

# LABOR DEFENDER

# AMNESTY



JANUARY  
1931

10¢



# A FEW OF THE 100 CLASS-WAR PRISONERS

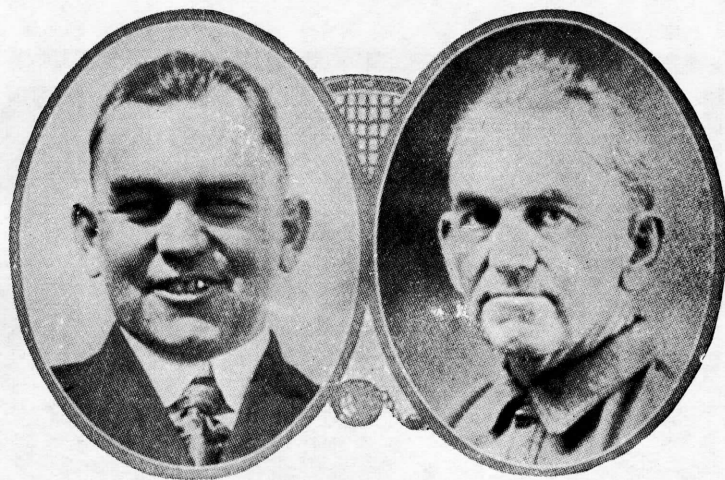


Harry Raymond, member of the March 6 Unemployed Delegation, now nearing the end of a ten months' prison term in Harts Island. Raymond, a seaman, is one of the best fighters in the Marine Workers Industrial Union.

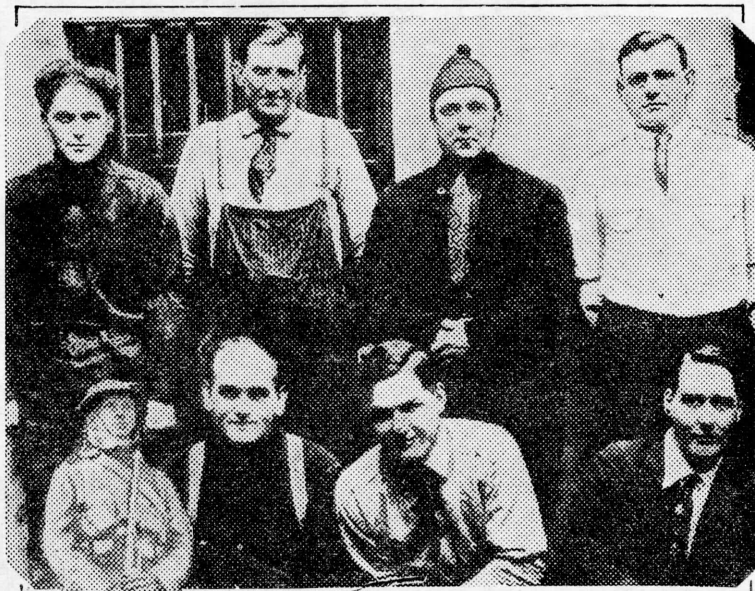


Bill Murdock, National Secretary of the National Textile Workers Union, behind the bars. Murdock is in jail in Danville, Virginia, for exposing the misleaders of the "United Textile Workers' Union."

**SUPPORT I. L. D. WINTER RELIEF CAMPAIGN**



Tom Mooney in 1916 and at the present time.



The Centralia prisoners (top) jailed since 1919 for defending themselves from American Legion thugs. James McInerney (bottom right) died of tuberculosis in prison recently. Monument was erected by local business "patriots" for their lackeys, the dead legionnaires.

Hanging in California (right). Mooney and Billings were saved from this fate by the demonstrations of world labor, but still rot in San Quentin and Folsom.





# Amnesty for All Class-War Prisoners!

*Fight for Repeal of all Anti-Labor Legislation; Amnesty: Unconditional Release of all Jailed Workers*

By SAM DARCY

THE reign of terror against the working class which had grown to such large proportions during the year 1930 is well known to the readers of the LABOR DEFENDER. Its extent was greater even than the Palmer raids of 1919-1920. No accurate statistics are available for that period but the closest estimates show that about 4,000 workers were brought to trial out of a much larger number of arrests. This past year the total number of trials exceeded 4,000 by election day.

The method of making the arrests is now different from that of 1919-20. At that time sensational raids were staged, dramatic "discoveries" of caches of literature, etc. Now the Department of Justice, the Department of (anti-) Labor and the various Police Departments visit workers' homes, their places of work, their club houses and arrest scores of workers, but one by one. Instead of a noisy "deportation ark" such as the Buford there are unadvertised deportation trains which slide silently into New York, San Francisco and other ports and distribute their victims onto practically every boat that leaves for foreign countries, there to be turned over to fascist hangmen and filthy prisons. Under the covering barrage of "Red Plots" and "dumping conspiracies" with which the Fish Committee fills the newspapers the deadly murderous hand of the capitalist class reaches out

In his message to the Fall 1930 session of Congress, President Hoover urged the intensification of this terror against the militant labor movement. Speaking of foreign-born militant workers as "alien criminals" he said "I urge the strengthening of our deportation laws so as to more fully rid ourselves of these criminal aliens."

Against this the National Committee of the International Labor Defense calls upon all militant labor and sympathizers to join with it in a general AMNESTY DRIVE (to unconditionally free all political prisoners), to constitute the opening of the counter-offensive against the bosses on the defense front. The Drive:

1—To last from January 1 to June 1.

2—To obtain 1,000,000 signatures on General Amnesty petitions to include (a) Repeal of all Criminal Syndicalist, Criminal Anarchy, Insurrection, and anti-alien

laws; (b) Demand unconditional amnesty by State and Federal governments.

3—The petitions to be backed by militant demonstrations beginning with the week of January 9 and ending on a day towards the end of May when the demonstrations will be timed to take place simultaneously with the presentation by mass committees of the petitions to State and Federal legislatures. All demonstrations to be set month by month by the I.L.D. National Committee.

Such a counter-offensive, if it obtains the proper mass support, would tremendously strengthen the fight against the anti-labor terror of the bosses. Every intelligent worker, fully realizing the importance of the drive will wholeheartedly throw

himself or herself into the work of making the drive a success. Those who want to help carry on the day to day work of the drive should immediately communicate with any office of the International Labor Defense throughout the country or write to the LABOR DEFENDER.

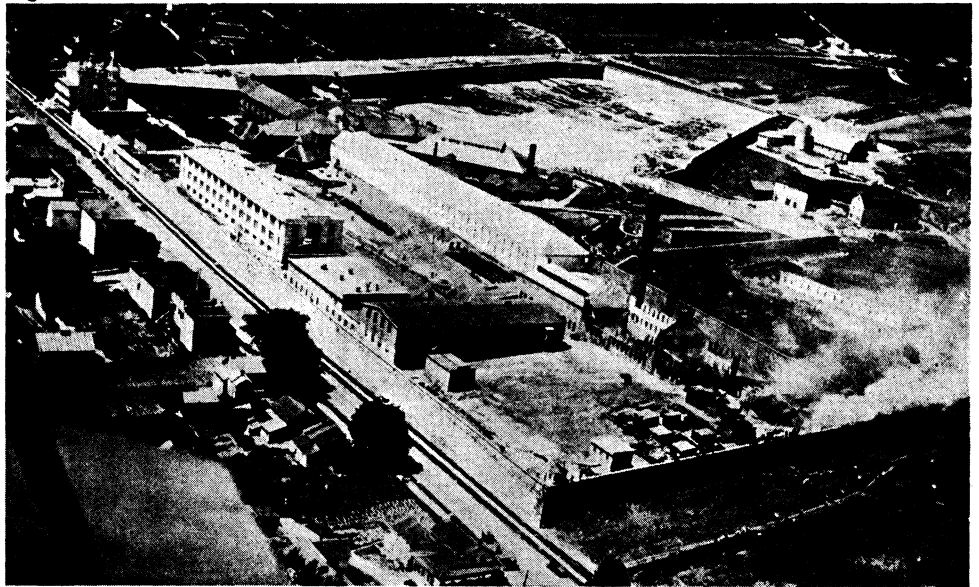
This drive for "Amnesty!" will be directed from the various headquarters of the International Labor Defense as follows:

Every worker on the fighting line!

Demand general and unconditional amnesty for all political prisoners!

Fight for the repeal of all anti-labor legislation!

A million signatures backed by the organized power of the masses!



*It is in prisons such as these that scores of class-war prisoners are confined.*

The Amnesty drive will be conducted from the national headquarters of the I.L.D., 80 E. 11th St., New York, and from the following district offices:

Buffalo, 36 W. Huron St., Room 5; New York district, 799 Broadway.

Newark, N. J., 93 Mercer St.

New Haven, Conn., 222 Lafayette St.

Boston, 113 Dudley St., Room 6.

Philadelphia, 39 North 10th St.; Wilkes-Barre, 109 S. Washington St.; Pittsburgh, 611 Penn Ave., Room 517.

Cleveland, 1426 W. 3rd St.; Struthers, O., 44 Park St.; Canton, 409 - 15th St.,

N. E.; Youngstown, 1929 Hillman St.; Cincinnati, 230 W. 8th St.; Wheeling, W. Va., 65 - 16th St.

Chicago, 23 So. Lincoln St.; Grand Rapids, 756 So. Division St.; Detroit, 1343 E. Ferry Ave.; Milwaukee, 302 W. Water St.; Kansas City, Mo., 104 E. 8th St.; St. Louis, Mo., 1243 N. Garrison Ave.

