councils and fight for work or wages at street meetings in front of city employment agency in New York. Inset: About 40,000 workers stormed the city agency for jobs in the first few days in vain.

JOBLESS FACING WINTER!

By ISRAEL AMTER

THERE will be more unemployed workers tramping the streets this winter. Wages will be slashed on all sides, the cost of living will mount. A winter of bitter struggle faces the workers of this country and the entire capitalist world.

Figures on unemployment indicate that the number of unemployed is increasing. The steel, lumber, textile and rubber industries are at a very low level. The auto industry which gave a "vacation" of three weeks without pay to 175,000 workers is reported to be taking back 116,000. What does this indicate? More workers are being added to the unemployed army. The "vacation" for "reorganization" purposes was for the purpose of installing new speed-up machinery and methods. "It will take some years for the American market to recover" says a leading German industrialist.

All the imperialist powers look with envy, fear and hate at the Soviet Union where industry and agriculture cannot be developed rapidly enough to satisfy the needs of the workers and peasants, where wages are increasing, hours are being lowered, the cultural achievements are advancing. Hence they are preparing for war on the Soviet Union.

The struggle ahead is one in which common united action of the workers alone will help. The unemployed organized in-



England's jobless army on the march for Unemployment Funds. There are over two and one-half million jobless in England.

to the Unemployed Councils of the Trade Union Unity League must be linked up with shop committees organized in every shop. The next step is the movement for Unemployed Insurance and the support of the Unemployment Insurance Bill prepared by the Communist Party. The unemployed must say to the bosses "We re-

fuse to starve. We demand wages in the form of unemployment insurance." The fight for unemployment insurance is the fight against wage cuts and speed up. It brings about the fighting unity of the employed and unemployed on all vital fronts.

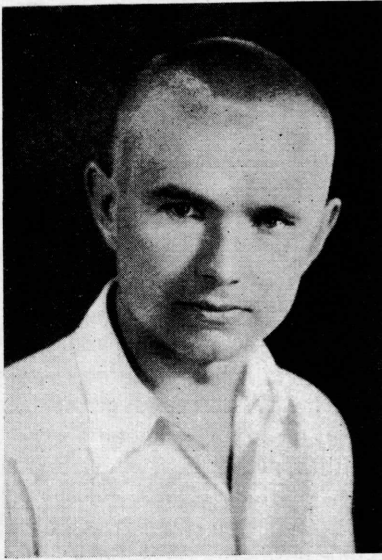
Labor Day is the day for launching the big movement for the Unemployment Insurance Bill. The A. F. of L. and the Socialist Party who work for and with the capitalists will sabotage this movement. The A. F. of L. wants no unemployment insurance. The Socialist Party wants the workers to pay for the unemployment imposed on them. The militant workers will make their demands by a gigantic demonstration on Labor Day.

The crying need of the hour is the building up of the revolutionary organizations. This includes the International Labor Defense which will face ever more important tasks as boss brutality against the workers becomes inevitably sharper. The bosses have already shown what they will do. The ruthless lynchings of Negroes in the South, the terroristic attacks on conventions and meetings of revolutionary workers (Imperial Valley and Georgia) the outrageous sentences imposed on the Communists and members of the T. U. U. L., the growing use of fascist methods, the use of the American Legion, Ku Klux Klan and gangsters against the working class, all indicate the terror that the workers face in their determination to struggle and to organize. Make the I. L. D. the fighting defense organization of the workers of the U. S. ever on the job to defend the interests of the workers.

In all countries except the Soviet Union, the number of unemployed increases. Make the 59 rulers of America provide unemployed insurance for U. S. jobless.

Erickson Speaks from Prison

By ESTHER LOWELL



Oscar Erickson, Secretary, Agricultural Workers Industrial League, in San Quentin prison for 42 years for organizing Imperial Valley agricultural workers.

San Quentin is trying the "paint up, brighten up" method on its grim grey walls but the effect of the great stone pile viewed from the Richmond ferry is at forbidding as ever. The old prison looms like an impregnable fortress on the shore of San Francisco bay, with the pointed peak of Mount Tamalpais towering behind.

The ferry was carrying me over to San Quentin to interview the newly arrived victims of California's notorious criminal syndicalism law, the Imperial Valley organizers. The criminal syndicalism law was designed to put the Wobblies into prison for mere membership in the organization. Now the "golden state" has revived it to put Communists into prison for mere membership in a Party that operates legally in the United States!

When I found that I could see only one prisoner, I asked for Erickson, because he is secretary of the Agricultural Workers Industrial League, affiliated with the Trade Union Unity League. He is a native of California, a round-faced, bright-eyed young man full of facts about the state's farming regions, through all of which he has worked. But natives who defy the power and railroad and agricultural profiteers of the golden west get the same harsh dose administered to "outside agitators."

"White, Mexican, Filipino and Negro lettuce pickers and packers struck spontaneously in January and February," Erickson told me. "They lost out for lack of organization. In the next few months we held big meetings and many were joining the union. We planned a walkout of 8,000 or more for the opening of the cantaloupe season in June."

Newspapers shouted that the reds had come and would bomb and burn bridges, packing houses and the jail. Suddenly on April 14, when the union was holding a conference preliminary to the strike, Brawley headquarters was raided. Of the 100 arrested, 11 were held for trial, 2 of these released on trial morning, 3 deported and 6 convicted of criminal syndicalism on three counts: 1) being members of a party (Communist) which seeks to overthrow the government by force; 2) teaching, aiding and abetting this purpose; 3) conspiracy.

"It surely was a class case," exclaimed Erickson. "There wasn't a worker on the jury and the prosecutor played up to

the prejudices of the small farmers and small business men who tried us. They held each of us for \$40,000 bail at first. While we were in jail newspapers reported that there had been an attempt to bomb the Yuma bridge and that the Southern Pacific Railroad was sending in 50 special deputies. There was another story that someone tried to burn a warehouse."

All these provocateur acts helped frighten the jury still more. Lieut. Hines, "red specialist" of the Los Angeles police department, was brought down as a star witness. Two of the prisoners, Carl Sklar and Frank Spector, had been brought down from the "Angel City," where Spector was district organizer for the International Labor Defense. He had been in Imperial Valley only once to arrange bail for the raid victims and Sklar had been there but a few times.

Maximum sentences were handed out, 1 to 14 years on each count and, for all but one man, to run consecutively, so that the full sentences read 3 to 42 years! Danny Roxas, Filipino agricultural worker, has two terms running concurrently and the third consecutively, so that his total is 2 to 28! Lawrence Emery, Roxas, Spector and Erickson are in Quentin; Sklar and Tetsuji Hariuchi in Folsom, although this is a first conviction for each and that prison is intended for repeaters.

Conditions for agricultural workers are disgustingly bad all over California but especially vile in Imperial Valley. This section is in the far southern part of the state. The soil is very rich from repeated deposits during Colorado River floods. Nothing grows there without irrigation. It is a huge natural hothouse for profitable truck gardens; lettuce and carrots in January and February; cantaloupes in June and July; watermelons in July and August. Hay and grapefruit are the other chief crops.

"Absentee owners control the valley lands," the union organizer told me. "They are big shipping and distributing companies with offices in Los Angeles and San Francisco. They control farms all over the west and east into Colorado. They are organized into the Western Growers' Protective Association and the American Fruit Growers, Inc. (Blue Goose brand). The landowners have headquarters farms where all agricultural machinery is kept and trucked around to tenants. One owner may have ten tenants or more. Few workers are required except at harvest."

Most of the tenants who run farms are Japanese. Of these 61% are on a share basis, the rest pay cash rental, but these are decreasing. There are about 5,000 tenant farmers on somewhat over 500,000 acres cultivated.

