

LABOR DEFENDER

FEBRUARY, 1932

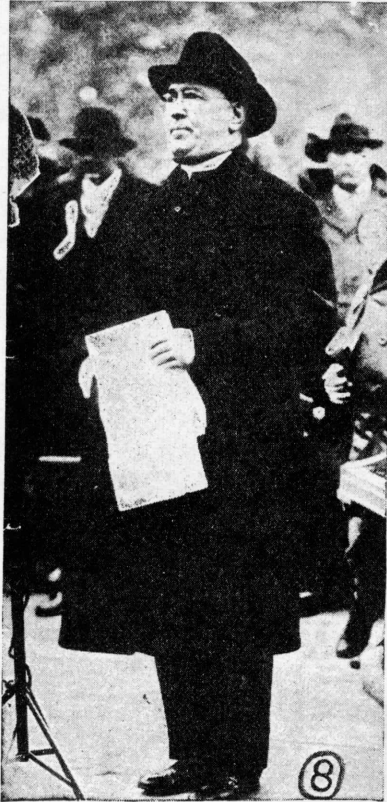
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FREE!
the
SCOTTSBORO
NEGRO
BOYS!





VIEWS OF THE MONTH



(1) Lynch-mob that surrounded the Scottsboro court house the day the 9 Negro boys were sentenced to die. More than 10,000, armed with shot-guns, crowded the tiny town, demanding the death-sentence for the boys.

(2) The 9 Negro Scottsboro boys on the day of their trial. Three are 14; none over 20.

(3) A Scottsboro poster used all over the Soviet Union, where millions of workers and collective farmers have demanded their release.

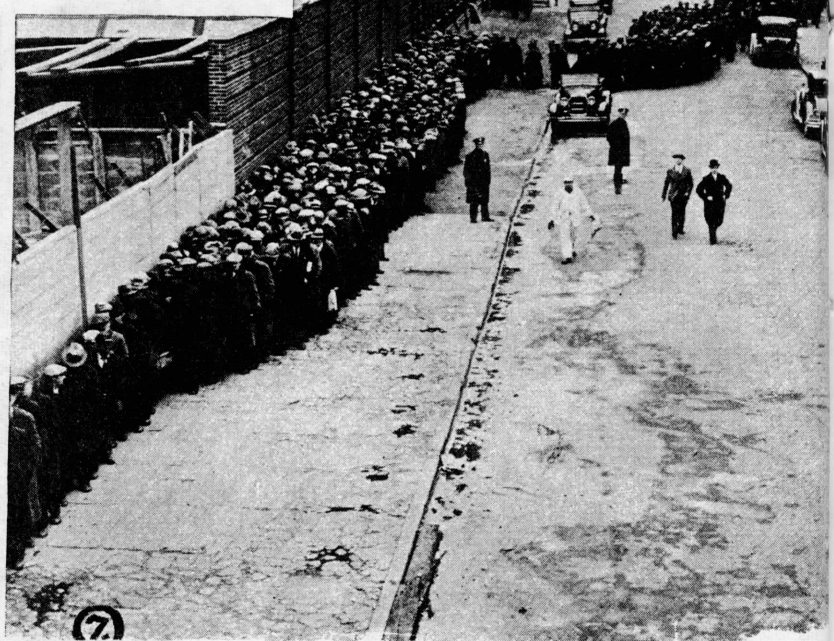
(4) A Harlan miner beaten by gunthugs of the bosses. Note how old his wife appears—prematurely aged by hunger and hardship.

(5) Anti-war scene in Tokyo, Japan, where workers demonstrated against the imperialist venture of their bosses.

(6) Wm. Murdock, a leader of the National Textile Workers Union, as he appeared on the day he was deported to Scotland, last week.

(7) Long breadlines in New York. Thousands of these will demonstrate February 4, for jobless insurance. The I.L.D., will participate demanding freedom for Mooney, the Scottsboro boys, and the Kentucky miners.

(8) Fat jowls of Father Cox, the faker, trying to keep the unemployed masses from making an effective fight against starvation. The priest is backed by the bosses anxious to head off the movement of the unemployed councils.



LABOR DEFENDER

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THE WORLD LOOKS AT SCOTTSBORO

By MAXIM GORKI

(Statement to workers of America by the world famous writer, Gorki, who has been tireless in his protests on behalf of the Scottsboro boys. This article was sent to the LABOR DEFENDER from the Soviet Union, where Gorki at present is one of the leaders of the M.O.P.R., (Russian workers section of the I.L.D.)

THE AMERICAN section of the I.L.D. has given the Scottsboro case international significance. For the first time since the American Civil War the merciless exploitation of the Negro masses by the ruling class of the United States has been brought into the light of international public opinion and denounced.

Thousands of resolutions demanding the release of the nine Scottsboro Negro boys were sent in from the Soviet Union, England, France, Australia, Cuba, Austria, Germany and many other countries. The American consulates in Germany and Cuba were besieged by thousands of demonstrating workers.

Famous scientists and writers: Einstein, Theodore Dreiser and others took part in this campaign.

The 9 boys are languishing in prison; the electric chair looms before them, and they are reminded every day by the guards that they will be burnt on it.

"The campaign must be intensified throughout the whole world. Not one meeting, not one demonstration must take place, not one leaflet, not one I.L.D. publication must be published without an appeal to the masses to rise in protest against the white terror which American imperialism is employing to stifle the growing un-

rest among the Negro masses in the United States." (The appeal of the Central Committee of the I.L.D. to all the branches of the I.L.D.)

For in America, in the town of Scottsboro, a drama is unravelling which reminds us of the case of the two Italians, Sacco and Vanzetti, who, while sentenced to death, were confined in prison for seven years, waiting to be burned on the electric chair. Against this murder of the innocently condemned, the "humanitarians" as well as the working class of the whole of Europe protested, but these protests did not at that time make sufficient impression on the wooden mugs of the American millionaires.

In Scottsboro nine young Negroes are condemned to death. They too, are guilty of no crime, they were snatched up by the police at random, they were not even acquainted with each other, nevertheless they were all condemned to death.

This was done with the object of terrorizing the Negroes; this murder is a "precautionary measure." This is done because the Negro masses are being more and more drawn into the revolutionary

Frederick Douglass week—February 20-27, in honor of the great Negro fighter for emancipation, will have as a major task, demonstration and protest for the immediate release of Tom Mooney, as well as for the 9 Scottsboro Negro boys. The 24th of February is the 15th anniversary of the date Mooney was condemned to die by the American ruling-class. Mass protest of the working-class halted the executioner, forced commutation of the sentence. Now, mass protest by the working-class MUST free him. The demonstrations this week must be for the immediate release of Tom Mooney, for the 9 Negro Scottsboro boys, for the Kentucky miners and against terror upon the Tampa tobacco workers. This issue of the LABOR DEFENDER, a special Negro issue, must be utilized to the fullest in Negro neighborhoods, as a means of gaining members for the I.L.D.



movement and are joining the ranks of the white toiling masses in the common cause.

They are taking an active part in the fight against American imperialism. The capitalist class, fearing the spread of the rebellious spirit among the 12 million Negroes—workers and farmers—are concentrating all their powers to quell the growing fighting spirit of the Negro masses, using as a weapon against them — the white terror.

This is quite evident from the sanguinary events at Camp Hill, Alabama, as well as Scottsboro, which intensified the campaign of the working class of the whole world against lynching and for the defense of Negro workers in the United States and emphasized its importance.

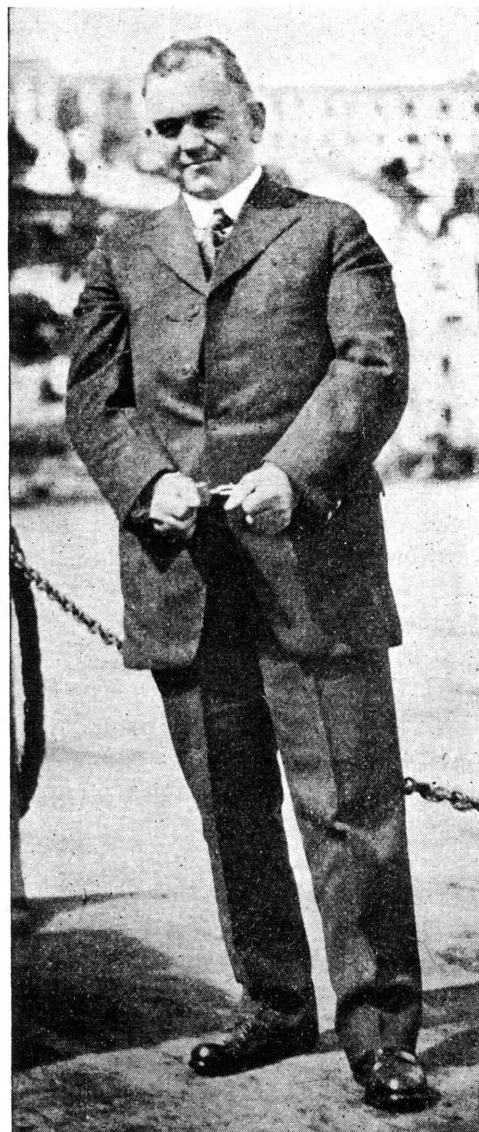
Working men and women! Class brothers and sisters! Remember that mass demonstrations of toilers under the leadership of the I.L.D., the strenuous effort of the proletariat of all countries and colors, have more than once been successful in achieving their aim. We must save the nine youths—the revolutionary fighters from the hands of the executioners.

Let us double, triple our protests in their defense!

Hundreds of thousands of working men and women, collective farmers, pioneers, scientists in the U.S.S.R. and toilers throughout the whole world are again and again at huge mass meetings raising their voices in protest against the wave of white terror in America. Down with fascism and white terror!

Release the Scottsboro prisoners!

WE MUST FREE MOONEY!



When Mooney was sentenced to death: 15 years ago this month.

By J. LOUIS ENGDAHL

TO MANY it may seem strange now to raise the cry that Tom Mooney is in danger. Especially in these days when the great effort of boss class propagandists may meet with some success in creating the illusion that the tide has turned for Mooney—that Mooney faces a better day.

Mooney has been charged with murder, convicted and on the road to the gallows. His life saved he has been thrown into prison for life. What further dangers?

To be sure the prison regime hungers for his life. Diseases lurk in penitentiaries—especially in San Quentin—ever raise the threat of death. The killing burden of heavy prison toil heaped upon Mooney's shoulders bends him daily closer to earth. This is the living death behind the steel and stone of capitalist class justice.

