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LABOR DEFENDER

DECEMBER 1936

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In this Issue

WILLIAM F. DUNNE

on

J. B. McNAMARA

PHIL McCANN

on

MATT SCHMIDT

WARREN K. BILLINGS

LUCY PARSONS

DIRK DeJONGE

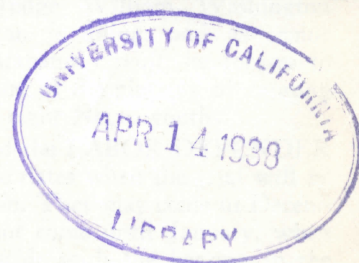
BELLE BARTON

ROSE BARON

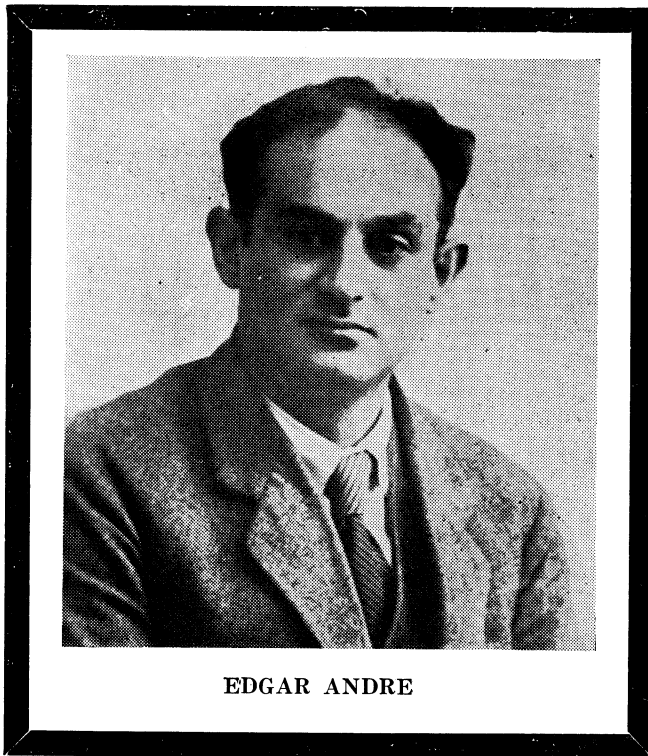
**THREE FULL PAGES
ON SPAIN**

**THE ALAMEDA
FRAME-UP**

THEY GAVE THEIR FREEDOM



GIVE THEM YOUR SUPPORT



Murdered by Adolph Hitler, November 4, 1936

Another illustrious name has been added to the honor roll of victims of Hitler Fascism. On November 4, Edgar Andre, one-time head of the Red Front Fighter's League of Hamburg, was executed by the axeman of Europe's Number One Gangster.

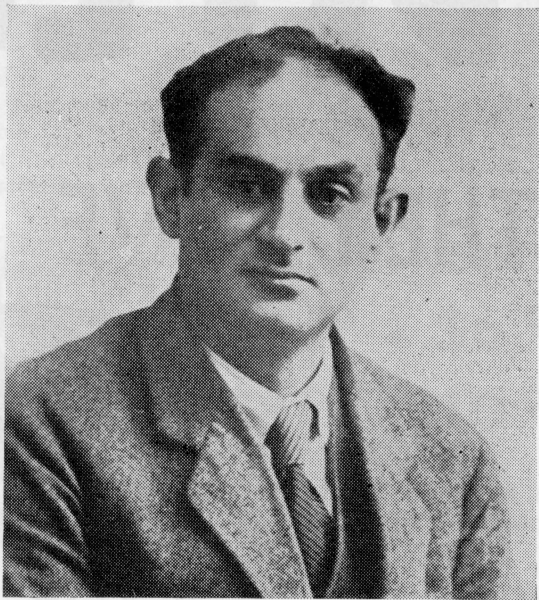
A cry arose from millions of throats over the whole world as the news of this murder spread. It was a cry of hatred against fascism. It was a cry of horror. It was a cry of anguish and alarm for Ernst Thaelmann, Von Ossietzky, and the thousands more in Hitler's dungeons, revered by the peoples of the world, and threatened also with the fate of Edgar Andre and the hundreds of other victims of Hitler.

It was a rallying cry!

Before Edgar Andre, our beloved dead, we pledge in the name of our two hundred and fifty thousand members and affiliates in the United States:

We will never cease our struggle, we will never desist from our work of organizing all labor and other progressive forces, to fight against fascism and fascist terror, here and abroad, to protect and guard with our organizations and with every weapon at our command the lives, and fight for the freedom of Ernst Thaelmann and all other victims of fascism and reaction; to organize every resistance, to rouse every laggard to the fight, until fascism and terror are no more, until mankind is freed from their bondage.

**THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE**



EDGAR ANDRE



LABOR DEFENDER

Published monthly by the

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE

Editor:
SASHA SMALL

Pacific Coast Editor:
CHESTER A. ARTHUR, JR.

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More Medical Aid to Spain

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November 30 Is Herndon Day

Looking out over the United States from the pedestal on which it has raised itself, the United States Supreme Court is going to see an extraordinary sight on the last day of November. (Or are the nine old gentlemen really blind as they pretend to be?)

In every corner of the land, in every city, people of good and conscious faith will foregather in their local halls, to give expression to their demand that Angelo Herndon must go free.