"Mexican and Filipino labor con-

tractors really led the January and February strikes," said Erickson. "These contractors are employed by the tenants to supply workers in harvest time. The contractor works with the gang he brings and takes a percentage of their wages. This year the market was poor, because of depression and unemployment, so the bosses, the landowners, insisted on wage cuts. First they fired the Mexicans and said they had the Filipinos working at 30c an hour instead of 35c. When the Mexicans gave in, they turned the trick on the Filipinos. Then they were going to cut the packing house workers from 9c a crate. They were having inspectors reject so many crates that it amounted to a cut. A good packer can do 400 to 500 crates, working up to 18 hours a day!"

Demands of the Agricultural Workers Industrial Union for the field workers were: Abolition of the contract system, 50c minimum for lettuce picking, 8-hour workday with double pay for overtime and Sundays, 15-minute rest period after every 2 hours, free ice from the growers, no child labor, equal pay for women, and better housing.

"Tenants are given the poorest sort of shacks without provision for cooking or washing," Erickson explained. "Casual workers almost never have any sort of housing provided. Mexicans and whites usually come with families in ancient autos and camp in the fields. They dip warm, dust-coated water from the irrigation ditches for drinking, cooking and washing. No toilets are built, as a rule, except sometimes a crude hole in the ground. The Filipino boys often bunk together in tourist cabins. Most of the Negro workers live in valley towns."

"Women work out in the fields with all the kids who can get around. In hot weather it is almost intolerable, with mosquitos added to the heat. The air doesn't cool at night, like it does in the rest of the state. Workers literally drop in their tracks in the fields, some of them dying from heat and exhaustion."

International Labor Defense attorneys defended Erickson and his companions and are now seeking to appeal the cases.



Mexican and Filipino pea pickers in the Imperial Valley

Remember Ella May!

By CAROLINE DREW

ELLA MAY — working woman — mother—was murdered one year ago by the Gastonia bosses and their committee of 100 thugs, who resorted to open murder to keep the southern mill workers from organization.

When Ella May together with other mill strikers went to Washington, D. C. to testify about their working and living conditions before the Senate Investigating Committee, which proved to be another do-nothing white-washing government committee; the bosses shouted that they were the dregs and not typical southern mill workers. But the life and struggles of Ella May are identical of thousands of mill "hands."



Ella May was one of a large family of old American mountain farmers. Each year they struggled with a stony soil to raise a crop. They had no bosses, no stretch-out system, and no discharges. At an early age Elly (as she was known to her friends) married a mountaineer named Wiggins.

After their third child was born, an agent from a mill called upon them and induced them through his tale of good wages, short working hours, a steady job and a good home, to give up everything they had and move to the mill village.

In the mill villages they found the "good" wages to be on an average of \$11 a week, a 60 hour week, a company store which charged high prices for food, clothes and everything, the wages in the form of checks made out to the company store, a house without any conveniences. They found the work very tiresome after the open fields. They must stand abuse from the bosses.

Wiggins completely broke down under the strain of the mill workers' life with its oppression, miserable conditions, and hard work. The burden of supporting the family fell to Elly.

From the time she was married until the

mill bosses shot her dead, at the age of 29, she had nine children. Capitalism in the south in its neglect of the poor mountain farmer, and the mill bosses in the greed for great numbers to exploit, have kept these people entirely ignorant of birth control and the average family has eight to ten children.

Like the other women who work in the mill, Elly had to work until almost the last minute before her baby was born, and had to resume work almost immediately afterwards. She could not afford to buy milk for her babies, or a doctor when they were sick. "They just died" is her expression for four of them, "I reckon because I could not do for them." On \$9 a week there was rent to pay, wood to buy, food, clothes, insurance, sometimes a doctor and medicine. But it just could not be done.

When the National Textile Workers Union came down south Ella May was one of the first to join. When the strike broke out in Bessemer City she was one of the hardest workers. She was an active picket, was active on the relief com-

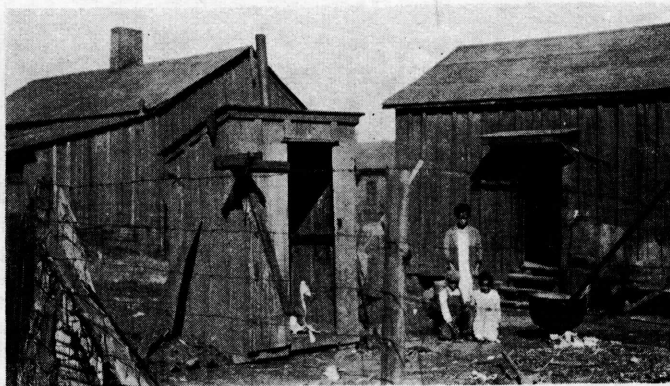


Photo: Esther Lowell

Hovels of workers in Winston-Salem, N. C.

mittee, and proved to be a very capable speaker. She was also organizer of the I.L.D. branch in Bessemer City. What she liked best was to compose "union pieces" to old southern melodies. In these pieces she told of the life of the southern mill worker, the need for organization, the struggles of the workers, the strikes.

She is a working class martyr whose revolutionary spirit guides the struggle upward, in the workers' determination for a better life.

The bosses, not satisfied with the blood of Ella May, are today trying through the government machinery and courts which they own, to murder—through death in the electric chair—M. H. Powers, Joe



Photo: Ewing Galloway

A Southern mountaineer and farmer forced to find work in the mills in the cities

Carr, Mary Dalton, Ann Burlack, Herbert Newton and Henry Storey.

Mill bosses of the south—capitalism—the blood of Ella May is still fresh on your hands—the working class through its mass pressure shall not allow you to take any more fighters from our ranks.

THE NEW SOCIAL ORDER GROWS

By MOISSAYE OLGIN

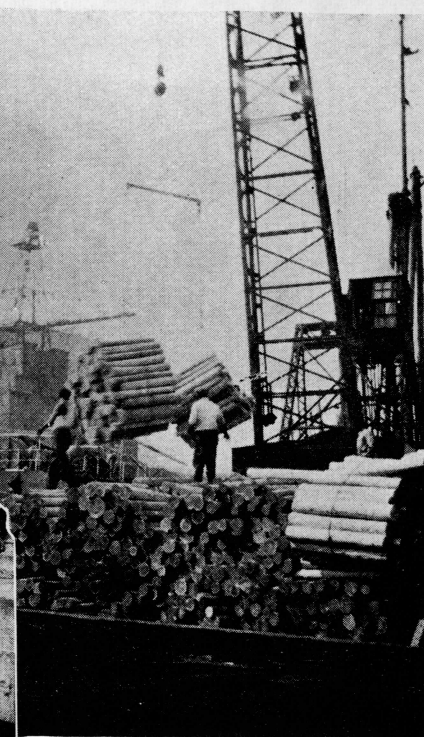
much coal and pig iron, petroleum, cotton goods and even lumber the whole Russian lands is to produce, and not even in a year but in a period of five years. To have to carry upon their shoulders a burden the enlightened captains of finance and industry in the great advanced countries are not always equal to. To strain their brains, which are only poor workingmen's brains over such topics as industrialization, collectivization, dekulakization, state budget, exports and imports, banking system, transport system, waterway system—can one think of an ordeal more corroding, of a burden more crushing, of slavery worse confounded! Compared with those Russians who resemble beasts of burden in harness, we, here in the land of the free and the brave, are blessed with untram-

Think of the torture of aged toilers made to go to school instead of spending their declining years in meditation and prayer.