There are other dangers. Police stations, jails, prisons are in these days overcrowded. So is the San Quentin prison. Everywhere prisoners are restless, discontented. So are the prisoners of San Quentin. Here, as elsewhere, the most vicious repression is organized against them. Thus, for instance, the so-called "holiday season" at San Quentin was marked by the brutal murder by prison guards of the young Negro worker, Hugh Adams. The armed guards needed little provocation, or they themselves created one, to begin a merciless attack on young Adams as he was leaving the mess hall with the great army of other prisoners on Monday, December 28. He resisted. The beating increased and guns began to blaze. Adams fell dead, pierced with many bullets, while eight other prisoners, also fell wounded, some critically, bringing the total casualties in the San Quentin Prison for the two-week period to one dead and 13 wounded. This condition surely creates a danger for Mooney. It might have been he, rather than young Adams who was murdered. A provocation at any time might include Mooney. Thus the German ruling class accomplished the murder of Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxembourg. The assassins of Adams were rewarded with a week's vacation with pay. The murderers of Liebknecht and Luxembourg were "honored" by the social-democratic republic. Rich reward awaits the slayer of Mooney, although the California ruling class knows this is a dangerous solution for itself of the Mooney issue.

But these are not the main dangers for Tom Mooney in the sixteenth year of his imprisonment. This month—February 24, 1932—marks the fifteenth anniversary of the death sentence imposed on Mooney following the more than five weeks' trial, January 3 to February 9, 1917, that terminated with a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree.

During those 15 years history has often repeated itself. President Wilson heard the thunder of the Russian workers at the gates of his government's embassy in Leningrad (then Petrograd) and demanded the commutation of Mooney's death sentence to life imprisonment. An echo of this action came recently in the well-staged "mission of mercy" headed by Mayor "Jimmy" Walker, of New York City—the "voice of fear" of the ruling

class before the jobless menace today. President Wilson, in the midst of the world war but following the Bolshevik revolution in Russia, dispatched a special mission to California to "investigate" the Mooney case. It was headed by Felix Frankfurter, the Harvard University Law Professor who played a special role in the Sacco-Vanzetti case, while it also included the democratic administration's own secretary of labor, William B. Wilson. Today the Hoover republican administration has its own Wickersham Commission that also investigated the Mooney case, although an effort was made to suppress its findings with the declaration that the "case was out of its province." Presidents, senators, congressmen in Washington; governors in California, politicians of all stripes, have perjured themselves with promises in their frantic efforts to meet this issue through hood-winking the masses. Parades of lawyers have let loose floods of legal arguments. The labor bureaucracy became so calloused in carrying through its betrayals that Tom Mooney himself, who had refrained from open attack on his betrayers, let loose with his scorching pamphlet against the Greens, the Wolls, the Scharrenbergs, that resulted in the bureaucrats seeking to bolt more tightly than ever the doors of the local trade unions against the Mooney issue. The Socialist camp-followers of this boss class army sought to give their anti-working class support through spreading all possible illusions at all times in the ranks of the workers.



At an I.L.D. demonstration for Mooney: in New York



At the Feb. 4 demonstrations for unemployment insurance, the I.L.D. will participate in specific demands for Mooney's freedom; for the release of the 9 Negro Scottsboro boys; for the Kentucky miners. All I.L.D. members and sympathizers must turn out to fight against the Hoover hunger system and to win the release of the working class prisoners! Free Mooney! Free the Scottsboro boys! Down with terror against the Kentucky miners and the entire American workingclass!

In spite of all this confusion the facts in the Mooney case have crystallized themselves quite clearly in the minds of the working class. But this crystallization, in February, 1932, the fifteenth year of the death sentence imposed on Tom Mooney, takes place in the period of the extreme agony of the boss class world, that witnesses in the United States the misery and restlessness of twelve million jobless. Wilson was in the midst of the world war. Hoover—and Walker and Rolph—are in the midst of engulfing unemployment.

Governor Rolph is expected to take some action in this situation desperate for his class. Governor Rolph's probable action constitutes **THE GRAVE DANGER TO TOM MOONEY.**

Governor Rolph will not pardon Tom Mooney, admitting that Mooney has all the time been innocent of the crimes charged against him, confessing to the frame-up, the perjured evidence, the bought and intimidated witnesses, admitting the class character of this savage persecution, set forth in the demagoguery of the San Francisco editor, Fremont Older, as follows:

"It was Mooney's radical activities in labor strikes that inspired the frame-up. He had offended the powerful corporations, and they were determined to get him. It was hatred, instead of legal evidence, that convicted him. 'We have got the right man with the wrong evidence,' was the phrase they used to explain it. In other words, they were willing to hang a man who annoyed them, with perjured evidence, using the courts for their purpose."

Fremont Older is worried about how

to get rid of this "stain upon the state of California" which, in a sense is Governor Rolph's problem, and the problem of the whole ruling class—how to get rid of the Mooney issue. Rolph announced he would decide on Walker's appeal in April.

The great danger to Tom Mooney, and to the whole working class, rests in the fact that Rolph's decision may commute the life imprisonment of Mooney to effect his release at once—a release that will carry with it the stigma of guilt, still claiming that Mooney is guilty of the crime for which nearly 16 years imprisonment is now considered sufficient penalty. A release that will deny Mooney the right to continue his working class activities. This will be a release that will force Mooney to carry the heavy chains of imprisonment through the highways and byways outside the prison walls, yet a prisoner still.

Against this danger the working class must mass its demand for the immediate and unconditional release of Tom Mooney and all the class war prisoners.

The International Labor Defense calls for the greatest emphasis on the Mooney issue in connection with the Day of Struggle Against Unemployment — FEBRUARY FOURTH. Here again, as in the Hunger March to Washington, the Mooney issue by its very tumult must rasp the nerves of the reaction.

The fifteenth anniversary of the death sentence imposed on Mooney, February 24, must itself be an occasion for wide protest campaigns punctuated with great mass meetings everywhere.

The ruling class seeks to separate the Mooney issue from the general working

class struggle and thus remove an obstacle to the more intensive persecution of labor everywhere. This must not be permitted. The Mooney issue must be drawn sharply into the forefront of all phases of the struggle against the growing terror — Scottsboro, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Imperial Valley, deportations, criminal syndicalist laws. Thus will be assured the mass pressure that will force labor's enemies to free Mooney immediately.



In fighting for Mooney, fight against lynching, too. Above, in Sunny Dixie.

Halt Lynch Terror!

By CECIL S. HOPE

AT THE first convention of the Trade Union Unity League held in Cleveland during the month of September, 1929, the Communist delegates, Negro and white, foresaw and predicted the sharp rise in the number of lynchings and other forms of oppression of the Negro masses now sweeping through the country.

This prediction was based upon definite knowledge of the then impending general crack-up of the economic system (crisis) and a thorough understanding of the methods and tactics employed by the ruling class in such situations. This opinion was proven correct, six weeks later, by the terrific crash on the stock exchange market and the subsequent unprecedented reign of terror following in its wake.

The lynching of Laura Woods, a sixty-five year old Negro woman, by a mob of North Carolina landlords in April, 1930, was the opening shot in the intensified war of hunger and terror launched against the Negro masses by the southern landowners. A few days later a Pullman porter, George Wilkins, was dragged from his train and hung to a tree in the state of Georgia. From then on, with rapid succession lynchings have been carried out all over the south. The number of lynchings grew from 11 in 1928 to 42 in 1930.

With the opening of 1931 the campaign began to assume mass proportions. The infamous Scottsboro case, sentencing to death 8 innocent, unemployed Negro boys and the ninth who is still under 14 years, to life imprisonment, signaled the change from individual to mass terror.

This attack was followed with the massacre of the Camp Hill share-croppers who formed a union to protect their crops from the robbery of the blood-sucking landlords, the frame-up and the murderous assault upon Willie Peterson, the ex-war veteran in Birmingham, Alabama, and the wholesale slaughter of the disarmed Negro toilers by the police and sheriffs of the southern states.

The terror is not confined to the South. In New York City on July 1st, the Harlem police murdered the Negro worker, Alfred Levy, in one of their many attacks on Scottsboro protest meetings. The following day, they murdered Gonzalez, a Mexican worker, for protesting

the murder of Levy. On August third the Chicago police fired upon a demonstration of Negro and white workers protesting the eviction of an 80 year old Negro woman, killing three Negroes outright and wounding many of the demonstrators. A few weeks later, the Cleveland police did the same thing killing 2 and wounding others.

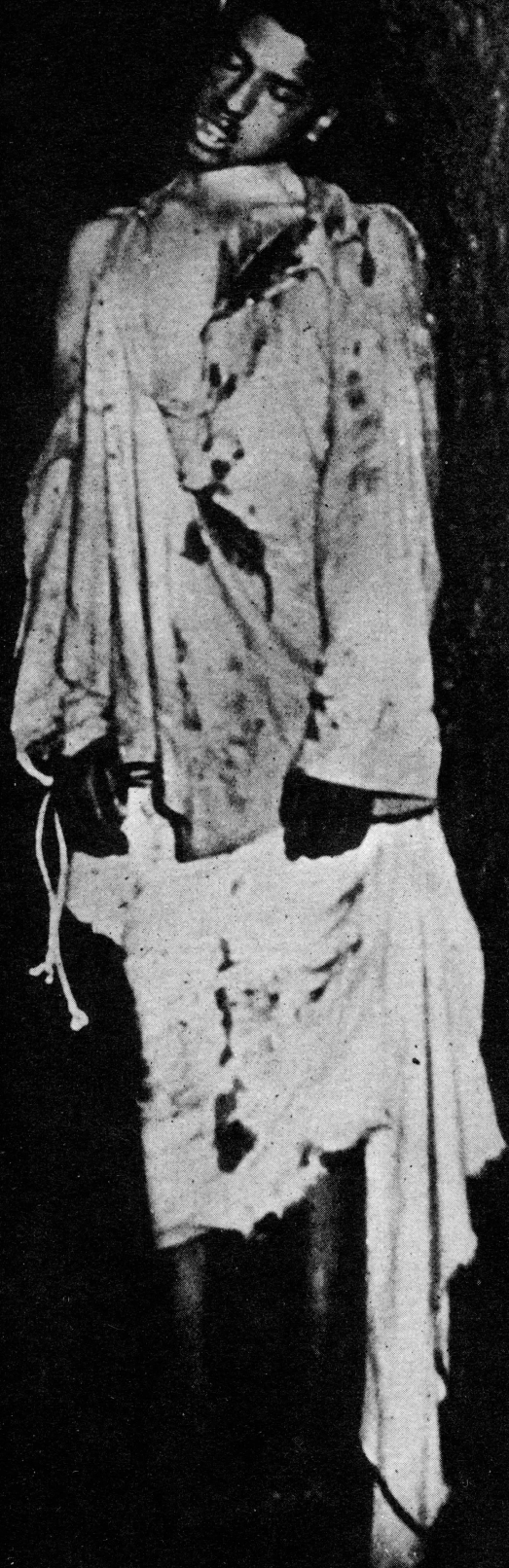
In the state of Maryland, famed for its farms and "justice," the terror against the Negro toilers rages just as furiously as in the deep south. The frame-up, lynch attacks upon Orphan Jones and George Davis, two unemployed Negro farmhands and the fiendish burning of Matthew Williams in the court house square on last December 17 is Maryland's notable contribution to the country-wide campaign of white terror.