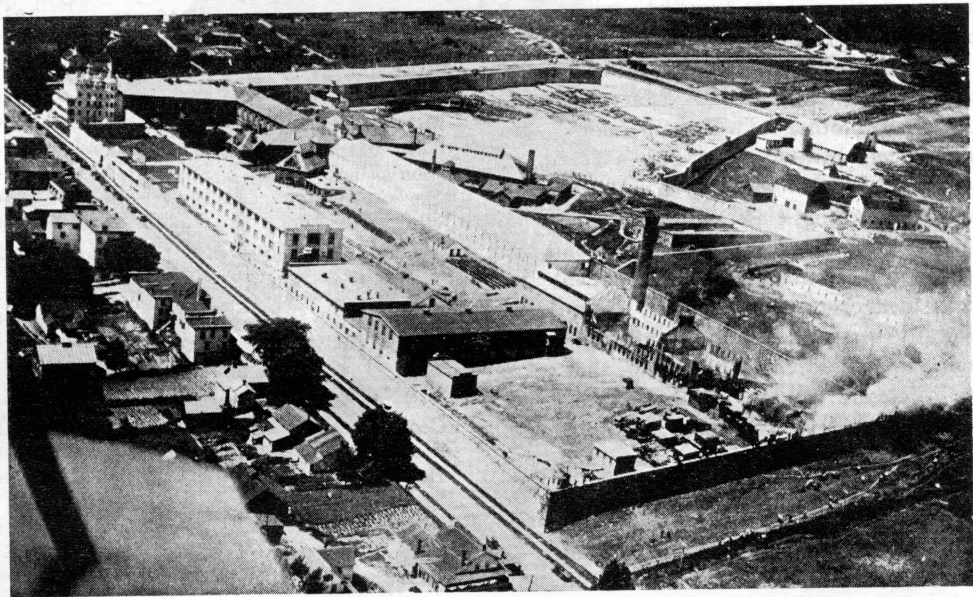
Minneapolis, 244 Third Ave., South; Denver, 4205 W. 23rd St.

Los Angeles, 120 Winston St.; San Francisco, 966 Market St.

Charlotte, N. C., 1002 Belmont Ave.; New Orleans, 308 Chartres St.

Seattle, 110 Cherry Street.





*It is in prisons such as these that scores of class-war prisoners are confined.*



# The Prisoners' Families are Hungry!

**"First Duty of I.L.D. is Financial Aid to Class-war Victims and Dependents," declares World Red Aid**

THE first duty of the International Labor Defense, as clearly set forth in a communication just received from the world organization (International Red Aid) is as follows

*"The financial aid to the class war victims and their dependents is the first duty of all Red Aid Sections and must receive even more attention than the legal defense cases themselves."*

Especially during this season of the year there should be a quick awakening of an ever-broadening section of the working class to the fact that nearly 100 workers are buried in the prison tombs of dollar oppression, serving more than six months and up to as high as 42 year sentences and life imprisonment itself. Their names are to be found on this page. Many of these prisoners have left families, wives and children, on the outside.

Last month's LABOR DEFENDER contained the letter from Mrs. Mary Mooney, the aged mother of Tom Mooney who has waited 14 years for Tom's freedom, so long delayed through the failure of massed working class protest to force his release from San Quentin's dungeons.

Solitary confinement, withdrawal of even meager prison privileges, heavy tasks brutally imposed, resulting in sickness — sometimes the dread tuberculosis, that takes its wholesale toll of victims in every jail and penitentiary death itself, as in the case of James McInerney, the Centralia victim who died this year in the Washington state prison at Walla Walla, this is the lot of the class war prisoners.

With the bread winner of the family in prison, hunger, evictions, debts quickly come to torment the wife and the children on the outside—unless the International Labor Defense is able to carry through this major task successfully.

Every worker and sympathizer must be mobilized at this season of the year to provide immediate and adequate relief.

Forward with the Prisoners' Winter Relief Campaign in unity with the demand for "Amnesty!"—for the release of all imprisoned fighters. Build the Prisoners' Pledge Fund of the International Labor Defense! Read the list of Class War Prisoners published on this page and realize the duty of every worker to his class brother behind bars! Send in your contribution immediately to the Winter Relief Fund, International Labor Defense, 80 East Eleventh Street, New York City. **ACT AT ONCE! THIS IS YOUR FIRST DUTY!**

## Behind the Bars

(Prisoners, year convicted and length of term)

### SAN QUENTIN, CAL.

J. B. McNamara	Life	1911
M. A. Schmidt	Life	1915
Tof Mooney	Life	1916
John J. Cornelison	Life	1922
Claude Merritt	Life	1922
Gus C. Madsen		1926
Ignacio Gonzales	2-5 yrs.	1930
Oscar Erickson	3-42 yrs.	1930
Frank Spector	3-42 yrs.	1930
Lawrence Emery	3-42 yrs.	1930
Danny Roxas	2-28 yrs.	1930
Braulio Orosco	2-28 yrs.	1930
Eduardo Herrera	2-28 yrs.	1930

### FOLSOM PRISON, CAL.

Warren K. Billings	Life	1916
Tetsuji Horiuchi	3-42 yrs.	1930
Carl Sklar	3-42 yrs.	1930

### ANGEL ISLAND, SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

Kenmotsu	Deportation	1930
Moran	Deportation	1930
Steve Markavich	Deportation	1930
John Elias	Deportation	1930
M. Sornaman	Deportation	1930
Christenson	Deportation	1930
Schwartz	Deportation	1930
Golden	Deportation	1930
John Kobayashi	Deportation	1930
Michamura	Deportation	1930
Pete McCrites	Deportation	1930

### LOS ANGELES, CAL. CITY JAIL No. 6

George Kiosz	1 year	1930
Richard Drake	6 mos.	1930
Harry Schneiderman	6 mos.	1930
L. Schneiderman	6 mos.	1930
Alfred Fugelvic	6 mos.	1930

### LINCOLN HEIGHTS JAIL, CAL.

E. Tamaguchi	1 year	1930
B. Fukanaga	6 mos.	1930
George Haka	6 mos.	1930

### LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAIL

Lillian Silverman	6 mos.	1930
Goldie Katz	6 mos.	1930
Edward Wing	Deportation	1930

### WALLA WALLA, WASH.

Eugene Barnett	25-40 yrs.	1919
Ray Becker	25-40 yrs.	1919
Bert Bland	25-40 yrs.	1919
O. C. Bland	25-40 yrs.	1919
John Lamb	25-40 yrs.	1919
Britt Lamb	25-40 yrs.	1919

### MULTNOMAH COUNTY JAIL, PORTLAND, ORE.

Pete Males	Deportation	1930
Sadik Jafer	Deportation	1930
Henry Struve	Deportation	1930
Mike Bencheff	Deportation	1930
Tom Evanoff	Deportation	1930
Steve Okinich	Deportation	1930
Miro Lacos	Deportation	1930

E. Millson	Deportation	1930
V. Gosheff	Deportation	1930
Dan Steff	Criminal Synd.	1930
Abe Ozeranski	Criminal Synd.	1930
Ben Boloff	Criminal Synd.	1930
Ellis Bjorkman	Criminal Synd.	1930
Rubin Sandstrom	Criminal Synd.	1930
Bill Worrall	Criminal Synd.	1930
Jim Howell	Criminal Synd.	1930
John Torrko	Criminal Synd.	1930

### INSANE ASYLUM, SALEM, ORE.

Mike Kulikoff	1930
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### BLAWNOK, PA.

Pete Muselin	5 yrs.	1929
Milan Resetar	5 yrs.	1929
Tom Zima	5 yrs.	1929

### MOUNDSVILLE, W. VA., PRISON

Frank Brbot	4 yrs.	1928
John M. Lynch	10 yrs.	1927
Alex Chessman	10 yrs.	1928

### FRAMETOWN, W. VA.

Lawrence Allen	10 yrs.	1927
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### EASTERN PENITENTIARY, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Sam Bonita	6-12 yrs.	1928
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### BELLEFONTE, PA.

Steve Mendola	4-8 yrs.	1928
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### MEDIA COUNTY JAIL, PA.

Roy Peltz	1-20 years	1930
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### HUNTINGDON REFORMATORY, PA.

Thomas Holmes	1930
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### SIOUX FALLS, S. D.

Frank Godlasky	1921
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### OHIO PENITENTIARY

Steve Jacobs	1 year	1928
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### COLUMBUS, OHIO

Teddy Jackoski	5-20 yrs.	1928
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### MILWAUKEE

Fred Bassett	1 year	1930
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### MONROE COUNTY PENITENTIARY, N. Y.

Ailen Holmes	3-6 mos.	1930
Mabel Husa	3-6 mos.	1930

### HARTS ISLAND, NEW YORK

Harry Raymond	6 mos.-3 yrs.	1930
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### FRANKLIN COUNTY JAIL, N. Y.

Leon Mabile	Deportation	1930
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### ELLIS ISLAND

Guido Serio	Deportation	1930
Tao Li	Deportation	1930



# MILITARY MECHANIZATION AND BOSS ARMIES

By DONALD A. CAMERON

(Author of "Chemical Warfare")



*German Reichswehr soldiers, a special army of the bosses, using machine guns. All the imperialist powers have greatly improved their ma-*

cally unreliable" and likely to turn against their masters whenever they have guns in their hands. Mechanization minimizes this difficulty by making possible relatively small, highly-trained armies recruited

principally from the middle-class and skilled workers under the influence of boss ideas.

These armies, using tanks, tank destroyers, high-speed scout tanks, motorized artillery, bombing planes, gas planes, etc., will have a speed and death-dealing power far surpassing the cumbersome old armies of 1918. And they can be used without fear of revolt either against the bosses' foreign enemies or against revolutionary workers at home.