But even this is not saying all. The unmentionable Communists won't leave anybody in peace. Not content with Soviets to take every spare moment of a peasant's life, not content with collective farms where a peasant ceases to be his own master and becomes only a cog in a

be spending in 3 years from now for educational purposes 15.82 roubles per head of population as compared with 3.36 roubles in 1913. Think of publishing even today 22 million newspaper copies

A group of Soviet workers.



Unloading Soviet pulpwood in New York harbor—U. S. capitalists fear the success of the 5 year plan and want to ban these imports as a first step towards an embargo against Soviet trade.

New club house of the Municipal Workers Union recently opened in Moscow.



big wheel; not content with ushering in such tasks and objectives which make the peasants' heads reel, they have introduced a thing known as the workers

Soviet lumberjacks at leisure—these workers have a 7-hour day and are protected by insurance against unemployment, illness, old age

and peasants' correspondence. They actually make millions of workers and peasants take pencil in hand and report to their numerous papers about alleged shortcomings and abuses. Imagine the toiler coming home after a blistering day in the fields and being forced to sit down and recount abuses instead of playing the Russian balalaika. But even this is not sufficient. They have invented a system known as "self criticism" which they say is conducive to "socialist competition" which in turn is a good means of building up the "piatyletka" (the five year plan) which, again, is a big step forward on the way to socialization and nationalization which . . . enough to make you gasp! And the Russian workers must know all this by heart. Can there be slavery more poisonous albeit refined?

Friends and fellow workers! The most cruel facts of oppression are still to be related. Think of those fellows planning to

daily, more than in the U. S. A. Think of whipping up the book publishing business so as to have in 1932-33 an output of 690 million copies (in the U.S.A. the output for 1927 was 227 million copies). Think of a billion copies of magazines to be published in 1932-33. Poor Russians! What a mental agony, what martyrdom, what pains! They, the dear, lovely, vodka drinking and samovar draining simpletons, have to read scores of millions of copies of the "ABC of Communism" or "Problems of Leninism" of Lenin's works themselves. They are even compelled to buy them for their hard earned pennies. Imagine Lenin being a best seller for these many years. Imagine radio talks chuck full of economics. Imagine a Red Army with libraries containing 9,500,000 copies of books. Imagine clubs and clubs and clubs loading the plain man with book wisdom to burst. Imagine the Reds driving their exhausted slaves to sanitariums converted from palaces and compelling them to undergo treatment and get well for the sake of further labor—and all with nobody to worry about things but the same workers and peasants. Can you think of slavery more cruel, more destructive, more menacing to the entire fabric of civilization?

Below: Children in a summer camp near Moscow learn about farming.



Delegates to the Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union—In the center are Blucher, general in the Red Army, Kaganovitch and Stalin.

Comrade Olgin, editor of the Freiheit, Jewish Communist Daily, in a satirical vein, answers the Fish committee, Woll, and the U. S. officials who spread lies about "convict" labor in the Soviet Union to force an embargo on Soviet imports and to strike a blow at the advancing Socialist economy.

anything like it in the whole world? Where our fellow countrymen are free to go home after eight, ten or twelve hours of labor, the Russian workers, have only seven hours to their credit, only to begin the heartrending ordeal. They cannot go home to join their eager families. Indeed the families themselves are forced into the same yoke. They are made to spend hours and hours in committees. They must make momentous decisions, shop committees, housing committees, cooperators' committees, sanitary committees, school committees. Who has ever heard of such a

FELLOW workers, let us offer thanks for having been spared the horrible fate of our brothers and sisters of Russia. Verily, the accursed Bolsheviks have burdened the Russian workers with a load beyond endurance and have turned their days and nights into a nightmare of serfdom. Just imagine the unspeakable horror. They have done away with bosses. They do not even know of a chairman of the Board of Directors. They have saddled the poor Russian workers with managing all those shops, mines and forests. Has there been



Members of the Soviet collective farms take tractors for a drive.

meled freedom. When I leave the factory gate I am through. I do not have a care in the world. If I am unemployed, so much the better I have the

whole day to do as I please. If I am a union member, let the officers worry, I am free.

Fellow workers, the root cause of the abject enslavement of the Russian workers are the Bolsheviks otherwise known as Communists or Reds. They have taken old God-fearing peasant men and women and forced them to learn how to read and write. They have thus liquidated the "illiteracy" (illiteracy) of 8 million of good old unspoiled Russians and are planning to liquidate 18-19 million more.

piling up of institutions in a free and civilized country? And this is not enumerating even the whole machinery of one single plant!

Why, those wretches are actually obliged to think and plan for a whole vast country. Poor, abused and misguided Russians. To have to figure out how



DEFEAT IMPERIALISM IN CHINA!

By R. DOONPING

Soldiers of British imperialist army shoot Chinese workers on streets of Shanghai
 Below: Flat-bottom American gunboats, especially built for use in shallow Yangtze river—44 of these as well as British, Japanese, French and Italian warships and military forces are concentrated at Hankow to crush the Chinese Revolution.



Soldiers of Nationalist army supported by imperialist powers and supplied with war equipment and ammunition to take China for the imperialists.

EVER since the Russian Revolution and the establishment of Soviet Power in Russia, the history of the world has been a history of the class struggle between the Soviet power, the revolutionary forces of the workers and oppressed peoples on the one hand, and imperialism, the reactionary forces of the capitalists and landlords, on the other hand.

In the world wide battle front of this struggle, the Chinese Revolution is of colossal significance and is assuming greater and greater importance as the struggle for Soviet power, the political power of the workers and peasants, progresses with astonishing rapidity and great success.

The slogan of Soviets was raised in China in December, 1927, during the Canton uprising when the proletariat of Canton raised the red flag, seized political power and established a Soviet Government for the first time in the history of the Far East. The government lasted only three days before it was drowned in blood by the Kuomintang militarists with the active

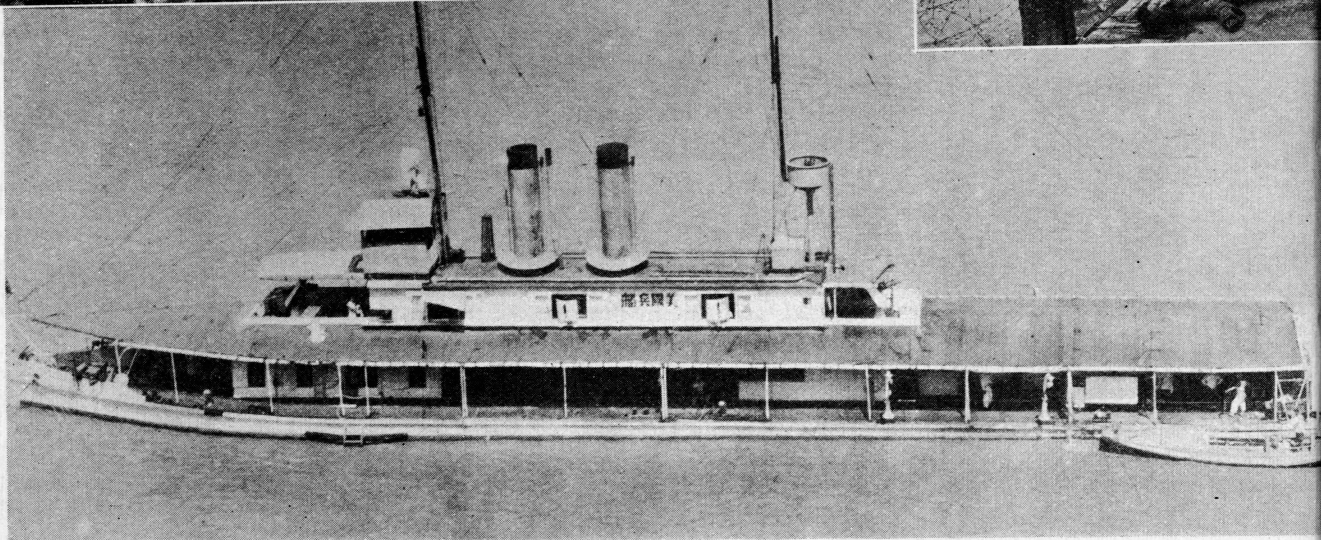
assistance of imperialist warships anchored near Canton, but the slogan of Soviets remained as the rallying watchword of millions of fighting workers and peasants in China.