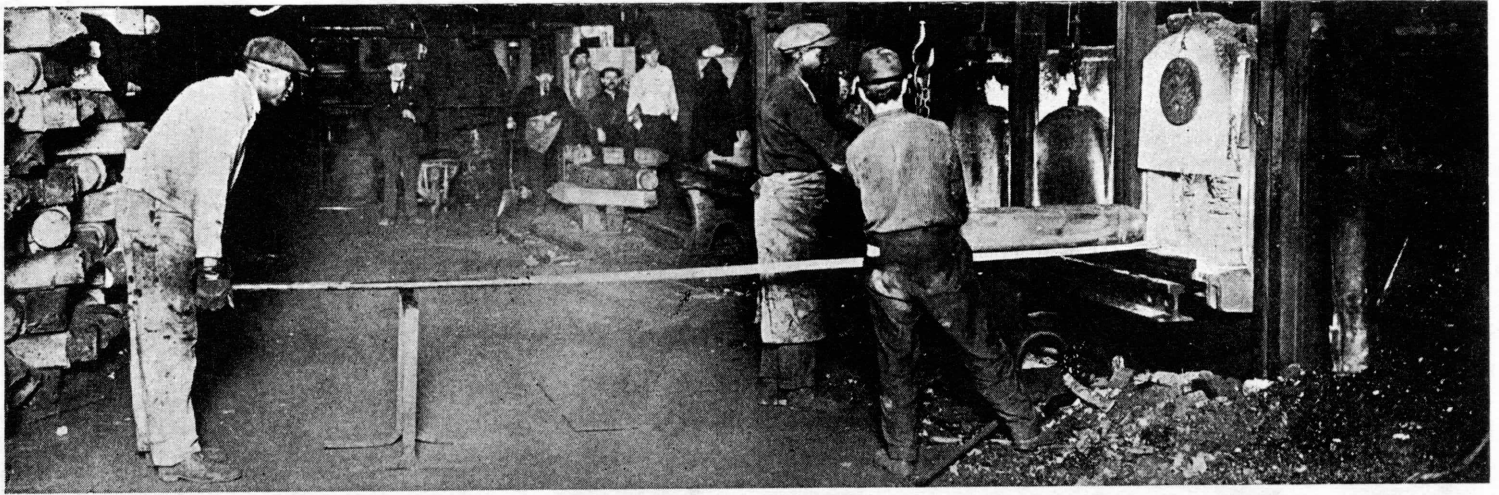
All over the country, Negroes are being murdered officially and unofficially. For stealing a pair of shoes to protect his feet from the cold, George Moore was sentenced to the electric chair by the court in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Bonny Lee Ross, a young Negro worker, was framed and electrocuted on December 18th by the state of Texas, with the governor justifying this crime by saying that. "While this boy may be innocent, it is sometimes necessary to burn a house in order to save a village."

But American imperialism would not attempt these dastardly outrages, without first securing the support of a host of Negro sycophants in its attacks upon the Negro and all other sections of the working class.

More and more the white ruling class is drawing into its service larger groups of Negro hirelings and professional boot-lickers, to assist in holding the suppressed masses in misery. The tremendous increase of Negroes on the police force in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, and other cities who become very handy — though not accidentally—in attacking demonstrations like the Scottsboro protest meetings in New York and the eviction struggles in Chicago, etc., is part of the physical preparations, while the open purchase of Negro preachers and the placement of Y.M.C.A. secretaries and other

(Continued on Page 38)





Negro steel workers in Youngstown, Pa. They are for the mass struggle policy to free the 9 Scottsboro boys.

The N.A.A.C.P.—Assistant Hangman

By HARRY HAYWOOD

What has prevented the execution of the Scottsboro boys? Why were they not burned on schedule on June 10, 1930?

There is only one answer: because the workers of the world roared their protest. Because the International Labor Defense, the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, and every working-class group throughout the world turned upon the lynchers the glaring spotlight of exposure. Squirring in this fierce light, they were forced to stop their bloody work.

What did this spotlight reveal? It revealed in all of its hideous nakedness the system of serfdom and robbery of the Negro masses. It revealed the nature of boss-class justice in the courts. It revealed how these courts are the instruments of the slave-drivers and lynchers for the purpose of maintaining the whole system of super-exploitation of the Negro masses.

The lynchers knew that this exposure of their system would weaken the authority of their courts. They feared that it would awaken the Negro masses to a deeper sense of the injustice of the system, and stimulate among these masses a desire to struggle against their oppressors. This would make their rule more difficult.

But all of those who wished to save the nine Scottsboro boys, all the workers who hated the lynchers and their system, were glad of this spotlight. For they knew that it was this alone that saved the innocent boys from the electric chair.

But the enemies of the boys hated the roar of the workers' voices. All those who wished to see the boys die, all who feared to disturb the slavery and terror of boss rule, banded together and shouted: "Take away the spotlight! Let the voices of the workers be stilled! Do not disturb the lynchers at their work. Do not anger the slave-drivers!"

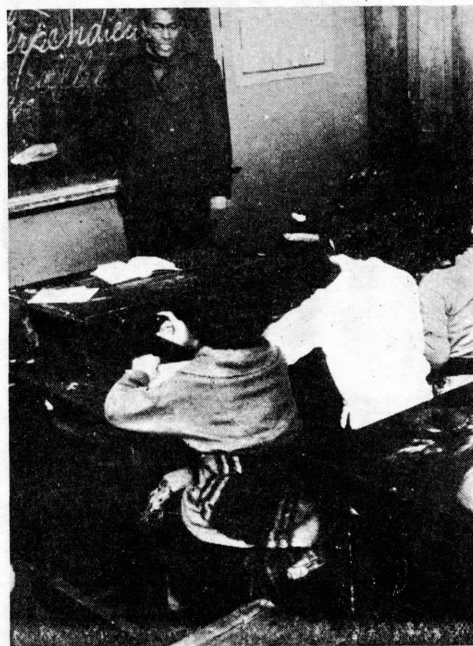
One of the loudest voices in this pack was the voice of the N.A.A.C.P. It screamed with anger. At the lynchers? No! It screamed at those who mercilessly held the spotlight upon the lynchers.

The N.A.A.C.P. entered the case to defend

the lynchers, and their system, and not the intended victims of the lynching. They defended the court which sentenced them and did not defend the victims. They hired the lawyer Roddy, who betrayed the nine Negro boys in the trial, and they did not defend the victims of Roddy's treachery. The N.A.A.C.P. protested against calling the prosecution and trial of nine innocent boys an outrage, and refused to defend the victims of this outrage. They were concerned with maintaining the confidence of the American masses in the courts that perpetrate legal lynchings like that against the nine Scottsboro boys, but they were not concerned with saving these intended victims from the outrage of the court. They raised the cry of the "red menace" even more loud than the lynchers, thus putting weapons into the hands of the slave-drivers and lynchers.

Why?

Because the official leadership of the N.A.A.C.P. does not represent the interests of the



An American Negro teaching English to Russian workers' children. In Moscow.

Negro toilers. It represents that class among the Negroes which has a stake in the system of exploitation and segregation—the Negro bourgeoisie. The ruling white imperialists which demands the lion's share of the profits coming from the special exploitation of the Negro toilers, in the industries, and on the plantations, hands to the Negro bourgeoisie the remaining juicy crumbs of exorbitant profits to be gained from the perpetuation of the Negro ghettos. This Negro class which includes the real estate brokers, the owners of insurance companies, the bankers, and other such commercial groups, also a section of the most influential Negro professionals are interested in maintaining the Negro ghettos as the basis of their existence.

In this manner the white ruling class fosters a buffer class between itself and the Negro masses, an ally which it uses to throttle the growing militancy of the Negro toilers against their brutal oppression. It is precisely this community of interests, which is the basis of the "holy alliance" between the white imperialist masters and their Negro reformist lackeys against the Negro masses. These masses must not be blinded by the phrases of these reformists who wage sham battles against the white ruling class in their quarrel for larger share of the profits.

Therefore the growing unity of Negro and white workers, as in the fight against the Scottsboro frame-up by attacking the whole system of segregation and exploitation threatens the very existence of this parasitic Negro bourgeoisie—and threatens the leadership of its chief representative, the N.A.A.C.P. (the Whites, Pickens, Du Bois, etc.) professional racketeers battering on the misery of the Negro masses. It is apparent from the above facts that the role of the N.A.A.C.P. in the Scottsboro case, stands exposed as that of assistant hangman to the bosses. Therefore the struggle of the workers for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys, and against lynching, legal and otherwise, must have as one of its chief centers of attack, the N.A.A.C.P. and the whole tribe of Negro reformists.

From Behind KENTUCKY BARS



Evarts, Harlan County, Ky; when the government sent militia to try to force the starving miners back into the pits. The strike spread despite all governmental terrorism.

The following article was written in prison by Vern Smith, staff correspondent of the "Daily Worker." Since this article was mailed two of the leaders of the strike, Joe Weber secretary of the Central Strike Committee and Bill Duncan, active in the strike relief, have been kidnapped. They were beaten half to death by coal company thugs. In the same period Jones and Hightower have been given life sentences.

Rush protests to Governor Laffoon of Kentucky, to the Sheriffs of Harlan and Bell Counties, Kentucky, and to Claiborne County, Tenn., demanding the safety and release of the two arrested strike leaders.

By VERN SMITH
Correspondent for the Daily Worker
(Bell County Jail, Pineville, Ky.)