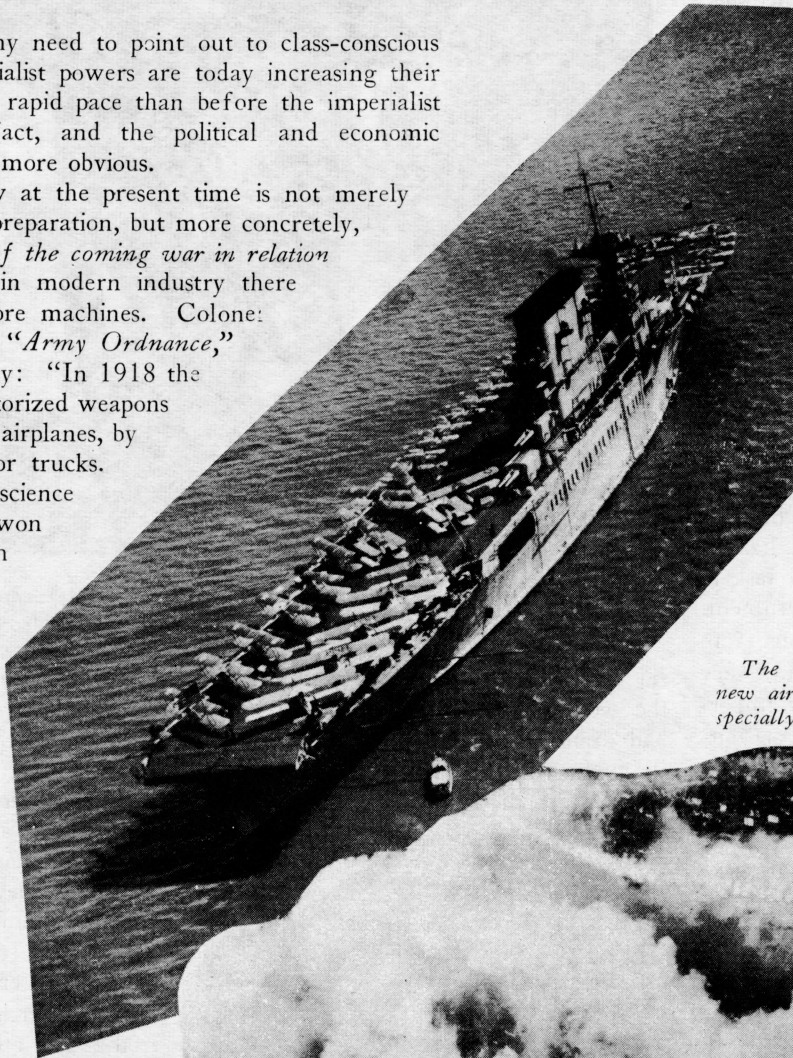
On whose shoulders does the support of a mechanized army rest? Let Secretary of War Hurley answer: "When we consider that war brings with it an abnormal demand for commodities which range from foodstuffs, clothing and guns to automobiles and railway locomotives, we realize the tremendous load that war

(Continued on page 7)

HERE is no longer any need to point out to class-conscious workers that the imperialist powers are today increasing their armaments at an even more rapid pace than before the imperialist war of 1914-18. This fact, and the political and economic reasons behind it grow daily more obvious.

What we need to know at the present time is not merely that a new world war is in preparation, but more concretely, *what will be the character of the coming war in relation to the working class?* As in modern industry there will be fewer men and more machines. Colonel J. F. C. Fuller, writing in "Army Ordnance," shows one of the reasons why: "In 1918 the World War was won by motorized weapons and vehicles: by warships, by airplanes, by tanks, locomotives and motor trucks. It was won by militarized science and industry, and it was not won by fighting manpower, which dismally failed to accomplish its end in the earlier stages of the war."

But the military experts of the capitalists are not interested in mechanization merely because it makes warfare faster, more flexible and attack more effective. They learned another lesson during the great war; that mass draft or conscript armies, composed chiefly of workers and poor farmers, are "politi-



*The "Saratoga," one of the U. S. Navy's new aircraft carriers with 60 planes on her specially constructed deck.*



(Left)

*A British tank irresistibly crashing thru an 18-inch brick wall. The modern tank is the leading weapon in the movement to mechanize armies.*

(Top) *The Army Air Corps puts a smoke screen over Sacramento, Cal. Smoke is an extremely effective strategic weapon for either defense or attack.*



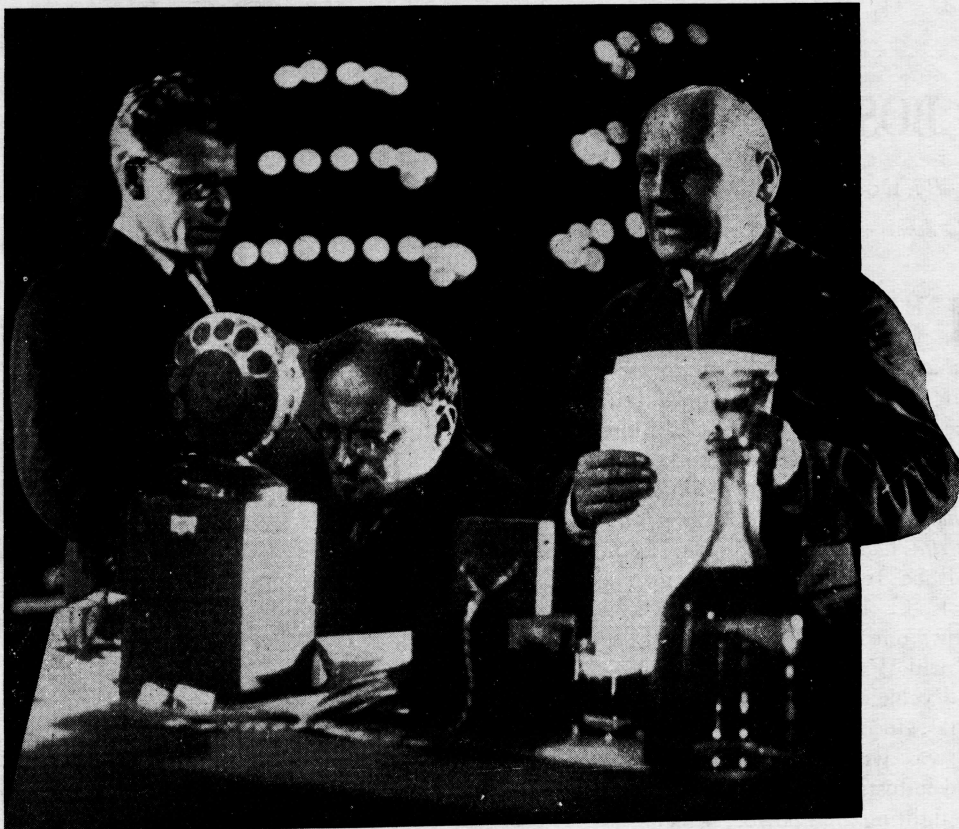
# The Trial of the Plotters Against U.S.S.R.

*French and British Imperialism Back Conspiracy; "Revenge Not Factor in Proletarian Justice"*

By HENRY HALL

THE summer of 1931! That was the date set by the military strategists of the French General Staff for the invasion of the Soviet Union. Shrewd military experts pored over maps, marking the most advantageous points for the movement of imperialist armies. Inside the Soviet Union was a large group of technicians, many of them holding high positions, who furnished the French military strategists with information about the defenses of the Soviet Union and who utilized their positions to sabotage the operation of the Five Year Plan and to pave the way for intervention. By armed invasion and by crippling the industry and the defenses of the Soviet Union, the imperialists hoped to smash the workers and peasants government and restore capitalism.

This plot was discovered. Eight engineers, leaders of the so-called Industrial Party, were arrested and brought to trial. With their plot exposed, the eight counter-revolutionaries confessed their crimes. They admitted their relations with agents of French and British imperialism and revealed in minute detail the acts of sabotage which they had committed as their task in the plot to destroy the Soviet Government. They declared that under instructions from members of the French General Staff they had worked out plans to paralyze important metal and chemical works at the outbreak of war. They confessed that under



*Krylenko, Soviet prosecutor, lashing Prof. Ramsin, (left) chief of group of 8 defendants, all of whom fully confessed.*

the guise of developing agriculture near the western borders of the country they had drained swamps in order to facilitate the movement of imperialist troops. They

admitted that they had built airdromes near the border from which imperialist bombing planes could operate, spreading death through city and countryside. Regularly they furnished their masters in Paris with reports about the defenses which the Red Army had built to repel imperialist invasion. They admitted that by spending enormous sums on useless projects and preventing the construction of useful ones, they had attempted to disrupt industry.

These facts they confessed at a public trial. The efforts of the capitalist press to ridicule the trial as 'farical' is an apparent attempt to camouflage the realities which the trial exposed.

The confessions of the engineers rip aside the protestations of innocence of polished liars like Poincare and reveal in detail the plans of the imperialists for the invasion of the Soviet Union, the destruction of the workers and peasants government and the restoration of capitalism. But even in pleading their innocence, the imperialist plotters reveal their guilt. Sir Henri Deterding, head of the huge British oil trust, the Royal Dutch Shell, declares the trial

*(Continued on next page)*



*The Red Army—Reply of the U.S.S.R. to the imperialist plotters. In inset is Voroshilov, chief of the Red Army.*



# Workers and Peasants Fight for Ideals of V.I. Lenin

*Masses Thruout the World Will Honor the Memory of Leader of Russian Revolution.*

*(Continued from previous page)*

'ridiculous' in one sentence and in the next urges an international embargo against the Soviet Union.

The termination of the trial and the imprisonment of the eight counter-revolutionists does not end the danger of an armed attack against the Soviet Union. On the contrary, the forces impelling the capitalist owners to war against the Soviet Union are steadily growing stronger. The amazing successes of the Five Year Plan in the face of all counter-revolutionary attempts to impede it, stand out in bold relief against the growing wage cuts, unemployment, misery and starvation in the capitalist countries. Despite the barrage of vicious lying propaganda spread over the press, workers throughout the world are becoming more and more aware of these facts. American workers must not be misled by the hypocritical assurances occasionally handed out by capitalist politicians. Kellogg pacts and words of peace only cloak preparations for war. In the forefront of the attack against the Soviet Union is the capitalist class of the United States. Propaganda about "convict labor" and "dumping" is war propaganda. Any embargo against Soviet goods, any attempt to impede trade with the Soviet Union, is a war move. Workers of this country, as well as of every other country in the world, must defend the Soviet Union and smash the efforts of world capitalism to destroy the first workers' and peasants' government.

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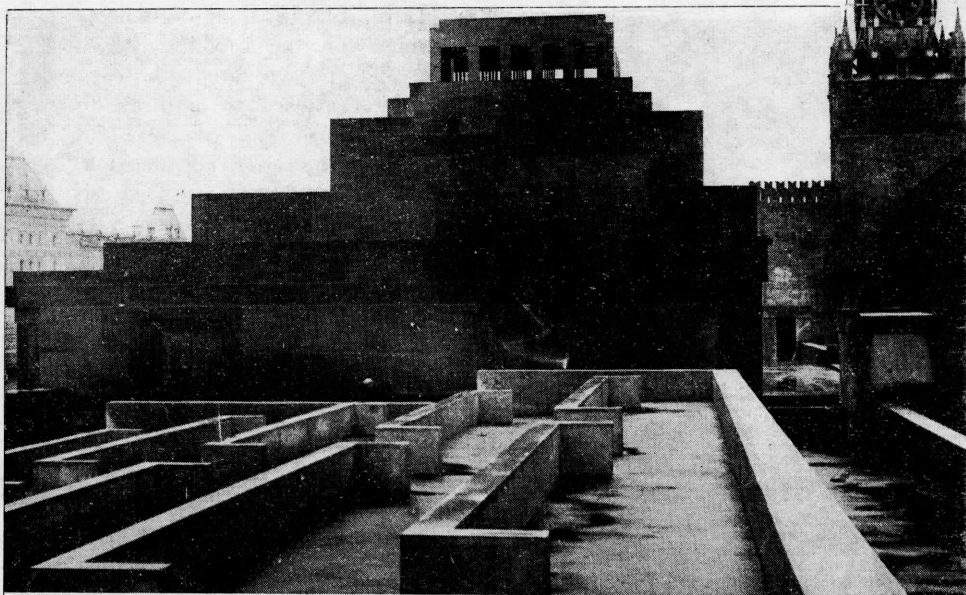
## Mechanized War and Imperialist Armies

*(Continued from page 5)*

places on industry and the *vital dependence of military strategy on industrial effort.*" In the last war it was estimated that for every soldier under arms in France there were about five industrial workers at home working full-time making and transporting his food, clothes and weapons. The coming mechanized war is expected to require about 12 workers behind the lines for every soldier at the front. Thus, military strategy depends ultimately on the *working class.* The workers must become thoroughly familiar with this fact in order to turn the coming imperialist war into a civil war against the bosses.