The Kuomintang at Nanking, under the leadership of Chiang Kai-shek, and backed by American imperialism, temporarily succeeded in bringing about a set back in the revolution by the most brutal terrorist methods, but it was soon consumed by the hell fire of its own contradictions. The so-called "unification of China" by Chiang Kai-shek turned out to be a farce, and successive militarist wars between the different factions of the Kuomintang signified the complete inability of the Chinese bourgeoisie to stabilize China and the final disintegration of the Kuomintang.

With the forces of reaction largely broken down by the sheer weight of its inherent antagonisms, the struggle of the

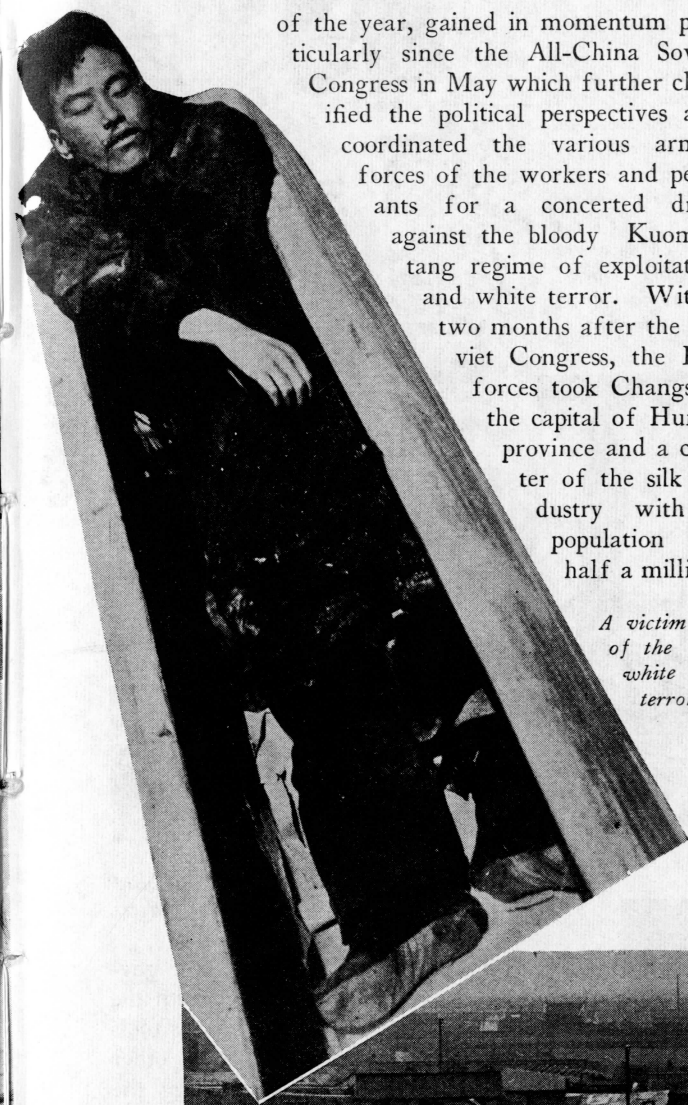
workers and peasants developed with comparatively little resistance. Now, while the struggles of the workers in the big cities are assuming an increasingly offensive character, the agrarian revolution has reached surprisingly large proportions. Soviet governments are organized in a great many localities and, according to a careful estimate made recently by the Daily Worker (New York), the total area controlled by the various local governments amounts to about 171,000 square miles, which is four times the size of the state of New York. Approximately 60,000,000 people are living under Soviet Rule in China. Thus, Soviet power is no longer confined within the boundaries of the Soviet Union. It has already been extended to South China.

The spread of the Soviet movement in China, which had already become a major power in Chinese politics at the beginning



of the year, gained in momentum particularly since the All-China Soviet Congress in May which further clarified the political perspectives and coordinated the various armed forces of the workers and peasants for a concerted drive against the bloody Kuomintang regime of exploitation and white terror. Within two months after the Soviet Congress, the Red forces took Changsha, the capital of Hunan province and a center of the silk industry with a population of half a million.

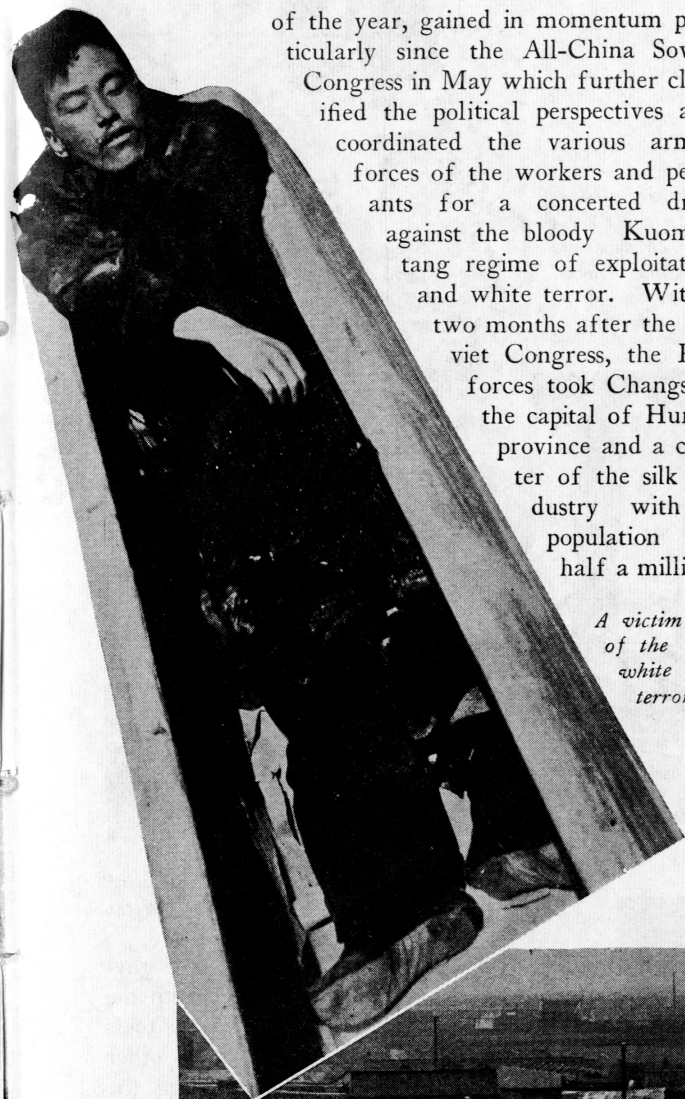
A victim of the white terror



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Below: Flat-bottom American gunboats, especially built for use in shallow Yangtze river—44 of these as well as British, Japanese, French and Italian warships and military forces are concentrated at Hankow to crush the Chinese Revolution.



A victim of the white terror

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A Soviet government for all the Soviet Areas was reported to have been formed, and Li Li-San, a veteran leader in the revolutionary trade union movement and the Chinese Communist Party, was reported to have been elected president of the new government.