THE STRIKE here, led by the National Miners' Union, centers in Bell County, but is spreading through Harlan County, Ky., and Northern Tennessee. It is all one field, and all one strike against conditions of starvation which prevail in the whole area and are the worst in the world. These thousands of starving but fighting miners are opposed by some of the largest and most ruthless combinations of capital in this country; Rockefeller, Henry Ford, and Sam Insull own the largest mines down here.

Naturally the coal operators own the courts, sheriff, and the rest of the government. Over in Harlan County Judge "Baby Face" Jones claims he doesn't own mines, but admits his immediate family has them. Sheriff John Henry Blair of Harlan County is hooked in all sorts of

ways with the companies and has a private army of 400 thugs, deputized by Blair but paid and under the orders of the operators. For a year they have raided, murdered and dynamited the miners.

Here in Bell County Judge Van Bebber was cross-examined yesterday by your

correspondent (while the correspondent was on the witness stand testifying in his own defense against a charge of criminal syndicalism). Van Bebber admitted that he was in recent years manager of "a little wagon mine." Further probing by Smith brought out that this "wagon mine" was the Log Mountain Coal Company, with mines at Hignite and Edgewood in Stoney Fork Hollow, mines at Mingo and Yellow Creek in Mingo Hollow and a mine at Davisburg. The judge finally admitted he had had charge of 500 company houses. Van Bebber shook his fist in rage but made no answer when your correspondent accused him of now owning mines through his family like Baby-Face Jones.

Under the lead of Deputy Sheriff Floyd Broughton of Bell County, gun thugs are rapidly being deputized and built into an organization such as Blair heads in Harlan.

With all this machinery in these operators' control, four kinds of terror, ravage the country. The first is plain, ordinary murder and violence, so far mainly in Harlan, but Bell County gun thugs have broken the picket line at Kettle Island, have pulled their guns on the relief station at Board Tree mine and have threatened many.

The next is evictions—so far 12 families have received notice at Board Tree.

Then comes injunctions. On the first day of the strike the National Miners



A Harlan mother and children; barefoot.

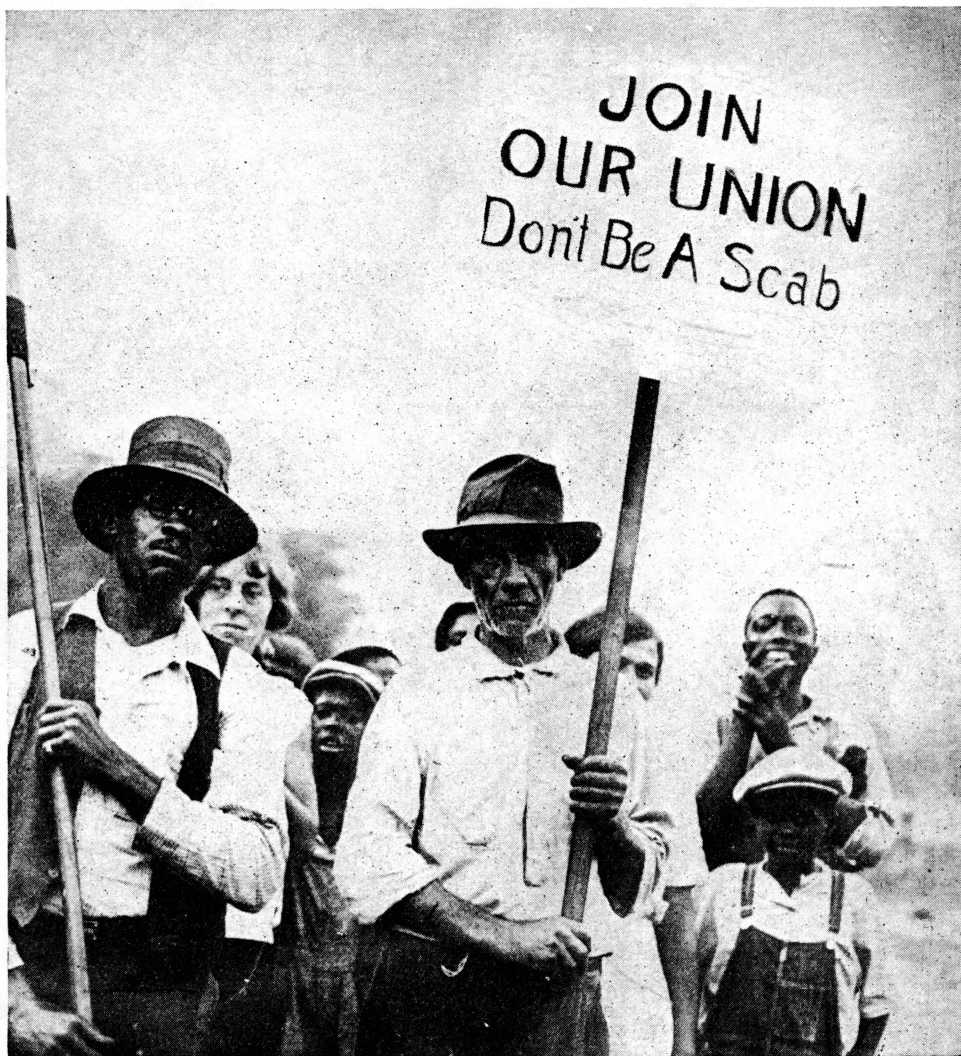
Union as such and a group of local strikers were served with an injunction by the Pioneer Coal Mining Company in Straight Creek section. This injunction prohibited speaking to workers to ask them not to work for the company, prohibited distribution of any leaflets or literature whatsoever, prohibited asking anyone to join the union.

Then on January 13th the Straight Creek Coal Corporation served notice of application for a federal injunction, terms not stated in notice but naming everybody already in jail and about 80 local miners still out of jail. This injunction hearing comes up in Lexington, Ky., on January 16.

But the most dramatic form of terror was the direct attempt of the coal operators through Judge Van Bebber and the deputies of Bell County to smash union, strike, relief and defense headquarters and outlaw anybody working in them. On January 4 a half dozen deputies, a policeman and a game warden charged into the National Miners Union, Southern District headquarters at 105 Virginia Avenue, seized all union and International Labor Defense application cards and union dues books, seized also the Phil Bard Pamphlet, "No Jobs Today" and the mimeographed manual of the I.L.D. on "Workers' Self Defense." This literature is the sole evidence against all those arrested there—Vern Smith, Vincent Kemenovich, John Harvey, Ann Barton, Norma Martin, Julia Parker. Later near the office they arrested Margaret Fontaine, no literature and no evidence. Still later, the same day, they arrested in her room Dorothy Ross Weber, I.L.D. organizer, on no documentary evidence whatsoever and no evidence of any other sort.

Wednesday, January 6, Attorney Allan Taub of the I.L.D. arrived in town, went around for less than two hours, all the time in the company of I.L.D. Attorney Stone (a local man) seeking witnesses of the raid. Within those two hours he was arrested first for criminal syndicalism.

In this state you have a right to an examining trial which can bind you to the Grand Jury or let you go. The examining trial of the first mine demonstrated still further the coal operators' control of government here but was nevertheless used by the defendants to popularize strike issues. It was set for Tuesday and about 4,000 miners came to Pineville demonstrated, picketed the court house, and the



Negro and white miners on picket line. The workers are breaking down race barriers.

jail, sent telegrams to the governor, etc. The prosecution postponed the trial and called in the Harlan gun thugs who mounted a machine gun on the porch of the Hotel Continental, ready to blow down these Kentucky miners. This did not prevent Prosecutor Walter Smith (County Attorney) from declaring when he did have the defendants in court: "One drop of Kentucky mountain blood is worth more than the blood of all the Reds in the world."

The trial was postponed to January 7th. The same sort of demonstration took place then and prosecution had the trial postponed to January 9th, then actually called the case January 8th. Date was set only to fool the miners. The defense forced abandonment of this trick, after a long fight, and after still more argument forced the court to accept Taub as attorney in the case.

The defense put on Norma Martin, W.I.R. director, Ann Barton, writer, and Vern Smith.

On the stand, this trio of witnesses

exposed the starvation here, the terror, and betrayals by the N.M.U. and V. Smith brought out the control of this court by the coal companies. Prosecutor Walter Smith made a speech reeking with invective, calling the defendants and defense attorneys "cattle," "liars," "vile" and declaring "if that thar stuff (the literature) is really as insidious as it looks those who did it ought to be lined alongside a wall, not waiting for the electric chair. . . ." Here he was interrupted by defense attorneys who objected to his inciting a lynching in the court room. The defense put on several miners' wives who testified to starvation and one miner Goodman, who testified Harlan gun thugs drove him from home and that his baby died of starvation. As soon as he finished testifying, Prosecutor Smith had him arrested right in the court room.

Van Bebber of course, held the defendants to the grand jury, which meets the last week in February, with a total bail for all of \$93,000.

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A Southerner Sees Scottsboro



By BRUCE CRAWFORD

The writer is the editor of Crawford's Weekly in Norton, Va.

ALTHOUGH a Southerner, I boil at the Scottsboro outrage. These nine Negro youths, mere children, framed and condemned on a rape charge are victims of a system every whit as vicious as that which the War Between the States constitutionally "abolished." Here is further evidence—if any is needed—of the futility of our laws to protect Negro workers against the determination of the Southern employers to "keep the nigger in his place"—which is practical slavery.

I am one of those who has come to feel that "appeals to justice" on a sentimental basis from liberals, is insufficient.

White and Negro workers demonstrating for the Scottsboro boys in Harlem, N. Y. Demonstrations such as these should be in every American city to free the 9 boys. Note the Negro cop, the ruling class uses against the Negro masses.

Unless made to pause by "dangerous" Negroes and prevent them from converting anger into decisive action. This program is calculated to leave the Negro workers helpless in their fight against oppression. Here is a clear case of class war, with race hatred adroitly introduced into the fight to keep the white masses from joining the Negro.

Southerners at all incensed by this terrorizing of Negro masses are mainly liberals who see in lynchings only race hatred, mob hysteria and sadistic orgies. They deplore, with swivel-chair complacency, the brutality of mob lawlessness. They have a sentimental nausea for bullets and blood.

While these gentle Southerners are horrified, and, of course rightly, that one man, or a mob of men, should take the life of another human being, they either cannot or will not see that the worst sort of lynching is the legal lynching of Negroes. This sort of murder is not relieved by ignorance and "mob psychology," as attributed to the usual lynch gang. It is deliberate, systematic mobbing to terrorize Negro workers into hopeless serfdom.