*Vladimir Ilyitch Lenin, leader of the world working class, whose memory will be honored in gigantic demonstrations thruout the world on the anniversary of his death, January 22. Dominated by the principles put forward by Lenin, millions of Russian workers and peasants are building a new social order. Photo shows Lenin speaking into a machine which recorded his voice.*



*New Lenin Mausoleum—Opened on November 7th. Thousands of workers have already visited it. Along both sides of mausoleum, parallel to the Kremlin wall, two tribunes have been erected, having a seating capacity of 7,000.*



# The "Tear Gas Congress"

*Fight for Foreign-Born Workers to Go on Despite Vicious Attacks of the Bosses of U. S. A.*

By J. LOUIS ENGDahl

THE lame duck session of the congress swept into power in November, 1928, with the Hoover "prosperity" victory, is now in progress in Washington. It christened itself on its first day, Monday, December 1, as "The Tear Gas Congress," when police, protecting it against demonstrating workers, exploded tear-gas bombs into the faces of the men and women delegates of the National Conference of the Councils for the Protection of the Foreign-Born.

Tear gas loaned to the police by the Army Chemical Warfare Service was the answer of the Washington administration against the demands of workers gathered from every section of the land, demanding the defeat of all anti-alien legislation, fighting against the proposed registration, finger printing and photographing of the foreign-born, which declared for an end to deportations and raised the demand for the right of asylum for political refugees, a right that has been crushed underfoot completely by the Hoover administration. The demonstration also carried high its banners emblazoning the slogans, "Down with Lynching!" and "Death to Lynchers!" and "For the Defense of the Soviet Union."

This was the workingclass reply to the vicious Fish Committee propaganda car-

ried on through the entire summer and fall. The Washington police, defenders of the capitalist congress, met the workers with tear gas, the answer of enthroned tyranny, the defense of the Fish Committee, the signal for increasing attacks against labor, native and foreign-born, Negro and white.

The 600 delegates assembled for the National Conference with the sting of the tear gas in their eyes, and with the nauseating fumes not yet forgotten, went back to their cities to build the local organizations of the Councils for the Protection of the Foreign-Born on the basis of the thorough discussions resulting in the adoption of a detailed program of work.

It was Washington, where Abraham Lincoln, president near-

ly 70 years ago, signed the so-called "Emancipation Proclamation," supposedly freeing the Negro slaves of the South, that the Negro and white delegates in 1930 were denied the right to eat in the same restaurant. These were the restaurants belonging to such national chains as Child's, Thompson's, and others, that seek to cater to Negroes farther North. But not in Washington! When the bars of Jim Crowism were raised against the Negro delegates, the white delegates joined them in a militant demonstration against this discrimination and left these restaurants en masse. The Washington Conference marked another milestone in the developing unity of Negro and white, native and foreign-born workers that will not be broken by tear gas, propaganda, and other weapons of attack of the boss class that today rules in America.



(Top) Delegates marching toward White House—In front line is Herbert Newton, one of the Negro defendants in Atlanta case, "Mother" Bloor, and Pat Cush, of Pittsburgh. (Center) The tear-gas attack. (Bottom) Close-up of an assault.



After the tear-gas attack



# Deportations, Prison Terms in Portland

*Northwest Bosses Seek to Deport 14 and Jail 12; Throw Young Worker Into Insane Asylum*

AN eighteen-year-old boy, a student in the Washington High School, up in Portland, Oregon, was playing the piano in one of the rooms of the institution, while some companions were singing revolutionary songs.



MIKE KULIKOFF

A special officer of the school board walked into the room, hailed the boy before the authorities, who dragged him before the federal immigration officials.

This lad, Mike Kulikoff, a member of the Young Communist League, International Labor Defense and the Young Communist League, is now in the Salem (Oregon) Insane Asylum where he was hustled off after plans to have him deported fizzled. "Kulikoff's radical activities," declared the so-called "alienist" hired to bring in a frame-up verdict, "are an outward manifestation of an unsound mind."

Twenty-six other workers in Portland have been singled out for attack in the latest wave of boss persecution in the Northwest: 14 are being held for deportation and 12 on criminal syndicalist charges, with ten year prison terms facing them upon conviction.

Young Kulikoff has been adjudged insane because he advocated that the workers and farmers of the United States rule the country. Unable to deport him to Russia where he was born because of the absence of "diplomatic" relations—fearing an acquittal if he were indicted for "criminal syndicalism," the authorities resorted to this special form of cruelty.

\* \* \*

And in Los Angeles, facing deportation is John Vilerino, the father of 11 children, who has lived and worked in the United States for the past 27 years. His deportation would leave the family utterly helpless.

Both Vilerino and his wife were severely grilled at the hearing following his arrest. Did they believe in God? Did they believe in force and violence? Did they believe in the sanctity of the home and the purity of the family?

Now it has been discovered that, a short time after the hearing, a deputy sheriff

*raped Vilerino's thirteen-year old daughter, and infected the child with a venereal disease.*

\* \* \*

In Portland, the deportation and criminal syndicalist cases followed a raid on the Workers Center, although four had been jailed just prior to the raid. Other workers were picked up at mass meetings four days thereafter.

Those slated for deportation if the bosses' hirelings in the Immigration department have their way, represent many countries. They include: Steve Okicich, Yugoslavia; Miro Lacos, Yugoslavia; Llambo Mitser, Yugoslavia; Sadik Jafer, Macedonia; Pete Males, Yugoslavia; George Johnson, Sweden; George Tuukkanen, Finland; Henry Struve, Germany; Mike Gencheff, Bulgaria; Tom Evanoff, Macedonia; E. Millson, Sweden; V. Goshcheff, Yugoslavia;

The workers held in criminal syndicalism cases are Dan Stoeff, Fred Walker, Paul Munter, John Moore, Ed. Levitt, Llambo Mitseff (also for deportation); Abe Ozeranski; Ben Boloff; Ellis Bjorkman; Rubin Sandstrom; Bill Worrall; Jim Howell; John Torrko.

The raid and subsequent arrests were facilitated by a stool-pigeon, M. R. Bacon, who, under orders of Chief of Police Jenkins had joined both the International Labor Defense and the Communist Party.

And at the hearing before the immigration authorities, Bacon was the "star" witness. The hearings were held behind closed doors and Bacon, who had worked his way into the confidence of trusting workers, had his own sweet way in spinning hair-raising tales of "plots, violence and anarchism." For months Bacon had been attending workers' meetings posing as a "Texas schoolteacher."

The line of questioning directed against Vilerino, the father of the child which the deputy sheriff had raped during his hearing in Los Angeles, was directed with equal venom against all the other defendants and their wives in Portland. "Do you believe in God?" "Do you believe in force and violence?"

The criminal syndicalist law of Oregon has been revived for the first time since 1919, and is a clear attempt to smash all workingclass organizations. A number of workers face ten year prison sentences for the crime of reading workingclass literature; they were arrested when the raid was made and the only evidence against them is the fact that they were reading some books in the Workers Center.

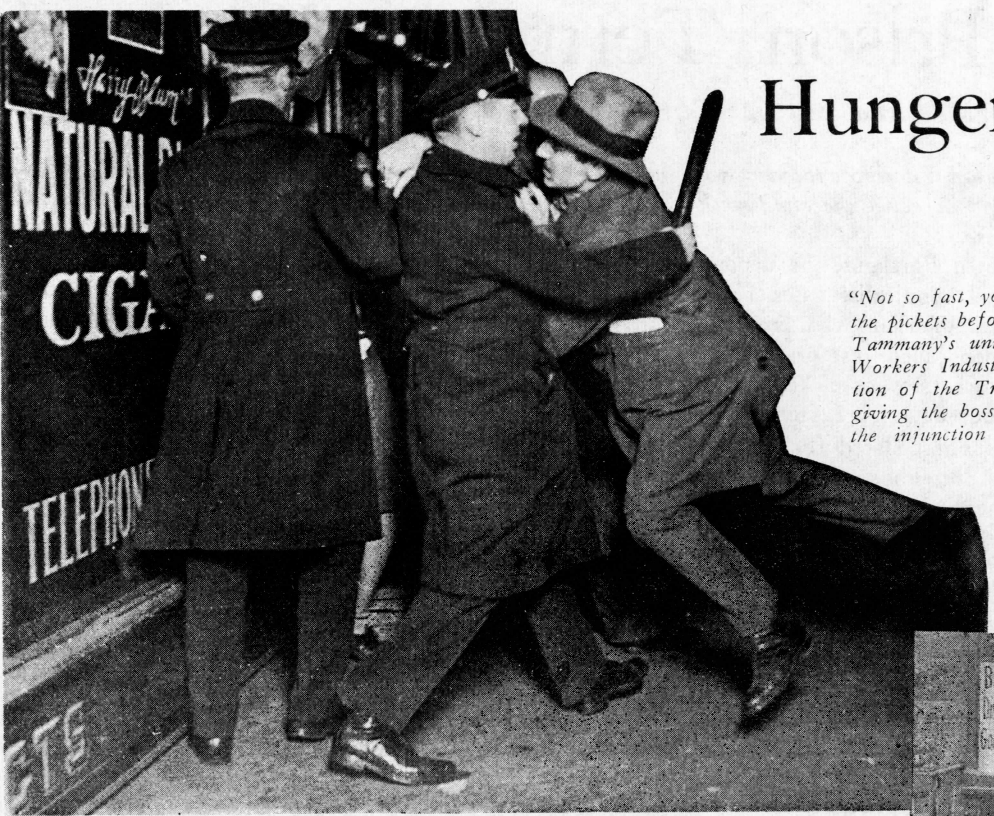
The activity of the International Labor Defense in Portland, and throughout the Pacific Coast in defending the workers should be an incentive for strengthening the organization throughout the country.