Changsha was subsequently retaken by the Kuomintang forces under the cover of bombardment of British and American gunboats, but this temporary loss has not affected to any significant extent the forward offensive march of the revolution.

The spread of Communist influence in north China, and the onslaught of red forces from all directions on Hankow, the second largest industrial city in China and once the seat of a revolutionary government in 1927, and the successive mutiny of troops garrisoning the city, all indicates the forward sweep of the Red forces.

The fall of Changsha and the precarious situation of Hankow aroused great alarm in the camp of the imperialists who immediately embarked upon a plan of extensive military intervention in China. Of course, imperialist intervention in China is an everyday affair. The imperialists have always been interfering in the internal affairs of China. But this intervention under "normal" conditions is immediately transformed into a "state of war," as soon



Young China fights for a Soviet Government

as an emergency occurs. This is exactly what is happening in China now.

Imperialism is doomed to fail if class-conscious workers throughout the world will intensify their struggles against their exploiters, and launch a world-wide drive against imperialist intervention and for the defense of the Chinese Soviet Revolution!

A May Day demonstration in Shanghai a few years ago. In the face of counter-revolutionary terror the militant Chinese workers held a successful May Day demonstration this year



workers and peasants developed with comparatively little resistance. Now, while the struggles of the workers in the big cities are assuming an increasingly offensive character, the agrarian revolution has reached surprisingly large proportions. Soviet governments are organized in a great many localities and, according to a careful estimate made recently by the Daily Worker (New York), the total area controlled by the various local governments amounts to about 171,000 square miles, which is four times the size of the state of New York. Approximately 60,000,000 people are living under Soviet Rule in China. Thus, Soviet power is no longer confined within the boundaries of the Soviet Union. It has already been extended to South China.

The spread of the Soviet movement in China, which had already become a major power in Chinese politics at the beginning

In Milwaukee's Socialist Jails

By JULIA SCHULNER

THE workers of Milwaukee have been treated to a taste of terror by a "Socialist" government, in the best Zoergiebel manner. In their role of agents of capitalism among the workers, these social fascists have carried on a reign of terror against the workers which compares favorably to the murderous brutality of the Tammany police and the vicious thugs of the open shop fruit growers in the Imperial Valley.

In the House of Correction in Milwaukee, eight workers are serving sentences of from three months to one year: Fred Bassett, 1 year; Max Kagan, 6 months; Leo Fisher, 6 months; John Perlich, 6 months; John Hilty, Wm. Felix, Oscar Bobby, Joe Carl, and Sonia Mason, 3 months. These workers received jail sentences because they organized and led 25,000 workers on March 6 in a big unemployment demonstration. The demonstration was brutally attacked by the police, who arrested 67 workers.

At the trial, thirty-seven workers received sentences ranging from one to six months. The International Labor Defense demanded a jury trial. In the meantime the capitalist press of Milwaukee, including the yellow "socialist" Milwaukee Leader, began to whoop up a war spirit against the Communists in an endeavor to create the proper atmosphere for railroading these workers. They published confessions by stool-pigeons to the effect that the Communist Party was receiving \$12,000,000 from the Soviet Union for propaganda in the United States. They played up various details of the demonstration in such a manner as to create the impression that the Communists went around wildly attacking everybody, and finally attacked the police, whose only concern was to promote peace and prevent disturbances. The press had the workers convicted and sentenced before the appeal was heard.

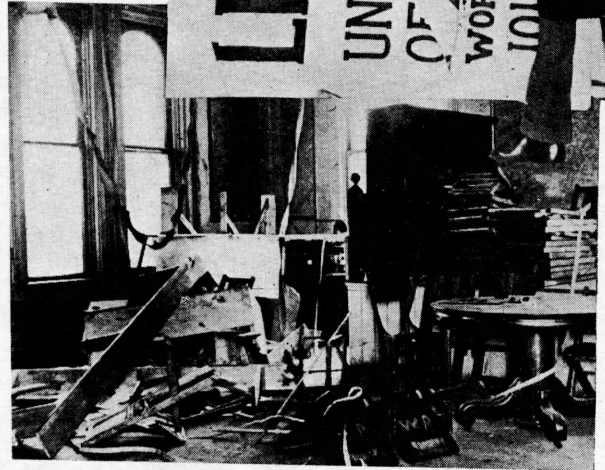
After considerable delay, the second trial finally opened May 5th in this atmosphere. The prosecution was well prepared. Seventy-two police officers, including the chief of police, detectives and stool pigeons of the police, were called by the state.

All gave the same lying testimony. The prosecuting attorneys foamed at the mouth in a desperate attempt to show the menace of Communism to the peaceful community of Milwaukee, which had no "riots" for the last 30 years before the Communists came. "The police depart-

ment, the city government, our national institutions, the whole system is on trial," was the plea of the social fascist henchmen and an acquittal of the Communists would mean a condemnation of the police department and of "our" system of government in favor of anarchy and disorder. They appealed strongly to patriotism, religion, progressivism, democracy and even socialism, in order to send "this motley crowd, these maggots, these worse than animals" — these unemployed workers who don't believe in god, to jail, and "give them the maximum sentence." "Think," said the district attorney, "What will become of us if this motley crowd ever gets into power. They'll turn the government upside down and they'll have no mercy on us."

For three days, all the skill of the district attorney and his assistant was used to create an atmosphere of hatred against

Plain clothes man tears down slogan and posters in Communist Party headquarters in Milwaukee before unemployment demonstration



After the police of the Milwaukee "socialist" government had raided Communist headquarters.



Milwaukee militants arrested prior to the May Day demonstrations.

the defendants. When the defendants took the stand, they effectively demolished the lying testimony of the police and stool-pigeons and completely upset the whole plan of the district attorney. These accused workers took an aggressive stand

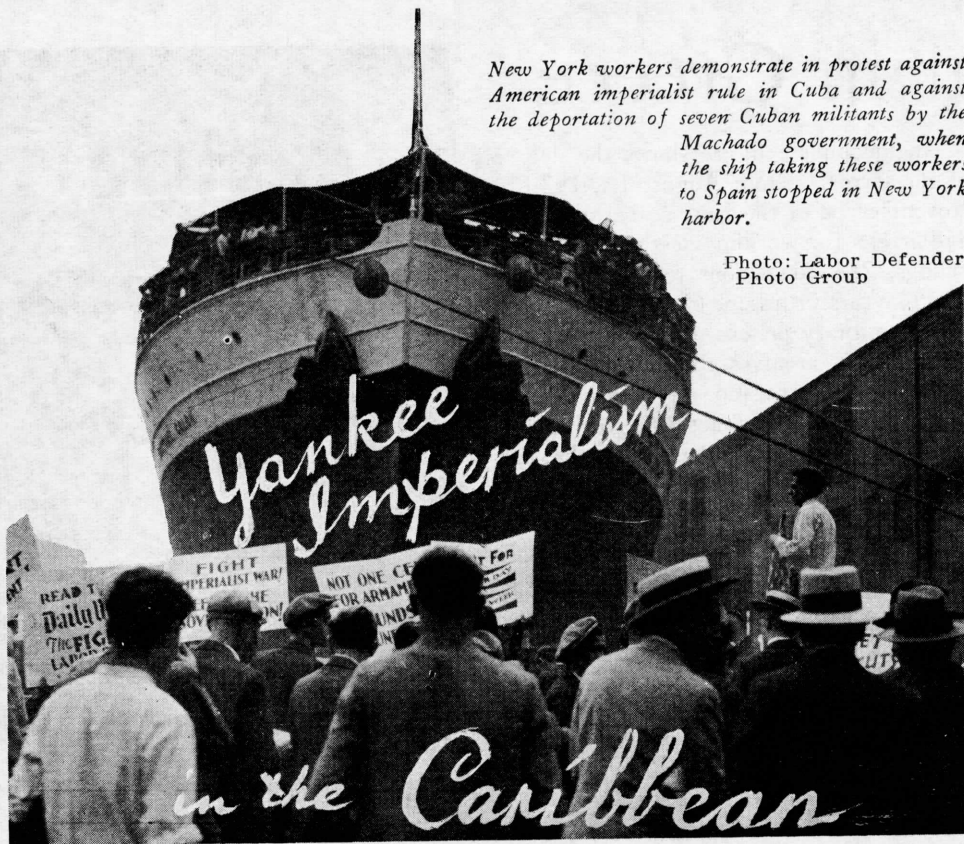
and exposed the so-called progressive government of Milwaukee, together with the socialists, the courts and the police, as tools of International Harvester and other trusts, in suppressing and persecuting the workers. The class issues in the case were brought out forcefully. The brutal attack of the police on the unemployed workers was shown up as a prearranged plan of the bosses to suppress the workers and their leader—the Communist Party.