Wherever the owners are threatened with ruin by the economic collapse, as landowners are in Alabama, they grab any pretext to "keep the niggers in their place." And rape is the handiest of all pretexts—although white citizens may have their way with Negro girls without running foul of the law.

The Alabama reactionaries have taken advantage of the Scottsboro case, as they have of the Camp Hill situation, to attempt to intimidate and disarm rebellious

gro as Mister So-and-So. The judge, a Kentucky gentleman, arched his eyes and opened his mouth in amazement. "We don't mister niggers in Kentucky!" he told the lawyer, who knew better than that. And thus the great Commonwealth was spared humiliation.

But take Governor Sterling of Texas for frank and brazen denial of Negro liberties. Commenting on a case similar to the Scottsboro case, the Governor of the great Lone Star empire declared: "It may be that this Negro is innocent, but sometimes it is necessary to burn a house to save a village." What worse commentary than this on the state of justice in our present democracy.

Governors, judges and sheriffs, are cravens fearful for their jobs. It is necessary that the masses, Negro and white alike, build unions to cope with their organized exploiters. They can make their oppressors quake with fear. They can then sing "Solidarity" in such unison that it would get the vibratory rate of the capitalist world.

Feeling this, I cannot expect much of the Supreme court of Alabama when on January 21, it hears the appeal of the Scottsboro boys, unless a wave of protest goes over the country demanding their release. Alabama should be deluged with such demands. The ruling class, always determined to deal with individuals, prefers to hear the lonely solo voice of the working man. Let it now hear the mighty chorus of an outraged mankind.

SCOTTSBORO
NEGRO BOYS
Shall
NOT DIE.



From Darkest America

who run the place, he liked Andy; Andy was a sweet boy. But then the old man died, and the young boss, he didn't like 'niggers.' He said he didn't want no 'niggers' working for him. Times was getting hard, and they was laying off the colored folks first anyhow. So they fired Andy.

"My, times was awful hard for us. No jobs for neither of the boys; and you couldn't get nothing for junk any more either.

"Then, one day, Andy said he was going down to Memphis. 'Folks say I can get a job loading boats in Memphis, maw,' he said. 'I'm going down and send you back some money for to live on.' And Roy, of course, he wanted to go along. Them boys was always together, you never could separate them nohow. Roy said he'd go to the hospital and get his eyes fixed up in Memphis. So I told them where they'd find their auntie in Memphis and sent them along.

"That was the last time I saw them free.

"My boys would never do nothing like that. Everybody knows my boys would never do nothing like that."

Quickly Mrs. Wright learned that Negro boys need not do anything like that to bring a mob howling on their heels, to have a judge stand up in a Southern court and sentence them one by one to death!

In their cells in Alabama, in her miserable little hovel in Chattanooga, Roy, Andy, and Ada Wright have learned this.

Now they have turned to the I.L.D. and the workers, black and white, in America to save them.

"That boy Roy," says George W. Chamlee, Chattanooga attorney for the I.L.D., "is the gamest little kid I ever saw." He said to me in jail: 'I'm innocent, and I'm counting on the workers to set me free. That girl Ruby Bates told the white folks when we got off the train that we never touched her. Twice one of the deputies said: 'All right, there, nigger kid. You run along.' But twice they held me back; and then the next day that white girl changed her mind and said we tried to hurt her. But I'm innocent, and I know the I.L.D. will set me free.'

By PAUL PETERS

Publicity Director of the I.L.D. who wrote this while in Chattanooga.

HERE is one of those tumbledown, black, sour old ratholes in which Negroes in the blackbelt of Chattanooga are forced to live. Here she sits in the smoke and flicker of a kerosene lamp without a chimney, a frail, tired, unhappy little woman, talking about her boys.

"Andy, he's a sweet boy," says Mrs. Ada Wright. "He's the oldest, he's 17; Roy, my baby boy, he's only 14, but he's got more get-up. Roy never went to school much, because he had something the matter with his eyes. He's been stone blind several times, but then he gets better and sees a little. The doctor says there's a growth over his eyes, but we ain't never had money enough to care for him right.

"He used to carry meals for the men that work in the foundry. Sometimes he'd make a dollar a week. Then, when the foundry kind of shut down, Roy picked up old junk, and paper, and rags and iron, and tried to sell them to the junk man. He made perty good at that. Roy wasn't no slacker, no sir! He used to make three and maybe four dollars a week sometimes.

"Andy, he tried awful hard, but jobs was hard to get. Andy run a truck for a produce house downtown, and he was doing well enough, though they always give him the longest runs and paid him less than the white truckers. The old man

"IT WAS WAR IN THE SOUTH"

By LOWELL WAKEFIELD

July 10, 1931, was execution day for the eight Negro boys convicted at Scottsboro. Meetings of the newly organized Share Crop-

pers Union around Camp Hill and Dadeville, in Lee and Tallapoosa counties, Alabama (these places are only fifty miles or so from the Kilby death cells) were part of the world protest that snatched from the electric chair its prey.

pers Union around Camp Hill and Dadeville, in Lee and Tallapoosa counties, Alabama (these places are only fifty miles or so from the Kilby death cells) were part of the world protest that snatched from the electric chair its prey.



Negro workers on the chain-gang in Alabama. Forced labor in America.

A few days later, July 15, hell broke loose around Camp Hill. A mob of plantation owners, led by the sheriff of Tallapoosa County, determined to smash Scottsboro protest and the growing union, discovered a meeting in an old shack about seven miles west of town (by accident; not a single stool in over 800 members of the union). The meeting broken up, they returned to town for reinforcements and the fight began in earnest. Hundreds of white landowners, business men from nearby towns, sheriff's deputies combed the countryside in cars, firing at will. Negro croppers armed themselves as best they could, with old bird guns and rusty pistols for defense. Newspaper correspondents compared the sound of the shooting to a world war front line. For fifty miles croppers' shacks were deserted. For fifty miles hardware stores were drained of their stocks of guns and ammunition (by land owners; croppers have no money). It was war in the South.

The open fighting lasted three days. Ralph Gray, a local leader of the Union, was murdered the first night by the sheriff and his deputies. Four Negro croppers were "sent to cut stove wood" (lynched). 34 union members were

thrown in jail, charged with assault, with conspiracy to commit murder (the sheriff had been badly wounded in the fighting).

The I.L.D. immediately wired its protest to this vicious murderous attack on the union and

its members. The workers' press took up the fight. The conferences called on the Scottsboro case talked Camp Hill, sent their protests, planned a campaign. A world fighting for the Scottsboro boys (they were in everyone's mind that week of the day set for execution) became conscious of Negro farmers in the black belt fighting too, and dying.

George W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, chief counsel for the I.L.D. in the Scottsboro case and I arrived in Dadeville Sunday night, July 19. We came in from the south, from Opelika, to avoid notice. Rifle echoes had hardly died out. It was still too dangerous to admit coming from Chattanooga, where the I.L.D. has its district office for the South. (Papers carried headlines about hundreds of armed Negroes leaving Chattanooga for the scene). Chamlee stayed in Dadeville. I went to the plantations, to try contact with the croppers, find out what had really happened. I saw the union meeting places burned to the ground; I talked to the wife of Ralph Gray, and she told me how her husband had been dragged from the house dying and killed on the way to the jail, showed me the blood-spattered interior of their shack; I talked to Ralph Gray's daughter, saw the horrible cut across her forehead where the sheriff had hit her as she tried to protect her father. And then I ran a fifteen mile race with a section of the mob still roaming that part of the country. They became suspicious of a stranger talking to

its members. The workers' press took up the fight. The conferences called on the Scottsboro case talked Camp Hill, sent their protests, planned a campaign. A world fighting for the Scottsboro boys (they were in everyone's mind that week of the day set for execution) became conscious of Negro farmers in the black belt fighting too, and dying.

"niggers" and taking pictures of the scenes.

Chamlee talked to the prosecutor, the judge, the sheriff, the defendants. The prosecutor said, "WE DON'T WANT ANOTHER SCOTTSBORO CASE IN OUR COUNTRY." The judge said, "There's nothing we can pin on these 'niggers.' We'll have to let them go just as soon as things are quiet enough to do so without getting mobbed."

The jailed croppers were overjoyed. They had been expecting the I.L.D. They told a strange true story. The first day of their arrest they were brutally beaten. Inhuman tortures were tried in efforts to make them betray the names of other members of the union, location of meeting places, etc. Next morning the beating continued. A deputy came running from the court house. "Leave those niggers alone, the judge just received a telegram about them and fainted." Not one defendant was touched from that time on.

Every man arrested, though hatred had flamed higher than ever before, was released within three weeks. There were no trials (except for one of the 34, who received the minimum fine for carrying a concealed weapon). No greatest-lawyer-in-the-world-Darrow defended them. They were freed by the I.L.D., backed by the workers.

The N.A.A.C.P.? "We don't believe in such things—send them up for long terms—reds stirring up trouble"; so said the branch in Birmingham in releases to the press; so said the "race leaders" at Tuskegee. Professors, preachers from Tuskegee went to Camp Hill to assist the sheriff put down this "uprising," to advise the croppers against resistance to lynching. These Negro croppers were viciously attacked by their "leaders."

The county prosecutor admitted their innocence, when the Chattanooga *News*, ordinary southern lynch paper, was forced to say editorially, "the Negroes were entirely within their rights in meeting and protesting against the execution of the eight Negroes at Scottsboro. . . . Many of these so-called 'Communist' riots' prove, upon investigation, to have been deputy sheriff riots."

The victory of Camp Hill shows what the fight to free the Scottsboro boys means to Negro workers and croppers in the South, how it is a fight for each one of them.

And by the way, tell this little story to the next worker who asks you why you believe in the I.L.D. program of militant protest and mass defense.



WHY DEPORTATIONS GROW—

The U.S. authorities aim to illegalize the revolutionary unions and to split the unity of native and foreign-born workers by deporting all foreign-born militants. Secretary Doak's ambition is to declare membership in the T.U.U.L. sufficient grounds for deportation. He is attempting to do so in the case of Edith Berkman, a leader of the National Textile Workers Union. The danger grows daily. All workers, native and foreign-born must fight back and halt the deportation terror.

By LOUIS COLMAN

HANGING like Damocles' sword over the head of every foreign born worker in the United States is the threat of deportation.