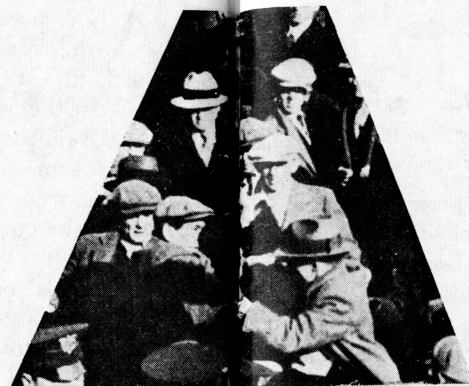
Portland "Criminal Syndicalism" defendants; photo taken in jail. Top row, left to right: Fred Walker, Bill Worrall, Ellis Bjorkman, Jim Howell, Paul Munter, Rubin Sandstrom. Bottom row, left to right: I.L.D. attorney Irwin, John Moore, John Torrko, Llambo Mitseff, Ed Levitt, Dan Stoeff.



# Hunger and Police Clubs, But Masses Fight



"Not so fast, you cheap thug!" This is what the pickets before the Zelgreen Cafeteria tell Tammany's uniformed sluggers. The Food Workers Industrial Union, under the direction of the Trade Union Unity League, is giving the bosses a run for their money on the injunction issue. Photo (left) shows worker resisting an attack upon him.



Giving the cops their pickets smashing the injunction before Zelgreen Cafeteria, New York City

Mayor Walker's "Model Tenements". It is on this site on Delancey Street, New York, that Tammany mayor, Jimmy Walker was to have erected "model tenements" with cash put up by August Heckscher who cleaned up millions in New York real estate. Thousands of jobless workers consider themselves lucky to have a "home" like this. (Photo on Right.)

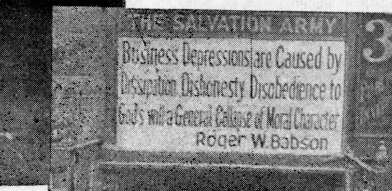
Photo: Labor Defender Photo League.



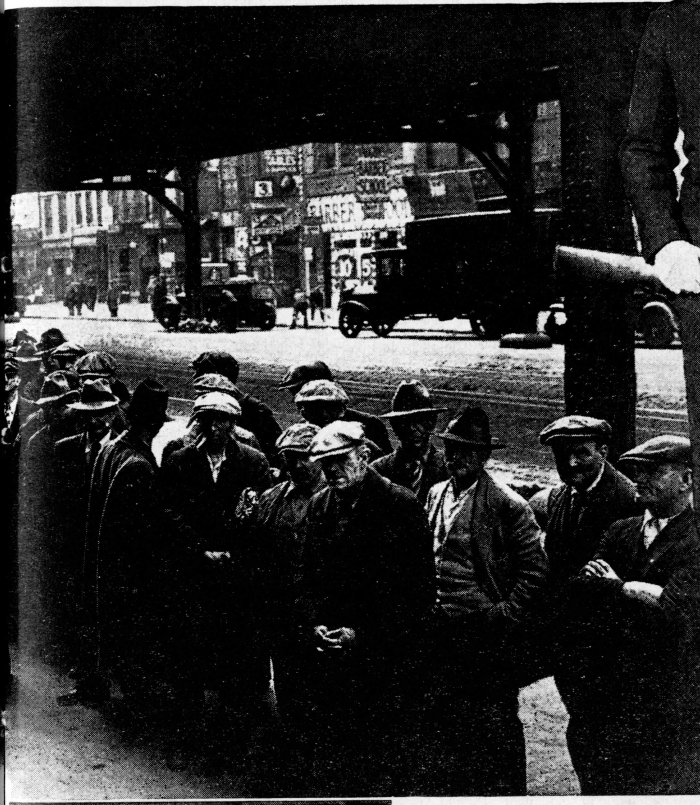
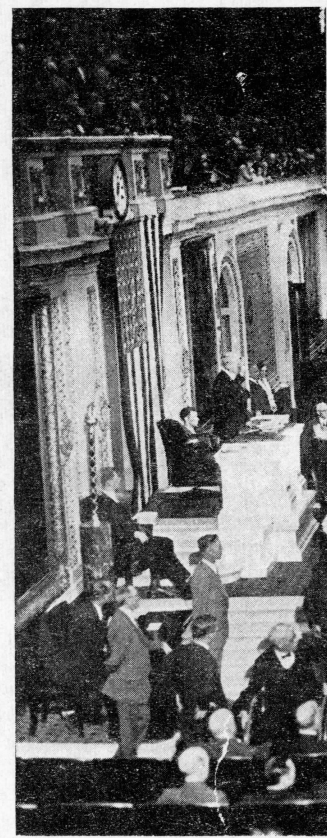
Tough winter in store for new Secretary of Labor.—Photo below shows William N. Doak resting his weary bones during an off-hour. Doak got job as reward for services to the bosses. The child with the resentful look on her face is Mary Rada, 8-year old daughter of Pennsylvania miner.



"Business depressions are caused by Dissipation, Dishonesty, Disobedience to God's will, and general collapse of moral character." This is the profound conclusion of the bosses' business "expert," Roger W. Babson. Posted on the doors of the Salvation Army, downtown, New York, it appears simultaneously with the crash of the Bank of United States where 400,000 people, mostly small depositors, lost their life-savings.



BANK OF U. S. CLOSES DOORS



The "Goddess of Liberty" Calls in the Police. (Left and Below) Workers removed from Ellis Island preparatory to being deported. Scores of foreign-born workers are being rounded up thruout the country each week. The National Committee for the Protection of the Foreign-Born is energetically fighting deportation and other forms of persecution, including finger-printing, photographing, registration, etc.



Photo: Ewing Galloway

No longer able to smother the cry of the hungry masses for bread, the capitalist politicians are forced to put thru fake "relief measures," usually building projects which benefit only the contractors. Under the direction of the Trade Union Unity League, thousands of signatures are now being piled up behind the drive, for the Unemployment Insurance Bill. A workers' mass delegation will go to Washington during January to demand the passage of the bill which would force the bosses to pay each unemployed worker \$25 a week, with \$5 extra for each dependent. (Above) A city bread line. (Below) Opening of Congress.



# America Has Its Chain Gangs

*Southern Bosses Enslave Workers thru Prison System which Prevails in Many States; Persecute Negroes*

By JIM ALLEN

**T**SARIST Russia had its Siberia; the Balkans has its underground inquisition dungeons, Venezuela, its torture chambers, France, its Devil's Island—and America has its chain gangs.

But first you must know that the South is a semi-feudal domain in which the tenant farmers, forty-five per cent of the total farm population, are an oppressed group similar to the peasantry of Poland, or even of India and Egypt; that the working class of the South has the lowest standard of living than any other section of the American proletariat.

That of the Southern toilers, nine million are Negroes, forming a super-exploited and super-persecuted group, similar to the "untouchables" of India. That in spite of the growth of industry in the South in recent years, it is still an agricultural land, having fifty per cent of the farms in the country, run on the general lines of a feudal plantation system.

Know this, and you can conceive of the

existence of chain gangs. To a ruling class whose wealth is built on peonage and tenantry, which permits wide sections of the Negro population in certain parts of Mississippi to remain ignorant of the fact that chattel slavery has been abolished by law, whose industrial workers are kept to the bare necessities of life, whose "law" hangs Negroes from trees, burns them at the stake and shoots them like dogs in the dark alleys of the cities—to such a ruling class the chain gang is at once a blessing and a defense.

"Chain gang" is a literal term. It means chains and it means work. When the prisoner is brought to the camp or stockade, chains are immediately welded around his ankles. They are not removed until he is released. There is just enough "spread" in the chains to enable him to walk, but not to run. *With these heavy chains on his feet, he must wield a forty-eight-pound sledge hammer in slippery quarries, or labor under the hot sun on the state farms or*

*in the cypress swamps of Mississippi and Alabama, or in the turpentine swamps of Georgia, or on the public roads.*

In most cases he is not permitted to change clothes but once a week. He works from sun-up to sun-down. For food he gets the crudest and cheapest. He works, eats and sleeps in his chains. A county in Alabama recently boasted that it was cheaper to feed its prisoners than to feed mules. It cost them fourteen and one-half cents a day to feed a prisoner, while it cost fifty-five cents a day to feed a mule.

Under such conditions, it is to be expected that the most brutal forms of torture and punishment are used to subject "unruly" prisoners. Recently there crept into a secluded spot of some Southern newspapers, two chain gang incidents. On a chain gang in North Carolina a Negro prisoner was shot to death by a camp guard because he threw stones at him. At Cordele, Georgia, a twenty-three-year-old Negro chain gang prisoner was killed by a guard because he was "boisterous." Another prisoner, Willie Bellamy, died in a North Carolina chain gang camp from "sweat-box" treatment, and being hit over the head with a blackjack while confined to the box. In most cases deaths on chain gangs go by unnoticed, except for the official evasion, "died of natural causes."

The chain gang bosses are the scum of the earth, coming from the same layer as the Tammany cossacks and the coal-and-iron police. Whipping posts, torture boxes, starvation diets and plain murder are in the daily routine of a camp. A petty punishment is forcing the prisoner to wear, in addition to his chains, two-foot steel spikes, fastened to his ankles, one in front and one in back. It is almost impossible to move, but he is forced to go through the regular routine of work.

*Chain gang prisoners near Boone, North Carolina, described how drunken bosses beat the prisoners with pickhandles, blackjacks and guns, and how they were forced to ride in trucks without any brakes, down the hill roads. A former chain gang prisoner in a camp near Atlanta, Georgia, told us how he was forced to work in the quarry pit after he had broken his rib in a fall. In the forsaken swamps and woods of Georgia and Mississippi the chain gangs are torture hells, where a Balkan jailer could learn new lessons in sadistic punishment. Only a native Southern toiler, hard-*



*Chain gang prisoners on road work in a Southern City. Similar scenes are seen thruout the South.*

*(Left) Turpentine swamp in which chain gang prisoners work. The accompanying article, written by the editor of the Southern Worker, Birmingham, Ala., gives a vivid description of the chain gang in all its vicious phases. On the next page will be found a typical "Vagrancy" warrant on which hundreds of Negro and white workers are arrested. Where is Matthew Woll and his shrill cries about "forced labor?"*

ened to daily suffering, can live through a chain gang term.