The International Labor Defense is carrying on an intensive campaign for the unconditional release of the 9 workers now serving in Milwaukee County's bastille. Signatures are pouring in daily, demanding their release. The fight for the release of these workers will be carried on during the coming election campaign. Fred Bassett, who is now serving one year—the maximum penalty for the right of workers to self-defense—is the candidate for Governor for the Communist Party. He will expose the threatening role of the Social Fascists against the working class, even though he is behind prison bars.

Workers everywhere must rally to the campaign of the I.L.D. for the release of our March 6th fighters and a storm of protest must be raised demanding their freedom.

New York workers demonstrate in protest against American imperialist rule in Cuba and against the deportation of seven Cuban militants by the Machado government, when the ship taking these workers to Spain stopped in New York harbor.

Photo: Labor Defender Photo Group



By CHARLES ALEXANDER

AMONG the colonies of American imperialism in the Caribbean where the workers are subjected to the most ruthless terror and oppression, Cuba looms most outstanding. With an industry mainly sugar producing, with thousands of workers, not only native Cubans, but a large percentage composed of Negro workers from the West Indian Islands, the working class of Cuba is met with savage repression and outright murder by Machado and his henchmen, servile agents of American imperialism, when they show their determination to organize, unite and fight for improved conditions.

From nearly all the West Indian Islands, Negro workers emigrate to Cuba. The majority of them come from Jamaica, from which island many of them fled with the hope of escaping the cruel oppression of British imperialism. How often their hopes are dashed to pieces when they realize that American imperialism is equally oppressive and tyrannical as British.

The great bulk of Negro workers of Cuba is employed on the sugar plantations. There, under the broiling sun, at times many of them dropping from sheer exhaustion, they toil from sunrise to sundown at wages of forty cents for every one hundred pounds of cane cut. Workers live in miserable hovels on these plantations. Many are the victims who have fallen prey to disease while making profits for the imperialist oppressors, and their bloody agents of the Machado regime.

Lured by the lying propaganda of the plantation owners of Cuba, Negro workers come from Barbadoes, St. Vincent, Trinidad, St. Lucia, Grenada, and other West Indian Islands. Cuba is not the only colony of American imperialism in the Caribbean where the Negro workers find a life of hell. In Panama the oppression and persecution is intense; in Colombia, under the domination of the United Fruit Company, they live a life of misery



Peasants on the banana plantations in Jamaica work ten hours a day and receive wages of 50 cents a day.

and torture; while in Honduras, Guatemala, and San Salvador, a vicious situation exists. In Haiti, where the American imperialists have replaced Borno with an equally servile tool, Eugene Roy, the bloody massacres of hundreds of Haitian workers and peasants last December are still fresh in the minds of the workers. In Venezuela, under the ruthless oppression of the Gomez regime for the past twenty years, and in the islands under British rule, a savage reign of terror exists. The island of Trinidad where the Negro workers are brutally exploited was declared under martial law in 1914 during a strike of longshoremen and remained so for a considerable period.

Against this cruel oppression of imperialism in the Caribbean, the Negro workers must join in solidarity with the white workers and carry on a united struggle. The determination of the workers to organize is met with vicious repression from the imperialists and many revolutionary trade union leaders have been murdered by the oppressors. In 1925, Henry Varona, outstanding revolutionary trade union leader, was murdered by the Machado government. In 1929, Julio Antonio Mella met the same fate in Mexico at the hands of the same butchers. Sandalio Junco, one of the ablest Negro trade union leaders, was deported to Mexico by the Machado government, while hundreds of other workers have been arrested, thrown into jails, many of them suddenly disappearing—murdered. Seven workers have just been deported to Spain for their militant activities.

Defending the workers in their struggles, fighting against all persecution and terror, and for the unity of Negro and white workers in the Caribbean, the Caribbean Secretariat, fully assisted by the International Labor Defense, stands foremost. The International Labor Defense calls upon the workers of the United States to support the workers in the Caribbean in their struggles against imperialist terror and persecution.

CENTRALIA FIGHTER DIES

James McInerney who was one of the eight workers railroaded to prison for 10-25 years by the open shop lumber barons in 1919 died in Walla Walla prison from tuberculosis on August 16, 1930 after having served 11 years. Six of the workers are still in jail, Loren Roberts having recently been freed. Workers everywhere must rally to a vigorous campaign for their release.



Britain's Front in Greece

By H. PHILLIPS

THE victims of terror are growing day by day by hundreds of the best proletarian fighters, particularly in Greece. The Venizelos government, this tool of British imperialism is using the most terrific methods of torture against the leaders of the workers. Exiles and others forms of banishment are the order of the day. Suppression of mass organizations of the Greek workers are going on daily.

Just a few months ago the government ordered the dissolution of the "Unitary Confederation of Labor" and we are witnessing again a new order to disband the Greek Workers' Aid Section of the International Labor Defense on the ground that it has given aid to the striking students of Athens University. Under the famous exceptional law "for the preservation of the state" the entire working class of Greece is persecuted and its leaders are being sent to various civil and military prisons. Over two thousand are now in jail and in exile.

The prisoners are subjected to the most horrible and indescribable treatment unheard of in modern times. Even the bloody rule of the crowned hyena of Serbia or the blood-thirsty Tsangoff of Bulgaria cannot be compared. The other day, two women comrades, Kalliopi Svetzou and Avra Vlasi fell in the hands of the police and were forced to take off their clothes and parade before the police giving an illustration to what extent the white terror has developed in this small colony of British imperialism.

An incomplete figure shows the degree of the terror. From August 1st, 1930 to November 1st of the same year, there were 858 arrests for working class activities, 366 jailings, 244 convictions to the total sum of 117 years in prison, 68 exiles, 88 were sent to military prisons, 41 raids and confiscations of archives of labor organizations and 14 confiscations of working class paper. The wave of actual terrorism has developed even more sharply in the last five months and we are unable to obtain correct data of the victims.

The disintegration of the bourgeois state in Greece is manifesting itself in the steady awakening of the masses and the refusal of the army and navy to attack the workers. Hundreds of sailors and soldiers are lying in military prisons for their solidarity with the striking tobacco workers in Kavalla and Drama. Lately, a widespread refusal of the peasants to pay the heavy taxes to the government has resulted in many instances in an armed resistance of the peasants against the government as was the case with the peasants of the island Crete and in Kilkis, Macedonia and in other places. Government employes in Athens and Piraeus are on the verge of a strike to demand an increase in wages.