Let him consider organizing: deportation. Let him read an economic tract in criticism of the present order: deportation. To open his mouth for more wages to win his family a livable standard: deportation.

The weapon of exile is like a huge butcher knife wielded by the industrialists and capitalists to cleave in half the growing unity of foreign-born and native American workers.

Under cover of general deportation activities against criminal aliens, efforts are being made to deport thousands of unemployed and militant workers.

Secretary Doak has devised the plan of deporting radical workers to their fascist countries of origin, where death or imprisonment is assured them.

Openly entering into the class-war as a strike-breaking organization, the immigration department has expanded its activities more and more, directing them ever more consistently against the workers. In the week immediately before December 25, more than five hundred aliens were deported. A small proportion of these were criminals. The rest were political offenders, either militant workers or hungry ones for whom the capitalist system found itself unable, even if it had been willing, to provide employment.

Captain Michael F. McDermott of the Bureau of Criminal Alien Investigation of New York City recently announced plans for raiding the Seamen's Church Institute in that city, sometime this winter, to catch beached sailors and deport them before they are driven by desperate circumstances to think of doing something about changing conditions.

The lawlessness of the activities of the immigration officials was recognized even by the Wickersham committee, which suggested that deportation drives "may involve the most important of human rights, since investigations to find out



Edith Berkman, (in foreground) now in the Boston Immigration Detention house, being greeted by textile strikers in Lawrence, Mass. She is now very ill from the rotten food fed her by the federal authorities, who hope to send her to fascist Poland, where certain torture would kill her. Bill Murdock, of the same union, the N.T.W.U., has



just been deported to Scotland. Others await the same fate. It is evident, even from reading the boss press, that there is an organized campaign, of constantly-growing proportions, to deport from the U.S.A. as many militant workers as can be legally or illegally declared deportable by the Department of Labor.

whether suspected persons are deportable may include unlawful searches and seizures and infringement of the rights of assembly and free speech."

The general background of these anti-worker government activities may be gathered from cursory reading of bourgeois newspapers, many of which carry editorials praising the immigration department's campaign. The details, however, are generally suppressed or disregarded. I.L.D. records and reports show clearly the fascist, murderous character of Doak.

At any given moment, the I.L.D. is engaged in fighting several score of deportation proceedings in the courts and through organization of mass protest. A few cases are typical of government theories.

Steve Perlich, who can't read, was arrested in Bridgeport, Ohio, for giving away a copy of the *Daily Worker*. He is held for deportation to Jugo-Slavia. Perlich is a member of the National Miners' Union, the only militant, active union in the mining regions. This membership classes him, in the eyes of the immigration authorities, with dangerous alien criminals.

Leon Glaser, a Russian, is held for deportation because he acted as secretary to the Portland Branch of the Friends of the Soviet Union. He has been twenty-five years in America, and has a large family. With him are held Vladimir Welck and Michael Saksagansky, for similar "offenses." In this case, Secretary Doak

thought up a new scheme, which if it succeeds will enable him to deport thousands of militant Russian-born workers. These three men were ordered deported "To Soviet Union via Shanghai." They could not be deported directly to Russia, because the United States has no diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. So they have been ordered taken to Shanghai and set loose to make the rest of the way themselves. In Shanghai, under the reactionary war-lord rule, their lives would not be worth a Harlan miner's monthly pay-check.

Edith Berkman was arrested in Lawrence, Mass., for attempting to organize the mill-workers there to fight wage-cuts. She is held for deportation to Poland, where she was born, although the Polish government has revoked the citizenships of all who did not vote in its 1922 plebiscite. Recently the United States brought pressure to bear on the Polish government to issue a passport to a deportee who came under this classification, and with this precedent established, hopes to fill the fascist jails of Poland.

These cases are typical of the scores the I.L.D. is constantly engaged in fighting. Mass protest won for Guido Serio the right to leave voluntarily for Soviet Russia instead of being deported to slaughterhouse Italy. Mass protest must be organized and continuous to support the I.L.D. in saving these workers and retaining them in the U.S.A. for working-class activity.

War in Manchuria—and U. S. Gold

By M. JAMES

WITH the armed occupation of Manchuria being completed, Japanese imperialism is consolidating this new military highway to drive north towards Jehol, Inner Mongolia and the Soviet border to carry out the imperialist plan of attack upon the Soviet Union. At the same time Japanese and world imperialism is repartitioning China for further exploitation of the Chinese masses and for a more direct and effective campaign against the Chinese Soviets and their Red Army.

The White Guards which have been financed by Japanese imperialism will be utilized for imperialist attack on the Soviet Union, as a dispatch dated January 13th from Washington stated: "there is also interest in the activities of General Gregory Semenov, the former Cossack officer and former anti-Soviet Russian military leader who has been conferring with Japanese officials in Mukden since Sunday. He has been in Inner Mongolia and it would come as no surprise if he attempted to organize a White Russian force to hold that region for Japan. It is estimated by experts here that with proper financial backing a force of 50,000 White Russians could be organized in Manchuria in thirty days." Imperialism intensifies its war plot against the Soviet Union because the Soviet Union by successfully building up socialism gives tremendous revolutionary inspiration to the workers and oppressed masses thruout the world to fight against imperialist exploitation.

Despite the increasing antagonisms of the imperialist powers in their division of the loot in Manchuria and China, fundamentally they are united so far as their counter-revolutionary activities against the Soviet Union and the Chinese revolution are concerned. While Yankee imperial-



The Chinese Red Army: One of the only pictures sent to America of the workers and farmers brigades in China. Near Hankow.

ism sent protests to press Japan to drive against the Soviet border and to safeguard Yankee interests in Manchuria and China proper, she has helped Japan to provoke the Soviet Union. Even Yankee gold is financing the armed occupation in Manchuria against the Soviet Union and the Chinese masses. As was admitted by Charles Dailey of Kansas City: "Nearly all the money that is making this conquest possible is American gold." American imperialism is assuming the leadership of a war against the Soviet Union and the Chinese Revolution.

The Kuomintang militarists and officials have most cowardly capitulated towards Japanese and world imperialism and have aided the imperialist attack on the Soviet Union and the partition of China. The only consistent anti-imperialist forces in Manchuria and China Proper are the workers and toiling masses. While General Ma Chen San is now ruling over Heilungkiang as a tool of Japanese imperialism, the Red partisans of the Manchurian

workers and peasants are presenting stubborn resistance against Japanese imperialism. The Japanese army has repeatedly suffered defeats at the hands of the Red partisan troops. In several cases the entire Japanese army was wiped out in Hsinmintun and Simmin. In Southern and Central China, the Soviet territories have been increasingly extended and the Red Army is making smashing advances.

The imperialists while they are developing war plots against the Soviet Union and against the Chinese masses, are also exploiting the workers and peasants in their home countries. In the U. S., under the Hoover Hunger government, workers and farmers are suffering from unemployment, persecution, deportation, wage cut, starvation, eviction and all forms of ruthless exploitation and oppression. We must understand that the same Hoover Hunger Government is responsible for the murder and slaughter of the Chinese and other colonial masses, and for the war plot against the Soviet Union.



Negro workers in South toil as bad or worse than Chinese coolies. In Dixie's famous cotton fields—where lynchings grow.

HAWAII—Pearl of the Pacific

By HARRY GANNES

MARTIAL law is about to be declared in the Hawaiian Islands in order to back up the lynch law started by the United States navy. Why, at this particular moment, is there such a sharp clash in Hawaii? Why does the Hoover government which slaughters workers here, starves 12,000,000 and their families, condones lynching of Negroes in the South, suddenly ordain lynch law for Hawaii?

In preparation for war against Japan, American imperialism has always wondered how to cow the 139,631 Japanese residents of Hawaii. There is an entire literature on this question. Hawaii is the most powerful naval base the United States has in the Pacific. War maneuvers are now going on, partly directed against Japan, with American imperialism preparing its military and naval arm in order to get its share of the loot in Manchuria and the rest of China.

It is only in this light that the lynching of the Hawaiian, Joseph Kahahawai, can be understood.

The present flare-up grew out of the murder of Joseph Kahahawai, who had been accused and tried on the charge of killing Mrs. Massie, wife of Lieut. Thomas Massie of the U. S. Navy. Four other men, one of whom was an American citizen of Japanese origin, were accused along with Kahahawai. The men were tried by a jury of American citizens in which the prosecuting attorney fought vigorously to have the men jailed. The jury disagreed.

After the disagreement, Lieut. Massie, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Granville R. Fortescue, and two enlisted men, E. J. Lord and Albert Jones, deliberately seized Kahahawai, took him to the home of Mrs. Fortescue, where all evidence shows the most brutal torture was inflicted on Kahahawai, who was later shot through the heart. The lynching was not denied by the perpetrators. They gloried in it. They called on the naval authorities to back them up. They called on the Hoover government for support.

Though the murder was committed in Hawaii, the navy, with the help of the Hoover government which deports thousands of workers without trial, will prob-

ably insist that the trial be held in the United States, where the murderers will be whitewashed.

In this lynch provocation, Admiral Pratt declared that 40 women have been raped in Hawaii in the year 1931. This statement was denied by a 100 per cent American, a government official in Hawaii, a man whose capacity it was to record such matters. Dr. Thomas M. Mossman, government physician, declared that his records show only two rapes took place during the year 1931.

The American capitalist press took up the lynch cry of the navy and the Hoover

government. A heinous campaign against the native masses of Hawaii was set into motion. Hoover himself referred the matter to the cabinet. The Senate and the House ordered an investigation.

The fact that when the imperialists first came to Hawaii there were 200,000 Hawaiians on the Islands, and thanks to the disease-infested invaders, and to the policy of wholesale slaughter and rape, there are today only 22,000 Hawaiians left of course means nothing to the imperialists who were able to coin gold out of the Islands' rich soil.

But the real issue now is concerned with war preparations. Out of the 350,000 residents in Hawaii, the largest single group, 139,631, is of Japanese descent. Of these 87,748, again the largest group, are American citizens. In order at one fell swoop to deprive these American citizens of their rights as citizens, and to subject them to the lynch law of the army and navy, the Hoover government is preparing martial law in Hawaii.

American imperialism is preparing war in order to preserve its whole rotten system at the expense of obtaining more colonies to exploit, greater colonial masses to torture. This is the road of Wall Street. It is the path that leads to greater misery for the American workers.

Only the unity of the American workers and poor farmers, with their colonial brothers in all the lands in which the iron heel of American imperialism is now being stamped down with insane fury, can end the whole torturous system of capitalist exploitation and the brutality which grows out of it.