Thus, the Southern ruling class punishes its rebel slaves, and at the same time gives the state free labor. The state, not to be outdone in generosity, arrests unemployed workers on vagrancy charges, and rents them out to private plantation owners, as slave labor.

The chain gang, like lynch law, is used by the Southern ruling class as an instrument of suppression. The sharper the economic exploitation, the sharper the persecution. The Negro is, therefore, the most frequent victim of the chain gang system, although there are also a large number of poor white farm tenants and workers to be found in the gangs. Should a Negro share-cropper attempt to run away from the plantation he is either forced to accept peonage on the plantation itself or on the state chain gang.

Today in the period of mass misery and unemployment, the vagrancy laws are again put into vicious use, in a manner similar to the days of their origin immediately after the Civil War. At that time the vagrancy laws were used to compel every freed Negro to enter service somewhere at

whatever wages were offered him, or be put to work in the chain gang.

The laws work in much the same way today except that they have been broadened to take in white workers also, especially militant workers fighting against starvation. It is not infrequent for unemployed workers to be picked up on the street, and sentenced for vagrancy, to work on the chain gangs and on the state farms. Systematic police raids have been carried out by the police along the water front in Houston, with the purpose of supplying free labor for the City Pea Farm.

And still another use has been discovered for the vagrancy laws and the chain gangs. The United States Steel Corporation, stretching its iron claws into the South and taking possession of the great coal, iron-ore and steel center at Birmingham, Alabama, utilizes the native feudal forms of persecution to keep its industrial slaves from or-

ganizing. Four Communist organizers at Birmingham have a number of charges of vagrancy against them, with the threat of the chain gang over them. What company gunmen could not do, they hope to achieve with the chain gang—murder with the full-hearted aid of the state. That is Southern ruling class tyranny, which knows no bounds in brutality to preserve its semi-feudal domination.

WARRANT

DREW'S FORM P. C. 427

Printed and for sale by The H. A. W. R. Drew Company Jacksonville, Florida

In Court of County Judge,

State of Florida }  
 Carl A. Moore, alias Harry Moore, Baby A. Moore, Pork Chops alias Harry Harris, Howards alias Howard Jones, Slim alias Freddie Jones and John Doe alias Eddy, Everett Dubois }  
 Gilchrist County,  
 State of Florida.

In the name of the State of Florida, to the Sheriff or any Constable of said County:

Whereas, A. D. Fields

has this day made oath before me that on the 19 day of February  
 A. D. 1930, in the County aforesaid, XX Carl A. Moore alias Harry Moore, Baby A. Moore, Pork Chops alias Harry Harris, Howards alias Howard Jones, Slim alias Freddie Jones and John Doe alias Eddy, Everett Dubois  
 were rogues and vagabonds, idle or dissolute persons, common gamblers, persons who use unlawful games or plays, common pipers and fiddlers, common drunkards, common night walkers, thieves, pilferers, lewd, wanton and lascivious persons, common railers and brawlers, persons who neglect their calling or employment, or are without reasonable continuous employment or regular income and who have not sufficient property to sustain them, persons wandering or strolling around from place to place without any lawful purpose or object, habitual loafers, idle and disorderly persons, persons neglecting all lawful business and habitually spending their time by frequenting houses of ill fame, gaming houses or tippling shops

contrary to the statute in such cases made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Florida:

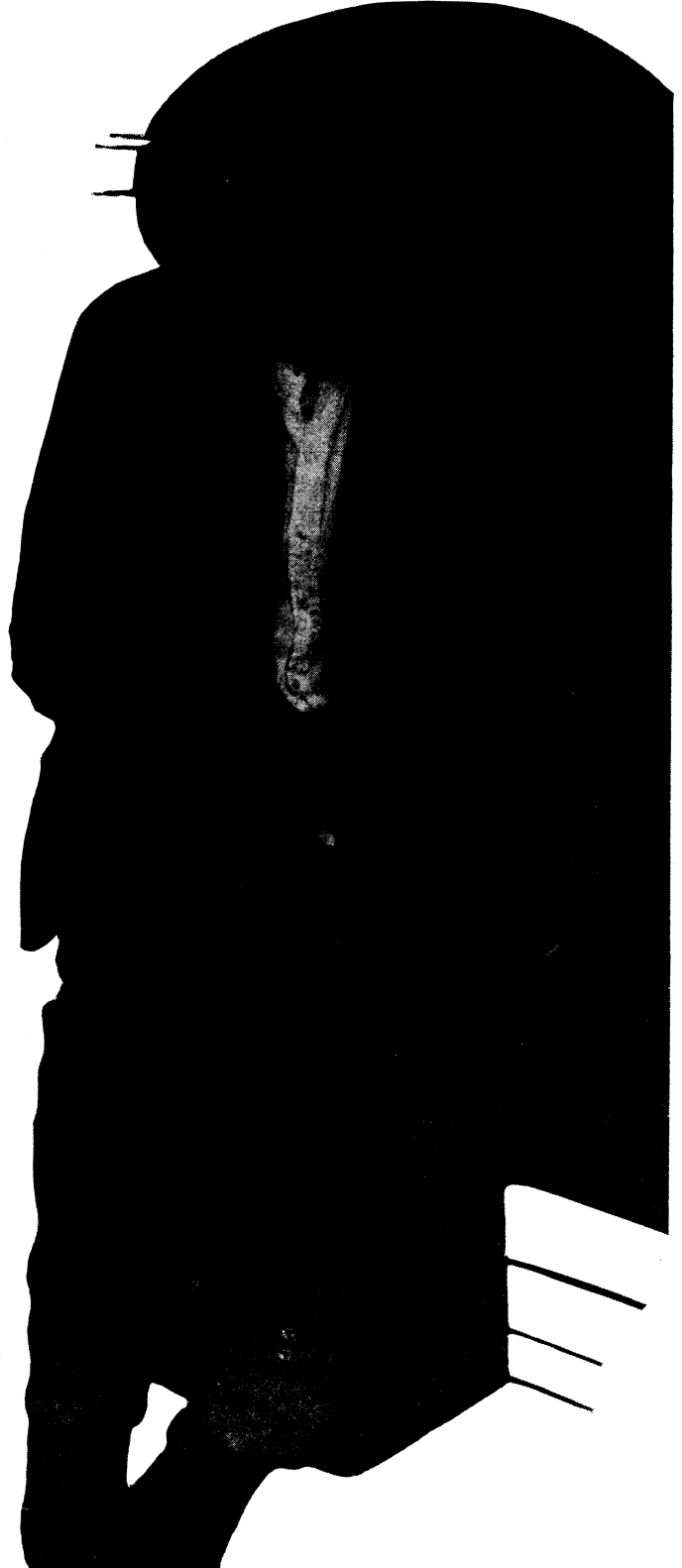
These are, therefore, to command you to arrest instantly the said Carl A. Moore alias Harry Moore, Baby A. Moore, Pork Chops alias Harry Harris, Howards alias Howard Jones, Slim alias Freddie Jones and John Doe alias Eddy, Everett Dubois and bring them before me to be dealt with according to law.

Given in duplicate under my hand and seal this 19 day of February

A. D. 19 30

[Signature] (Seal)  
 County Judge, Gilchrist County

"Vagrancy" warrant. Names are fictitious, to create impression that the "vagrants" is a vicious criminal. Note "crimes" listed. On such warrants organizers of Trade Union Unity League and Communist Party are arrested.



"AT HOME": Jobless Negro on 155th Street bridge, New York. (Photo by Montgomery)





*"AT HOME": Jobless Negro on 155th Street bridge, New York.  
(Photo by Montgomery)*

# Fascist Terror in Wall Street's Mexico

*Laborde, Former Red Deputy, Describes Most Recent Attacks on Militants; Resistance Grows*

By HERNAN LABORDE

SINCE Emilio Portes Gil, in May, 1929, began his persecutions of the revolutionary movement, with the raid on the offices of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Mexico, and on the printing plant of *El Machete*, its official organ, the Mexican government has increased its barbarous oppression. The Central Committee and the majority of the Communist Party locals, the National Committee of the United Trade Union Federation, and other trade union organizations of the states, the National Committee and numerous locals of the Mexican Section of the International Red Aid are working today in complete illegality. The press and the correspondence of these organizations have been seized in the mails and the police have begun to use the postal employees as spies to apprehend those comrades who mail or receive the correspondence. There is now in the Mexican post offices a list of native and foreign papers whose circulation is prohibited.



HERNAN LABORDE

But the most important characteristics of fascist repression in its new stages are the mass assassinations (the twenty workers and poor farmers massacred in Matamoras, June 29) and the brutal torture in the worst forms that put the Mexican government on the same plane as the executioners of the Chinese proletariat. Early in the terror drive, members of the Communist Party and the Young Communist League were kidnapped, threatened, and mistreated to compel them to denounce the leaders of their organizations and to make statements according to the wishes of the police.

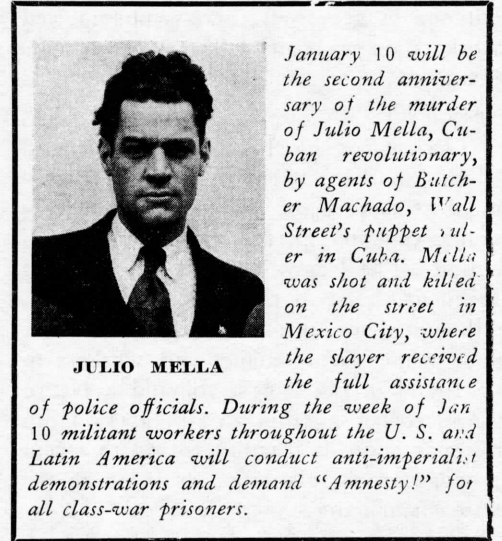
The tortures are still being used and are increasing in brutality as the police, employed especially for this purpose, acquire experience by their persecutions of "the radicals." Last October, Calixto Jovel, of the Young Communist League,

was kidnapped and tortured to force him to disclose the illegal offices of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. Recently in Torreon the most active Communist and Youth leaders were arrested and tortured; the fingernails of Comrade Frederico Reyes were torn off his hands. After being tortured these militants were sent to the Federal District Penitentiary where they are still held.