The government in its effort to check this wave of revolt is resorting to more drastic measures, jailing and persecuting the leaders of these movements. One of the recent methods of torture adopted is the so-called "phalanx." When a leader of the workers is arrested they tie his feet with the belt of a rifle and turn the rifle




Greek class war prisoners at Athens fraternize with soldiers.

around like a tourniquet until the pressure forces the belt in to the flesh while at the same time they whip him up under the instep until the prisoner becomes unconscious.

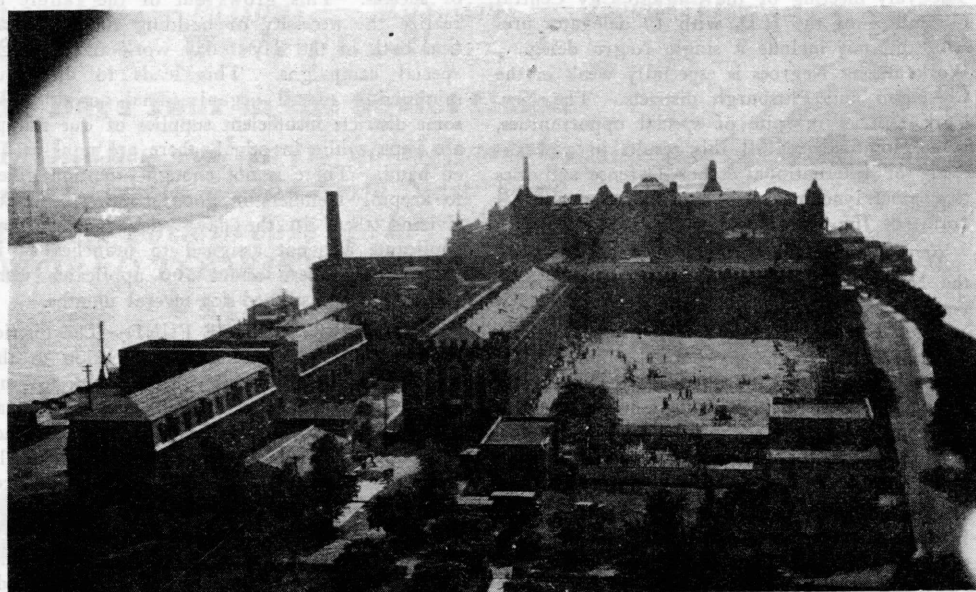
What is clear to us is the fact that our comrades in Greece, the best of them, the most devoted to the cause, the most militant are lying in the various prisons with their days growing shorter unable to stand the tyranny of the Venizelos government. Knowing these facts it is our duty to rally to the aid of our comrades in Greece INTERNATIONALLY and to help them defeat the murderous policy of the Greek



Communists demonstrate in Athens against the signing of a treaty with Turkey which deprived thousands of Greek refugees of their possessions. The police broke up the demonstration and arrested a number of workers.



Voices from Prison



"Helfare" Island, where Robert Minor, jobless leader, was confined in the hospital and later isolated in another prison as a retaliation against the I.L.D. expose

A PRISONER EXPOSES "HELFARE" ISLAND

Capitalist prisons are hell-holes and dungeons at best, but so great is the intimidation of prisoners and so silent is the capitalist press that only when a holocaust like the Columbus fire or when a turmoil like the recent prison rebellions occurs, does any news leak out. Harry Rupprecht, a discharged prisoner from Welfare Island, the capitalist dungeon of New York City, recently told some of the facts about prison conditions which are usually carefully concealed. In an affidavit presented to the International Labor Defense, Rupprecht revealed that prisoners in this hell hole get no bedding and no soap to which they are entitled, but which is denied them by the graft ridden officials. Prisoners use the same slop pail which they must dump every morning, and a common rusted drinking cup. Disinfectant in the bunks is used only once every two weeks making the stench in the bunks unbearable. No clean underwear is provided and a prisoner must buy and pay for the necessities such as soap.

On the other hand Tammany politicians serving time for graft are given "silk glove" treatment, allowed to have the best of meals, not forced to wear prison clothes and are waited on by other convicts, all of which is heavily paid for and accepted by the corrupt jail administrators and the Tammany influence behind them. Narcotics are peddled for which rich graft goes into the pockets of the politician jailers.

Rupprecht, who served a term for bigamy, is not a militant worker, but believes that the vicious conditions of the prisoners must be brought to light. The International Labor Defense welcomes any statements of prisoners which will expose the vicious corruption, graft and miserable conditions confronting the worker prisoners.

Comrades:

Greetings from the San Quentin four! We are each in good health, high spirits and possessed of a determination to make the most of our enforced "vacation." We are anxious to devote every moment to study, and are outlining a systematic course of reading. It is obvious that books are necessary for this program. Books can be received only when sent direct from the publishers.

I also request you to get in touch with the Workers School and have them send outlines for study. Spread the word that letters are very welcome.

Comradely yours,
L. Emery,

Just a few lines to let you know that I just received the checks. Thank you for same. It is very hard to be old and have no money. From Warren's mother.

Mrs. Anna Billings.

Dear Comrades:

Received check of \$5 and the letter. The value of news of the class struggle to us here can hardly be appreciated. We have had numerous visitors and more letters than I can hope to answer. Even though it were otherwise, we know we are not forgotten. We know that the working class will be victorious.

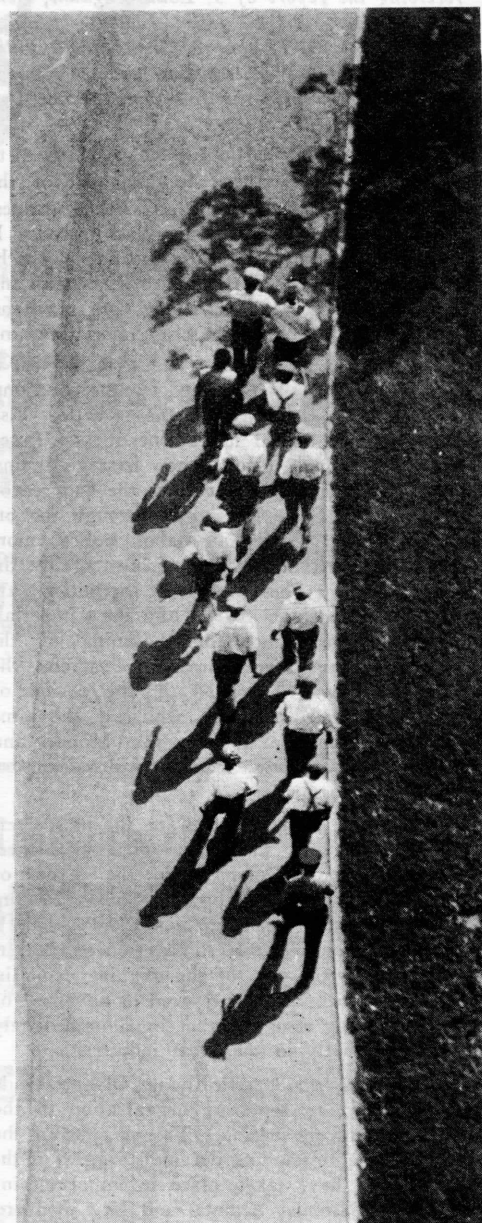
With comradely greetings,

Oscar Erickson.

Comrades:

Received last night the \$5 relief for class war prisoners for which we wish to thank those who make these contributions possible.

Yours for ours,
O. C. Bland, Bert Bland



Negro prisoners on Welfare Island prison are segregated from whites when they take exercise.