* * *

(Continued from Page 29)

The I.L.D. staff consisted of Taub, Stone, two other lawyers, Taylor and Col. Bingham, and David Bentall of Chicago. They assailed the trial as a strike breaking scheme and argued the criminal syndicalism law is invalid because it contradicts Section 4 of the Kentucky Constitution. This section is entitled "Right of Revolution" and states the people "have at all times an inalienable and indefensible right to alter, reform or abolish their government in such manner as they may deem proper." This section is a relic of pioneer days and the coal operators will probably do things to it in the near future.



Lieutenant Pennington, of the U. S. Marines in Nicaragua, holding the severed head of the Sandinista, Sylvio Herrera. This picture is reproduced from a clipping in a South American newspaper. Such terror is now being planned for Hawaii—and all Wall Street colonies.

WORKING-CLASS FEBRUARY

By BERT GRANT

THIRTEEN years ago this month America experienced its first general strike in Seattle. Just a few weeks ago we saw the government of Chile declare martial law and ride machine guns around on a fleet of taxicabs in the effort to crush out a similar movement within its borders. The demands of the workers, and the conduct of the ruling classes in these two struggles, show how far the intervening 13 years have carried the class conflict in the western hemisphere.

The Seattle general strike broke out on February 6, 1919. Nothing like it had

in whose support the general strike had been launched, stayed out for another month in an unsuccessful attempt to raise their wages. Had the entire city stayed steadfast, a different ending would have been written.

Nevertheless, the idea of the general strike had not been killed. The sparks from Seattle flew across the border to Winnipeg, where a similar movement took place a few months later. Here also a demand for a wage increase—of 32 per cent, for the building trades—was the central issue of the walk-out. Again the result was defeat for the workers.

But in both these efforts, the strikes were carried on by unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, although most of those involved in the Winnipeg struggle had endorsed industrial unionism and voted to withdraw from the A. F. of L. No political demands were made. No conscious revolutionists were in strategic posts.

The Chilean walk-out shows the development of 13 years. Here we find the strikers demanding nationalization of large estates, unemployment insurance, and release of leaders in earlier walk-outs and in the naval revolt of last September. In coming out on a general strike the workers of Santiago and other cities of Chile responded to the call of the Communist Party. Hence the speed with which the Wall Street controlled government clapped on its military repressive measures.

Many other acts of class repression have the ruling class chalked up against themselves in February. In this month, in 1917, for instance, Mooney and Billings were sentenced on perjured testimony for a bomb explosion with which they had no connection. In 1906 Haywood, Meyer, and Pettibone were kidnapped from Denver to Idaho in the attempt to frame them for the death of a union-smashing governor. In 1922 the Rhode Island state troops fired on textile strikers at Pawtucket, killing one and wounding several more. Two years later 40 I.W.W. members were jailed in the San Pedro, California waterfront and seamen's strike. John Barkowsky, a striking coal miner in Imperial, Pa., was brutally beaten to death by three state cossacks in their barracks. The birthday of Matt A. Schmitt, another

of the class war prisoners held at San Quentin, comes on February 15th.

Not only in the United States is February marked with working class significance. In 1928 over 1,700 Chinese men, women, and youths were executed outside of Canton, for their part in setting up a Soviet government there during the previous December. Their deaths were followed by a great peasants' uprising throughout South China the next day.

The German plutocracy, in February of 1919, perpetrated the assassination of Kurt Eisner, premier for the Bavarian Soviet government. A similar deed was the murder in February, 1912, of Francisco Madero, the revolutionary president of Mexico, by the followers of Huerta. To go back to 1840, we find the outraged landlords and manufacturers deporting to Van Diemen's Land the leaders of the great Chartist movement, Ernest Jones, Williams, Frost, and others who struggled for political and economic rights for the masses.

And, by the way of historic irony, in February, 1897, the Tsarist government exiled Lenin to Siberia. Twenty-two years later, when he was the leader of a successful working-class revolution, Lenin signaled the anniversary by offering President Wilson to exchange an American prisoner for Mooney or for Debs, who was then in Atlanta penitentiary for opposing the war. Needless to say, he who killed others to make the world safe for plutocracy ignored the offer.



Southern worker on chain-gang being flogged for protesting brutal conditions.

been known on the American continent before. Though it involved two cities — Seattle and Tacoma—it made labor history. For five days not a wheel turned except by permission of the strike committee. The milkmen's union took over the sale of milk. An unarmed labor guard patrolled the streets. The business interests went wild and Mayor Ole Hanson made a grandstand play for the presidency by proclaiming the strike a revolution and threatening martial law. But martial law was never declared. Three days after Hanson's ultimatum ran out, the 110 unions involved called the general strike off. The 32,000 shipyard workers,





Southern worker on chain-gang being flogged for protesting brutal conditions.

Voices FROM Prison

From a San Quentin Class-War Prisoner

Box 48687

Dear Comrade:

The letter and check arrived a few days ago. I want to thank you for both. Just lately I have heard that three of the Centralia boys were released, and that is certainly good news. I hope the others are soon freed for they have been in there long enough. In fact far too long.

There is not much to write about. Existence inside walls rolls along monotonously like



Gunmen used against Kentucky miners on strike.

one wave following another toward the shore. At present we are being deluged with rain, but not enough to wash the so-called monotony of the days in this institution.

I am glad to hear that the other comrades in "Duranceville" are being taken care of, and the wives and dependents are receiving relief.

With comradely greetings to you, to those who are in the same position as I, and to the I.L.D. as a whole, I am

Fraternally yours,
DANNY A. ROXAS,
Box 48687,
San Quentin, Calif.

Have you been to the Soviet Union yet? See the Labor Defender drive.

From Harlan and Pennsylvania Coal Fields

December 30, 1931.

Kind Friends:

Thank you very much for the check received 29th. You all know my husband and oldest son is in Winchester Jail. Now my other boy Cecil is in Harlan Jail now he was indicted for murder where Elbert was, but has been gone. His wife is at Black Mt. If you was to write her send it to me and I'll see she gets it.

Sincerely,
MRS. CHARLES SHADRICK,
Evarts, Ky.

Dec. 29, 1931.

Dear Comrades:

Received your kind letter asking me the address of my family and how many dependents I have. I have only my father and mother depending on me because they are over 75 years old and in bad health which means medicines and doctors all the time. Their address is

Box 62, Bentleyville, Pa.

The name is: Adam Getto, Sr.

Comrades, in case you will have money to send for me, please send it to my father and mother as I can get along without any. Glad to know that someone is trying to do the best for my old helpless people.

I also send thanks for the money received.

The rest of the comrades also send their best regards and thanks for the money received by them.

With best regards to every comrade from myself and the rest of us here, I remain

Comradely,
ADAM GETTO, Jr.

What Happens to the Foreign-Born

Dec. 29, 1931.

Dear Sir:

A letter was shown me by the turnkey in this jail. It came from you and I would like to give you the details of my case.

I have all the necessary papers that the immigration calls for. I can't understand why they keep me in this place. I am kept locked up the same as the men beside me who are serving time, so that means I am serving time also, but for what I would like to know. There is about ten of us awaiting deportation and we have asked to be removed to the immigration station at New Orleans, and got no satisfaction. We are more like close confined prisoners.

We understand that the county or state receive one dollar and a quarter per day to feed

us and we live on prison diet which cost about 20 cents per day. The last man who was a German served three years in the American army and still he was deported to London after being more than two months locked up here.

From the day you are locked up till a few minutes before you get put on a ship you don't hear nothing. We get no exercise and have been living here beside people with venereal disease. We live here without daylight, the lights have to be on night and day and the air is foul smelling. We are just beside criminals doing time for robbery and every crime you could mention. Some of the boys have even reported stuff being stolen from their suitcases. Would appreciate anything you could do. I am, sincerely yours,

HANS SIMON,
County Jail,
Mobile, Ala.

From Walla Walla

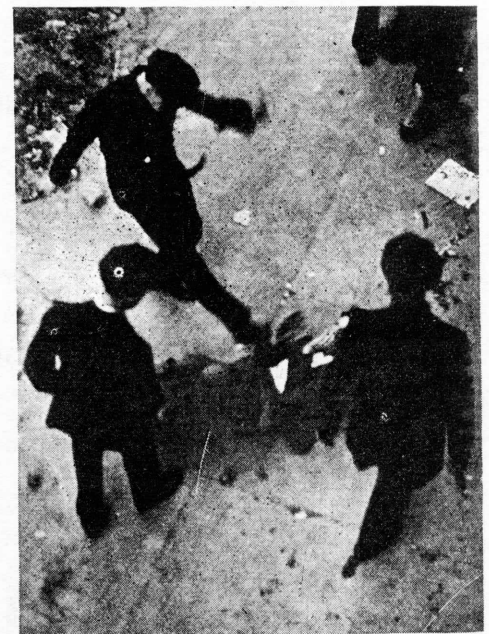
December 27, 1931.

George Maurer,
Dear Comrades:

I received your most kind and very interesting letter of the 18th inst., and the enclosed Christmas check for \$5.00 and the two cents stamps. Many thanks to you all concerned for same. Everything is about the same as usual with me. I am still in prison and have no idea of how much longer I will remain as no one keeps me informed.

Yours for Industrial Freedom.

JOHN LAMB,
Centralia.



Cops kicking a prostrate worker in N. Y. demonstration.

LABOR DEFENDER

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS



SUB DRIVE



WHO WILL SEE THE SOVIET WORKERS CELEBRATE MAY 1st ON RED SQUARE?

The LABOR DEFENDER sub drive!

What district will have the winner?

The drive is just beginning to swing into action. But much greater speed is necessary. Step on it, comrades! We have 5,000 new subs to get! 10,000 in bundle orders.

Already the encouraging letters are beginning to pour in. Here are a few:

Mary Kluko, of McKeesport, Pa.: "I am going to do everything in my power to get subs for the LABOR DEFENDER so that I can win the trip to the Soviet Union. Send me some sub blanks. I think I can get 300 subs for I have one comrade in each city in McKeesport Section organized to get subs for me."

Here is what we get from the Far West, Durkee, Oregon:

"We have not received our January magazine and wondered if you were having trouble with the 'Powers that be' or what can the trouble be? Here's another dollar for luck, you'll use it where t'will do the most good, we are sure. You're the people who speak right out in meetin', go after them lads, and when you need to recuperate from the 'strenuous' life, come to E. Oregon, up the cow-trail from Durkee, to Anderson's. The Andersons are the Reds out here, and we hold our own. We will get subs for you, too."