On the eve of November 7, many arrests were made in Coahuila, Yucatan and other states. The demonstrations of November 7 were broken up everywhere by the police and in Tampico alone, the oil region of Mexico, forty-four trade union militants, and members of the Communist Party and International Labor Defense, were jailed. In Tampico the local office of the Workers Federation of Tamaulipas was closed. In the Federal district two militant were arrested and are still in jail.

Great numbers of workers and the poor farmers are jailed arbitrarily throughout the country. There are also many workers, and above all, peasants, to whom the "Escape Law" is applied; that is, they are murdered outright and later the fake excuse is given that they "attempted to escape."

In October five agricultural workers were killed in this way; they were accused of having caused a riot on a ranch. In this riot the boss of the ranch who exploited and mistreated the peons as if they were beasts, had been killed.



JULIO MELLA

January 10 will be the second anniversary of the murder of Julio Mella, Cuban revolutionary, by agents of Butcher Machado, Wall Street's puppet ruler in Cuba. Mella was shot and killed on the street in Mexico City, where the slayer received the full assistance of police officials. During the week of Jan 10 militant workers throughout the U. S. and Latin America will conduct anti-imperialist demonstrations and demand "Amnesty!" for all class-war prisoners.

The increase of the fascization of the Mexican government is in direct proportion to its domination by American finance capital. This year the investments of the American bankers have been greater than in any previous year, the Mexican government having made a debt agreement which turns complete control of the rich resources of Mexico over to Wall Street.

The Mexican workers in the U. S., together with the American workers, must fight Mexican fascism by building the International Labor Defense, the organization which defends the Mexican workers persecuted on both sides of the Rio Grande.



Red Aid Demonstration in Mexico City in 1929.



# Longshoring in Ports of 'Sunny South'

*Worker Tells of Grinding Toil; "Men May Die But Ships Must Sail on First and Fifteenth"*

By WALTER WILSON

**B**URIED deep down in the dark, hot and sweaty hold of a large ship, naked men toil, straining and sweating over quarter-ton bales of cotton. With the ladder and exit of the ship covered with a mountain of wheat, blinded and stifled by waves and fogs of dust, workers shovel grain like automatons. The trapped worker chokes. He coughs and in desperation tears a strip from his sweaty drawers to tie over his mouth and nose. *Longshoremen are at work in Texas.*

The longshoremen, the workers who load and unload the boats, usually make three divisions of their work; handling cotton; general longshore work; and trimming (leveling) cargo.

Cotton work is dangerous and difficult. The past few years have seen a radical speeding up of the work both by man power and by increased use of conveyors and small tractors. Formerly a gang of fifteen were required to store 675 bales a day, later 725; for the past two years 801.

Because of the speed, sling-loads of cotton come loose and crush the workers underneath into shapeless masses of flesh. The gangway man warns but the bosses frequently force the men to work under the dangling loads of cotton. Then there is the speed-up device of having two crews work in the same hatch at the same time so that cotton is coming in all the while.

Rushing, straining, sweating, worrying,

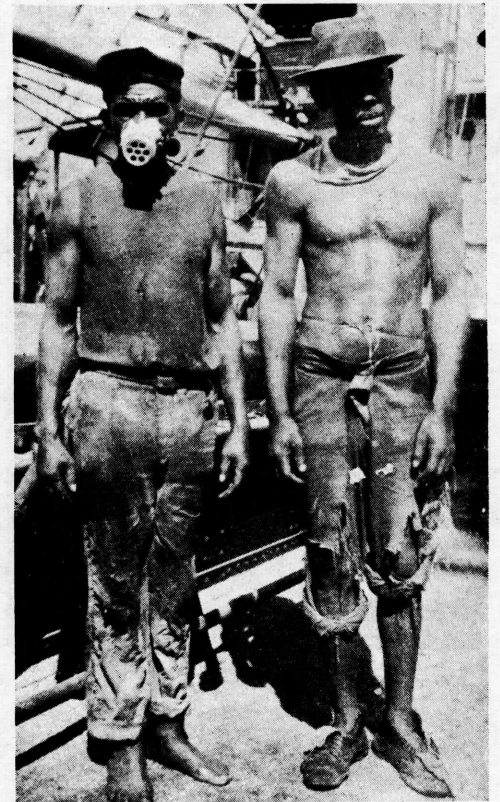
desperately trying to keep up with the pace setters, getting knocked into the hold of the ship by broken tackle, falling through rotten hatch covers, being crushed by falling cotton and steel beams—the life of cotton jammers.

Sailing dates for all cargo are the first and fifteenth of the month. The week following the first, no work. Next week a life and death struggle to load on time for sailing exactly on schedule. Men may die but ships must sail the first and fifteenth. Following the fifteenth, no work again.

In order to average up for the missed week, men work night and day during the rush week. They frequently work twenty-four to thirty-six hours without relief, or seventy-five to one hundred hours in a single week.

Coke residue from oil refineries, is poured into the hold from conveyors forty feet above the deck. A dust cloud envelopes and fills the ship. In a few seconds the sweating bodies of the workers, dragging coke from the center of the hatch into the corners, are covered with black mud. Workers spit coke dust for a week.

To the outsider the longshoreman looks patient and enduring of indignity and suffering without protest. Dock workers, on the contrary, have always been among the militant workers. In southern ports some of the bitterest labor fights of American working class history have been



*Negro longshoremen at Houston, Tex., after a day "in grain." The mask is designed to keep the clouds of dust arising from the grain pouring from elevator spout, out of the lungs and nostrils. Workers in grain are called grain trimmers, dragging the grain into the nooks and corners of the boat. They invariably get high fever after a few days' work "grain."*



*(Below): Cotton handling in Houston. Cotton jamming (loading) requires more skill than any other longshore work in southern ports. Working like mules, men frequently run with truck-loads of cotton weighing a quarter of a ton for each bale. (Left): Negro longshoremen (cotton jammers), Galveston, Texas, after a half day "in cotton." The big man holds his "bundle rag" which contains his shirt, lunch, and other personal articles.*

*(All photos on this page taken by author.)*



fought. The past few years have seen the employers gradually whittling away the gains won in those fights—more bales a day, less per bale; coastwise rates for deep-sea work; work in rain; dead time, are just a few of the grievances.

The present union, the International Longshoremen's Association (American Federation of Labor) has refused to lead the fight against these cuts and discrimination. But be sure that mighty fights loom in the offing in southern ports. Rumbblings of them are being heard now. On October 31, four thousand Texas longshoremen tied up all shipping in a three-day strike. The International officers ordered the men back on the bosses' terms.

Putting forward a militant program for these workers is the Marine Workers Industrial League. Defense of the workers is a major aspect of this struggle. During the recent longshoremen's strike the I.L.D. defended 40 of the strikers who were jailed, while the men in New Orleans formed a branch of the organization.



# From An Era That Has Passed: Mother Jones

*"Militant Fighter for Working Class When Class Struggle was Simple; Now Used by Misleaders"*

By VERN SMITH

THEY buried Mother Jones—in a steel gray coffin and with a catholic priest chanting over her. She was over a hundred



*Mother Jones: During earlier struggles*

years old when she died, and for the better part of that time she fought for labor against capital. She is buried in the cemetery at Mount Olive, Illinois, where four of the Virden boys lie already. They fought capitalism with rifles in their hands on Virden day, years ago, and her old body is in good company there with them.

For Mother Jones led the women pickets at Arnot, Pennsylvania, to mop up the scabs in that mine strike, and she knocked out a deputy sheriff herself. The women chased the scabs away with brooms and mops.

She led the march of crippled children in a textile strike at Kensington, Pennsylvania, and invaded Princeton University with them, calling down shame on those who lived at ease on the profits from children slaving for three dollars a week.

She fought through the Cripple Creek miners' strike in 1903, and led marching miners in a foot and a half of snow. When the governor of Colorado tried to put her out of the state, she evaded his armed gunmen and openly defied him—and got away with it.

In the 1912 West Virginia coal strike she led the pickets right up to the machine guns, and put her hand over the muzzle of the nearest gun, defying the gunner to shoot. He didn't dare. He would have been torn to ribbons if he did.

There is no space here to recount more of the heroic struggles this woman led, and there is no need. They were all of this

sort, they are known, none will deny them.

But, on her one hundredth birthday, she exchanged friendly telegrams with Rockefeller, whose Colorado Fuel and Iron Company she fought in a battle which the Rockefeller gunmen punctuated with open massacre of workers, with secret assassination, with frame-up in the courts.

Before this, she said he was a good boy, and she had her picture taken with him, also with the president of the United States, whose strike-breaking troops she had many times defied. Now the catholic church claims her as its partisan, and her money goes to Fishwick and Farrington, and the choicest gang of labor traitors that ever sold out the miners. She was their partisan, too, before she died. It is the Peabody Coal Company's reorganized United Mine Workers who give her the funeral now in Mount Olive.

How will anybody explain this? It can only be explained one way. Mother Jones was no revolutionist. She was a militant fighter for the working class, in that period when the class struggle was simple, almost entirely within the frame of capi-

talism. She never tried to overthrow capitalism. All this heroic struggle she led was for amelioration only. In her time it was not clear that every strike becomes a political struggle. She never realized this. But in this new day when the mask of democracy wears thin, and a fascist dictatorship looks through, a leader must choose. If you do not take a revolutionary position, then you will be used as an agent of reaction.

Fishwick and Rockefeller and the American Federation of Labor did so use Mother Jones in her last years of life, and will continue to use her memory in the years to come. The working class must remember that within the limited field she operated in, she was a terrible fighter for the workers—and they must remember even while they honor her for that (let them also try to emulate her!), that the scope of her theory was limited; that the period in which she fought for the workers is gone and will not return, and that the struggle now and from now on demands something that Mother Jones never had to give.



*On her death bed: Photo taken short time before Mother Jones died.*



# "International Pamphlets" Deal With Vital Subjects

"Life and Death of Steve Katovis," "Chemical Warfare" and "War in the East" Reviewed.

STEVE KATOVIS: THE LIFE AND DEATH OF A WORKER, by A. B. MAGIL and JOSEPH NORTH. International Pamphlets, 799 Broadway, New York. Ten cents.