Comrades:

Received your check the other day and appreciate it very much. Thanks to the International Labor Defense, the only organization to fight the capitalist courts and their dirty frame-ups.

I am only doing three months but I did not do anything to get that. Just because 75 liars say the same thing, we are jailed. But that will not stop the workers. As long as the class conscious workers continue to realize the oppression of the bosses and are willing to fight against it, there will be jailings but we will be drawing nearer to that final clash that will bring a higher standard of living and a workers' government. Revolutionary greetings from the comrades of the Milwaukee House of Correction.

William Felix.

Carry Out the Pittsburgh Resolution! Build the International Labor Defense!

The National Executive Committee, after receiving the report of J. Louis Engdahl, General Secretary, on his tour (July 27—August 5) including the Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, and Minneapolis Districts adopted the following declaration:

THE growing unemployment continues to arouse and sharpen the discontent of the impoverished masses. The resulting protest meets more and more ruling class terror. It takes the form of attacks by the police, lynchings, injunctions, deportations, mob attacks and the creation of new extra-legal organizations, such as the American Fascist Association and Order of Black Shirts.

In this period of intensified war preparations, the malicious activities of the so-called Fish committee, an official instrument of the United States government, direct a new barrage against militant workers. It advocates the suppression of all working class activities through the organization of special anti-labor police, more stringent deportation and other laws against the foreign-born. These sinister activities are all an important part of the imperialist war plans. Since the beginning of the year there have been thousands of arrests, the taking of "war prisoners" in the period of developing war readiness, while at the same time the prisoners of the last war (Mooney and Billings, the Centralia victims) still remain behind prison bars.

This whole situation calls for the most energetic work on the part of our International Labor Defense on the basis of the resolutions adopted by our Fourth National Convention (Pittsburgh, Dec. 29-31, 1929). It is not sufficient merely to defend workers persecuted under the yoke of the reigning capitalist tyranny. We must be prepared in advance for the developing struggles that loom immediately ahead, especially in the great industries.

There has been practically no advance made in the effort to root our organization in the workshops of the nation. This in spite of the fact that the outstanding defense struggles of the past period have taken place in important industries, (Gastonia, Atlanta, and New Bedford cases, textiles; Accorsi and Ohio sedition cases, coal mining; Bethlehem sedition case, steel; Beal Sedition Case, Pontiac, Michigan, Flint strike case, automobile; Imperial Valley, California agrarian workers; Shifrin, Mineola, New York, and Doherty, Boston Cases, clothing industry; outstanding persecutions of unemployed workers New York and Milwaukee). Exactly in all of these industries, and in the industrial unions seeking to organize the workers in these industries, have the defense struggles been the weakest. This is the worst possible indictment of the wrong organizational basis of the ILD, that is still to be found in foreign-language branches that have not yet learned to function through the City Committees and through the various district organizations.

WORK AMONG NEGROES — This task develops slowly although some progress is being made. Functioning for work among Negroes are not functioning in most districts. This ac-

tivity gets little attention in the branches. The July meeting of the Chicago City Central Committee of the ILD, with 40 delegates present, did not include a single Negro delegate. Work among Negroes is especially weak in the Cleveland and Pittsburgh districts. The New York District in spite of special opportunities, is lagging badly. All this results in a weakening of International Labor Defense activities to combat lynching, race discrimination and all forms of Jim Crowism.

WORK AMONG THE YOUTH—Although the National Office has maintained a national youth organizer, giving direction to youth work in the districts, practically nothing is being done to enlist youth workers in our organization. This in spite of the fact that some of the major persecutions are of youth workers.

Failure to build the ILD in the workshops, failure to consolidate foreign-language branches in international branches, isolates the ILD from Negro and youth workers who cannot be drawn into branches where some foreign language they do not understand is used instead of the English language.

WORK AMONG FARMERS—In spite of the agrarian crisis little attention has been given to the work among the farmers. It is especially necessary that this work be developed in the South.

INTERNATIONALIZATION—There is a complete lack of an international outlook in practically every district, except where some foreign-language group becomes interested in conditions in its own foreign country. While foreign-language groups (Yugo-Slav, Polish, Roumanian, Finnish, Hungarian, Greek, etc., etc.) must be aroused to struggle against the fascist terror in the country of their origin, nevertheless, internationalization of the International Labor Defense means the rousing of the whole organization in support of the oppressed masses, especially in aid of the rising revolutionary struggles in the colonial and semi-colonial countries (Latin America, China, India, Indonesia, Korea, Indo-China) and the colonies of American imperialism, the Philippines, Cuba, Virgin Islands, Hawaiian Islands, Porto Rico). The fact that appeals for financial aid for these countries as a rule remain unanswered must be noted and severely criticized.

FOR A CENTRALIZED AND DISCIPLINED ILD—The decisions of the Pittsburgh Convention, giving greater powers to the districts in the effort to develop their initiative and better organizational functioning, has been wrongly interpreted in some sections. Instead of leading to democratic centralization, actually in some districts there has been a definite trend toward decentralization, development of "district autonomy" that ignores decisions from the center, fails to give the cooperation necessary for the proper functioning of the organization, and in some cases actually resists the plans and programs of work decided on nationally. This must be remedied.

INCREASE THE MEMBERSHIP—Persistent day-to-day work in building the membership is lacking. Even special campaigns, like the May 1st-June 28 Membership Drive, was

not carried through with any degree of energy or success. This grows out of the failure to realize the necessity of building the organization both in the day-to-day work and through special campaigns. This leads to disastrous minimizing of all organizational activities. In some districts insufficient supplies of due stamps are kept, while in others, there are none at all on hand. There is not enough attention given to keeping members in good standing, and activating them in the day-to-day work. New applicants are not assigned to branches as in New York where about 500 applicants were waiting to be assigned for several months.

PRISONERS' PLEDGE FUND—The district organizations give almost no attention to the building of the prisoners' pledge fund, leaving this activity almost entirely to the National Organization. The result is that most branches still fail to participate in this activity locally without knowledge of the National Office. Every district organization must canvas every branch in its territory and see that every branch provides for contributing monthly to the Fund for the Relief of Prisoners and their Dependents. This must be carried out within the next thirty days in cooperation with the National Office.

THE LABOR DEFENDER—The ILD, as an organization, is not yet fully mobilized in support of its central organ, the Labor Defender, which presents great possibilities as a propagandist and organizational medium. The whole membership must make itself responsible for spreading the Labor Defender through getting individual subscriptions, placing it on the newsstands and through the sale of bundle orders. Every branch, every city Central Committee, every District Organization must have a functioning Labor Defender agent or Labor Defender Committee.

The National Office must immediately begin to intensify its education and propaganda, as well as organization activities. More detailed attention should be given to the carrying through of campaigns and there must be more careful and persistent work in organizing defense plans in various cases in order to bring out the greatest possible initiative and cooperation of local and district organizations. The immediate tasks are the following:

First: The September-November Drive for Class War Prisoners' Defense and Liberation; fighting for the Atlanta, Unemployed Delegation, Gastonia, Imperial Valley and all other prisoners.

Second: Fullest cooperation with the Unemployed Demonstrations on September First.

Third: Intensive carrying through of the Ella May Memorial and Defense Week, September 14-22, with memorial meetings, Tag Days for collection of funds, house-to-house agitation and recruiting, campaign against lynching.

Fourth: Energetic participation in the United Front Election Campaign of the Communist Party. Election Day: Tuesday, November 4th.

Fifth: Campaign for the defense of the Soviet Union and against imperialist war in connection with the Thirteenth Anniversary Celebration of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, November 7, 1930.

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