From the Consumptives Relief Society's Sanatorium in Spivak, Colo., we hear the following: "The majority of our patients here are workers and the LABOR DEFENDER is very dear to them, as it keeps them in touch with the working class movement. On every occasion out of their meagre allowances, they make collections for the radical movement. They will support your sub drive. Please continue sending your interesting magazine to our patient-readers who look forward eagerly to reading every issue."

Sadie Forsty of Frederick, S. Dakota writes in saying "I can hardly wait for the LABOR DEFENDER to arrive each month, and when it does, I never fail to read it from cover to cover. Here is my last dollar for a renewal. I will go after subs to make the Defender a greater mass organ."

Thomas Purgaric of Joliet, Ill. says "Here's my dollar for another year's subscription to your interesting magazine."

J. Hirsch of Cleveland, Ohio, who started in the drive only last week has 6 yearly subs to his credit. But M. Summergrad of Vineland, N. J. and A. Rosenberg of Philadelphia, Pa. each have 8 to their credit. They had better watch out for Sarah Epstein, also of Philadelphia, who's up and coming with 5 subs.

The following are the quotas for the districts to reach, above what they are now getting—by May 1st.

QUOTAS FOR THE DRIVE FOR 55,000 CIRCULATION OF THE LABOR DEFENDER BY MAY 1st

Districts	Bundles	Subs	Subs already sent in
Boston	500	250	6
New York	3,000	700	30
Philadelphia	1,000	500	34
Buffalo	300	200	5
Pittsburgh	300	300	12
Detroit	600	500	6
Cleveland	800	500	11
Chicago	1,500	700	36
Minneapolis	350	200	3
Kansas City	175	100	1
Seattle	1,100	200	6
Los Angeles	600	300	7
San Francisco	500	200	4
Connecticut	200	100	3
South	250	100	1
Denver	150	150	0
Organization			3
Foreign			3
Unorganized territory			1
			172

Increase of 400 copies in Bundle Orders has been recorded.

Full speed ahead, comrades! Who'll go to the U.S.S.R.?

Machado's Wall Street puppet government is increasing the wave of terror against the Cuban masses of workers and poor peasants.

On December 21st the student Felix Alpizar was attacked in Vedado (a suburb of Havana) by one of Machado's watch dogs, plain clothes man Olave. This assassin fired his gun at Alpizar, striking his arm with one of the bullets. Alpizar defended himself and the assailant was also hurt. Alpizar was arrested, taken to Bauta, where he was murdered.

On December 30 the workers and students on the Principe Castle prison, Havana, protested of the murder of their fellow worker Alpizar and were attacked by the reactionary prisoners (murderers, bandits, etc.), armed with ice picks, clubs, shot guns, under the direction of the despotic lieutenant Diaz Galup.

The following is the result of this murderous assault upon working class prisoners.

Oscar Andino, student was injured with an ice pick and is expected to die.

(Continued from Page 26)

petty office holders, even local district attorneys and judges, constitute the ideological and moral preparations for the assaults upon the Negro masses.

With a De Priest in the role of a Jim Crow congressman tirading against the foreign-born workers, with DuBois, White and Pickens of the N.A.A.C.P., and other slave-minded persons of the stupid and reactionary Negro press playing down the growing number of lynchings to the figures set by the lynchers' press; with the help of such faithful servants, the boss class feel safe in continuing their nefarious designs against all workers and poor farmers.

The Scottsboro case is a double challenge. It challenges the right of the Negro people to live and work in these United States. It is a repetition of the challenge for the lives of Sacco and Vanzetti, and the liberty of Mooney and Billings. It is a broad challenge of the ruling class to the entire American working class, to accept the bosses' program of unemployment, hunger and in silence or — Fight. The Negro masses and the whole working class must answer this challenge by militant, organized struggles for the lives and freedom of the Scottsboro boys, the release of Tom Mooney and the Harlan miners by supporting and building the International Labor Defense to defend all present and future victims of the spreading class-war.

**Help the Scottsboro Boys
By Building the
LABOR DEFENDER!**

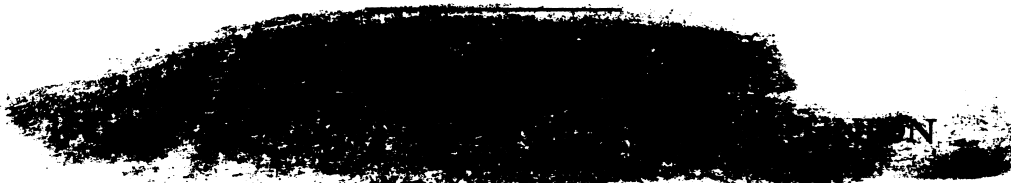
NEW YORK'S Annual Defense Bazaar

FOR AID TO CLASS WAR PRISONERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS.
TO FREE THE SCOTTSBORO BOYS—TOM MOONEY—THE IMPERIAL VALLEY
PRISONERS AND ALL VICTIMS OF CAPITALIST TERROR.

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The Blythedale Miners Mercantile Cooperation of Sutersville, Pa.

donated \$25.00 to the I.L.D. of
Pittsburgh to swell the fund for
the defense of the Pennsylvania
and Harlan miners.

Greetings to the

LABOR DEFENDER
on its Sixth Birthday.
Polish Branch I.L.D.

of

Newark, N. J.
99 Van Buren Street

Greetings—

Dr. Maclachlan, Bismarck, N. D.
Dr. Anderson, Bismarck, N. D.
David Fraijer, Bismarck, N. D.
Robert Kirmo, Braddock, N. D.

Greetings to the

LABOR DEFENDER
on its Sixth Anniversary.
From a group of
Staten Island Workers

YOU WANT TO GO TO USSR!

Get Into LABOR DEFENDER
SUB DRIVE

Help Class-War Prisoners by
building circulation to 60,000!

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2. HARLAN LEAFLET.
3. PRISONERS' WINTER AID LEAFLET.
4. PAMPHLET—WORKERS' SELF-DEFENSE
IN COURT.
5. CALENDARS FOR 1932.

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Signed by all the Defendants

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CAN YOU See Them?

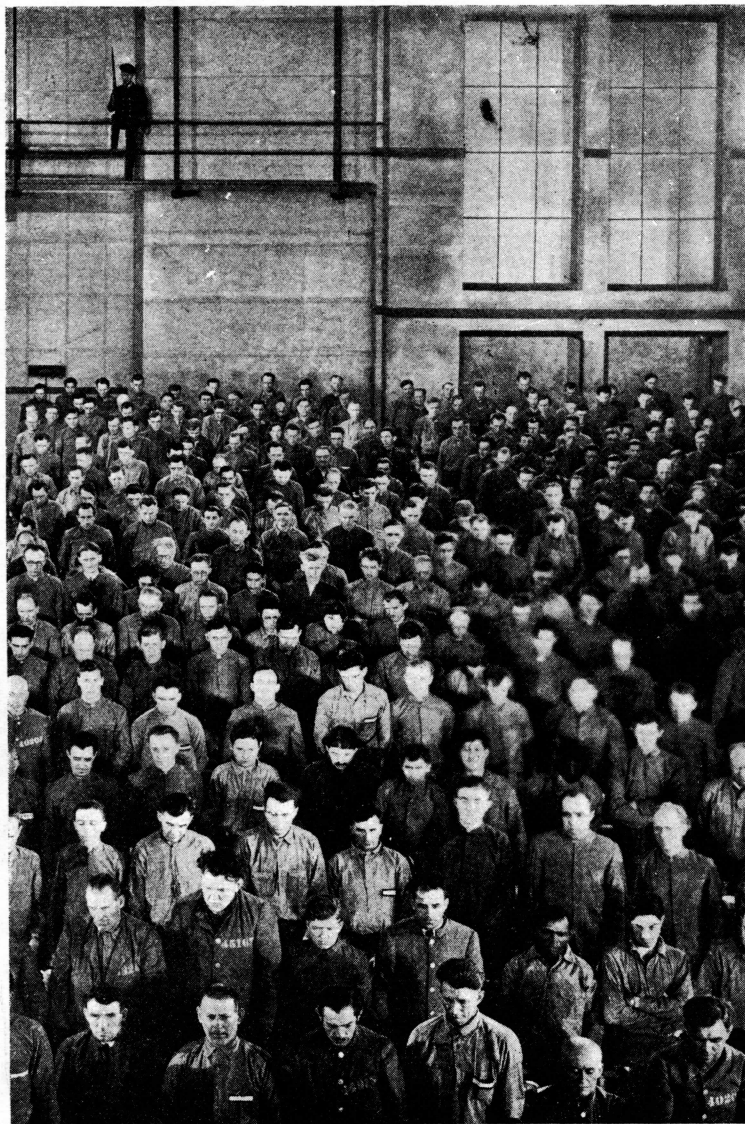
CAN YOU Hear Them?

From a hundred prison cells throughout the country, California, Pennsylvania, Alabama, Kentucky, Washington, voices come, calling YOU. They are the voices of class war prisoners. We can hear our comrades in prison urging us to greater struggle, to close our lines, and march to victory. And these voices reechoing throughout the world inspire us to greater efforts.



BUT CAN YOU SEE THEM?

But can *you* see these workers in their cells at night? Vermin . . . airless cells . . . iron door and cement floor . . . hunger . . . worry over their children on the outside world . . . friendless. . . And the tap, tap of the night guard who peers through the bars at his prey. . . Our class war prisoners!



And on the outside world their wives and children are starving and freezing. The children can't go to school because they have no shoes on their feet. They can't visit their dear ones in prison—our class war prisoners—because they have no railroad fare. *Hungry, homeless, shoeless, fatherless.* And in Germany the fascists have organized a "Help for the Wounded" society to take care of the *enemies* of the working class.

WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?

Will you let your fighters in prison suffer and worry over their families on the outside world? They are fighting for you on the inside! Will you fight for them on the outside? Will you support the International Labor Defense organized by and for the working class in its aid for class war victims and their families.

It is the aim of the International Labor Defense to forward to every class war prisoner \$5 a month for himself and \$20 for his family. Will you help the Kentucky miners? Will you help Tom Mooney (in jail since 1916)? Will you help the Scottsboro boys?

CAN YOU SEE THEM? CAN YOU HEAR THEM?

Rush contribution to PRISONERS' WINTER AID
care of INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE, 80 E. 11th St., Room 430, N. Y. City