SELDOM has the story of a worker been told with greater warmth and conviction than in "Steve Katovis: The Life and Death of a Worker," which has just appeared.

Katovis, born "on a meagre farm" in Greece in 1890, died in New York City in 1930, in the large dark ward of the Lincoln Bellevue Hospital in the Bronx. Dead of a bullet fired into his back by a uniformed Tammany thug, this worker was kept a prisoner until the moment he died. A policeman stood guard by his cot during eight days of torture. . . .

Katovis was shot while participating in a picketing demonstration before a Bronx market where the Food Clerks' Local of the Food Workers' Industrial Union was conducting a bitter struggle. He was not a food worker, but when the Trade Union Unity League called for a demonstration on January 16, of last year, Katovis was among the first to respond.

"Now, but one week before, Tammany Patrolman Harry Kiritz had pressed his pistol into the back of Steve Katovis and had pulled the trigger. And today 50,000 workers were on Union Square."

The story of this extraordinary workingclass demonstration is described with a vividness and a fire which runs thruout this pamphlet.

Every worker should read this epic in the American class struggle.

—S. G.

\* \* \* \*

Other International Pamphlets include *The Frame-up System*, by Vern Smith; *Speeding Up the Workers*, by James Barnett; *War in the Far East*, by Henry Hall; *The Heritage of Gene Debs*, by Alexander Trachtenberg; *Yankee Colonies*, by Harry Gannes; *Chemical Warfare* by Donald A. Cameron; *Work or Wages*, by Grace M. Burnham, and the *Struggle of the Marine Workers*, by N. Sparks.

\* \* \* \*

CHEMICAL WARFARE, by DONALD CAMERON  
WAR IN THE EAST, by HENRY HALL. International Pamphlets, 799 Broadway, New York. Ten Cents.

Reviewed by LOWELL WAKEFIELD.

"GAS can kill silently, swiftly, surely. It can disable men and cause horrible wounds that take months to heal, or it can cause torture and anguish lasting for a few hours or minutes. Old methods of military defense are useless against gas. Old fashioned army officers thought the only way to win a war was to kill the enemy. Experience has shown that it is more effective to burn one's opponent with mustard gas. . . . A corpse need only be buried." This quotation gives an idea of the new pamphlet, "Chemical Warfare." If you want to know how the next war will be fought, read it.

Chemical manufacturing is the fourth largest industry in the United States. American capital produces more chemicals, more poison gas and explosives than the rest of the world put together. The control of this enormous war industry is concentrated in a handful of corpora-

tions who, in the preparations for imperialist war, are building enormous profits on the exploitation of the almost four hundred thousand workers who operate their factories.

"Chemical Warfare" exposes the preparations for a war. "War in the Far East" tells how the imperialist powers behind the mask of "peace" pacts attempt to use these terrible new weapons in an attack upon the Soviet Union. The pamphlet points out the clash of the great industrial nations over such rich territories as Manchuria and the way in which these clashes lead to opportunities and excuses for a capitalist attack on the workers' government of the Soviet Union. The pamphlet also explains the role of the Kel-

logg Peace Pact, which has become not only a smoke screen to hide from the workers imperialist war preparations, but an actual instrument for mobilization of forces by the American capitalists in the struggle for world domination.

These two pamphlets, short and to the point, should be read by every worker.

\* \* \* \*

BOOKS RECEIVED, TO BE REVIEWED LATER—"Strike," by Mary Heaton Vorse, Horace Liveright, \$2; "The Third Degree," by Emanuel Lavine, Vanguard Press, \$2; "An American Epoch," by Howard W. Odum, Henry Holt & Co., \$3.50.

## MOVIE NOTES

By SAM BRODY

TWO hundred and sixty-five workers seeking jobs as extras in Hollywood studios committed suicide last year. This news comes to light ten days after the Department of Commerce announced that the motion picture industry had not in the least been affected by the economic depression. A "depression-proof" industry, they call it. With two of the largest studios shut down and workers turning away in disgust from the malodorous output of talkies that a well-known film-magnate once admitted were calculated to appeal to 12 year-old minds, the only way out is mass firing of workers in an attempt to transfer the burden of sagging business to the backs of exploited five-dollar-a-day slaves.

And Eisenstein was accused of having come to Hollywood for the express purpose of undermining the ideals and patriotic traditions so staunchly defended by that Wall Street knight-errant, Will Hays.

TWO hundred American warships are to be equipped for sound pictures by April, 1931. The War Department realizes the importance of the sound screen for its imperialist aims. Unsuspecting John Henry from Dayton who joined the Navy to avoid starvation, must be told some glorious lies explaining why he is sent down to Nicaragua or Haiti to shoot down rebellious natives. And the Hollywood dope factories are past-masters in the art of glorifying Wall Street's plans. In the past three years there have appeared a large crop of films calculated to intoxicate the working-class youth with the smell of gunpowder and the heroics of the battlefield. Mr. Jesse Lasky, the movie magnate, was decorated by the U. S. Government some time ago for his cooperation with the War Department in the production of war films.

The transformation of the motion picture industry into a war machine is well under way.

And Father Walsh testifies before the Fish Committee that Soviet films are spreading dangerous propaganda in this country.

\* \* \* \*

THERE has recently been spread the tale that in the Soviet Union film production costs by far exceed that of any capitalist country. Special reference was made to Eisenstein's films as typical examples of extravagance.

In an attempt at verification of said rumors we interviewed Eduard Tisse during his stay in New York, and received from him the following revealing figures:

Title of Film	Total Production Cost
"Potemkin"	\$ 57,000
"Ten Days That Shook the World"	400,000
"Old and New"	175,000
Total	\$632,000

A total cost of \$632,000 for three films that have made movie history! Swallow that, gentlemen of the capitalist press, and may I suggest that any of the army of Hollywood stars would consider themselves handicapped on a yearly salary of that amount. In the slanderous campaign against the Soviet Union, even the backyard gossip of movie scribblers comes in handy.

\* \* \* \*

THE Daughters of the American Revolution have picked "Check and Double Check" as the best film of the year.

Two clowns viciously ridiculing the American Negro and capitalizing on the "superior" white nordic's hatred for the most exploited section of the American working-class, such is the choice of the Daughters of American imperialism! The day is not far off when the real Negro worker, as his white class brother knows him in the mills, mines and shops, will give an adequate answer to lynching organizations like the D.A.R. and their "first choice" by uniting with his equally exploited proletarian fellow-workers for the overthrow of a system that thrives on race discrimination, lynchings and exploitation.

\* \* \* \*

PARE LORENTZ, the only American movie critic writing for a bourgeois sheet and reckless enough to write as he thinks at the same time, contributes an interesting remark in a recent issue of Judge.

"From the headlines and the shouting on the financial pages one could believe that the movie factories are working day and night. As a matter of fact almost a thousand theatres have been closed this year; several chains have been forced to reinstall orchestras in the pit. Vaudeville is more and more needed to help the movie bring in the nickels. The independent exhibitor is in a bad way. The only progress the movies are making is in Wall Street, where they are playing checks with voting stock."



# Voices from Prison

(From one of the leaders of the March 6th Unemployed Delegation)  
Hart's Island, N. Y.

Comrades:

I have your letter of the 24th, also the magazines.

The unemployed movement, I see, is now taking on some new and encouraging developments. The workers are indeed in a desperate position and with the increasing unemployment and wage-slashing, I am sure they are in a mood to put up a real fight for our demands.

Got a letter from a comrade in Seattle. He says nearly the whole active membership of the Communist Party is in jail in Portland, Oregon, held for "criminal syndicalism" and deportation. This gives you in the I.L.D. more to do.

Saw one of the "Young Defenders" thru the screen. Enjoyed the visit in spite of the difficulties.

Send all papers and magazines — including Wobbly and Negro papers if you can scrape any up.

Yours,  
HARRY RAYMOND.

■  
(From a fighting coal miner)  
Butte, Mont.

Comrades:

I am taking this means of informing you of my release from the county jail at Miles City, Montana, where I have been confined for 158 days on a deportation charge, growing out of my taking the liberty to ride on the Northern Pacific Railroad without paying the usual revenue to the capitalist stockholders who claim the ownership.

I want to thank the International Labor Defense for their efficient service rendered in my behalf, and the money sent me for buying such things with which I was able to keep alive in the capitalist jail until I was finally granted a hearing.

It is gratifying to know that the workers are supporting an organization like the I.L.D. which fights for our class regardless of race, creed or color. Every worker should affiliate himself to this working-class defense movement with a view to creating a united front in the class struggle.

Fraternally yours,  
TONY KRIZON.

■  
(From a French militant facing deportation)  
Franklin County Jail,  
Malone, New York.

Comrades:

Through my screened and barred window I can see snow falling down on the outside. But in spite of this a strong sunshine came to warm me up in my cell and this welcome sunshine is seven copies of the LABOR DEFENDER.

Prison bars cannot break down the fighting spirit of class war prisoners, but on the contrary, strengthen up a thousands times their will and readiness to crush this system of exploitation.

Since June I am incarcerated as a criminal, (of course for the boss class I am a criminal). The Canadian bosses kept me three months in jail then to prove their understanding of class

solidarity, turned me handcuffed in the hands of the American authorities, which in their turn will hand me over to the French authorities.

By jailing and clubbing thousands of unemployed workers they will not and cannot solve the unemployment problem because it is part and parcel of their decaying system.

The workers of the Soviet Union have shown to the American workers how to better their conditions and smash unemployment.

I shall bring also with me the American working class revolutionary greetings to the French workers and acquaint them with every one of your struggles.

LEON MABILLE.

(From the wife of one of the Woodlawn prisoners).

Poland, Ohio

Dear Comrades:

We are very grateful to you for sending the \$20 check which has come just in time to pay our insurance and part of our bills.

In totalling up we find that this is our fifth check sent to us. We would have you thanks each time, but did not know whether you required us to answer or not. So all in one we are sending thanks for the receivable checks.

We remain,

Comradely yours,

ANTONIA ZIMA (Per Betty Zima).



Mabel Husa and Ailene Holmes, young workers, serving 90 days in Elmira Penitentiary for teaching workers' children the class struggle. Arrests followed attack by Legionnaires on Workers International Relief camp which they were directing.





*Mabel Husa and Ailene Holmes, young workers, serving 90 days in Elmira Penitentiary for teaching workers' children the class struggle. Arrests followed attack by Legionnaires on Workers International Relief camp which they were directing.*

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