The young Negro organizer of the unemployed who was arrested in 1932 for leading a demonstration to ask for bread, in Atlanta, who has been sentenced to a living death of 18 to 20 years on the Georgia chain-gang, has risen in leadership.

Herndon is more than a symbol of the fight against tyranny and terror. He is a leader in his own right. The Communist Party has elected him a member of its Central Committee. The Workers Alliance has elected him to its National Executive Committee, and the Young Communist League has done the same.

These organizations, and literally thousands more, on a local and national scale, will cooperate in organizing Herndon Day, November 30, as a nationwide demonstration.

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tionality of the slave-law under which he was convicted. The nine old men have been soundly rebuked in the recent national elections.

Herndon Day will show them that the nation means the Herndon case in that rebuke—the Herndon case and the DeJonge criminal syndicalism case, which comes up from Oregon for review within a month.

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500 per Week

We're not referring to wages, nor even to dollars. That figure represents the number of American seamen arrested in the first two weeks of the Maritime Strike—one of the features of which has been its "peacefulness."

There were very few arrests in New York, fewer on the West Coast. Most of these arrests were on the West Coast. Most of these arrests were in Philadelphia and Baltimore.

On the West Coast, the Maritime Federation is powerful. In New York the Strike Strategy Committee of the striking members of the International Seamen's Union is strong. In both areas a strong defense movement has been built.

It's in the smaller places, where unionism is not well entrenched, where the defense movement is weak, that the mass arrests have occurred.

The International Labor Defense has pledged its fullest support everywhere to the striking seamen. An organized mass defense movement in every town, with ready apparatus and close connection with the trade-unions, can make that support even more effective.

Our Political Prisoners

Now that the elections are over, we can look around with a little more certainty in our canvass to find legislators in municipal, county, state, federal legislative bodies who will introduce our Bill for Status of Political Prisoners. This is our next task in this campaign. Legislatures will be meeting. Let's get the bills in, and get them passed.

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When they do come, and every minute until they come, the I.L.D., and its million friends in the U.S.A., millions throughout the world, are ready. They are working now to organize the defense of the Scottsboro boys even more broadly among the working-class and progressive people of the country, among the Negro people. The additional frame-ups on charges of "assault to murder" against Roy Wright and Ozie Powell must be smashed. The Scottsboro boys must be freed.

Kidnapers in Brazil

To the other crimes of the fascists of Brazil, represented by the Vargas government, has been added that of kidnapping. Olga Prestes, German-born wife of the Brazilian people's hero, Luiz Carlos Prestes, and Elise Ewert, wife of the former German Reichstag deputy Arthur Ewert, were kidnaped last month and sent to Germany. Arriving in Hamburg, they were promptly jailed by Hitler's secret police.

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I.L.D. DELEGATION ON THE SPANISH FRONT

Impressions of a visit, recorded by Isidoro Acevado, and reprinted from AYUDA, organ of the I.L.D. of Spain.

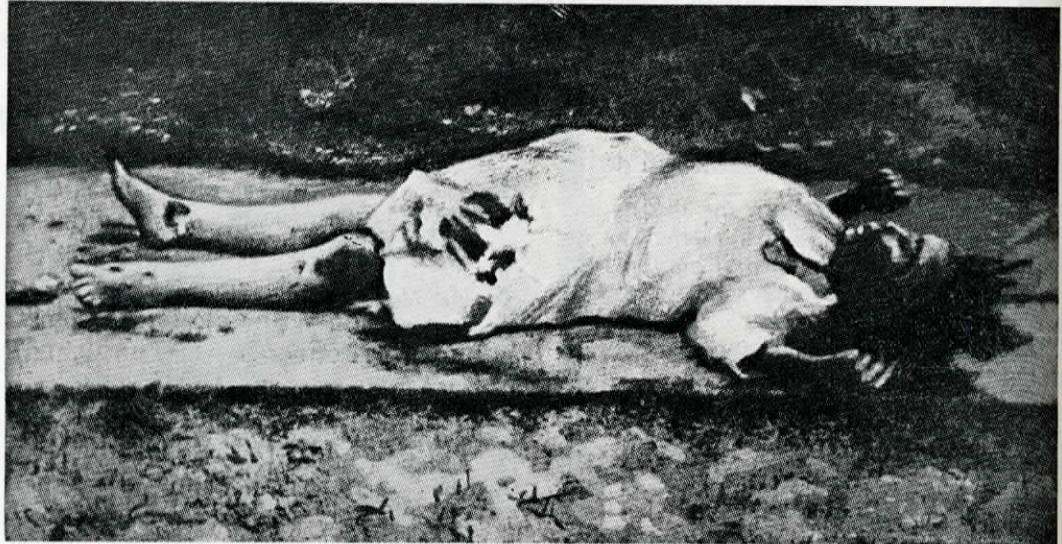
In the early grey dawn of a Sunday we start for the front. . . . At the head of the retinue the carriage with myself and the wife of Mangada, controlling her eagerness . . . Estrugar, the treasurer of our provincial committee of the International Labor Defense . . . Dolores Valencia, the charming precocious little girl . . . Ordonez and his wife, carrying their cameras . . . Another carriage behind us . . . Labarga, national relief secretary of our organization . . . With him are several veteran militiamen carrying hundreds of dolls. Dolls which were raffled off in the festival of the Coliseum and now were mascots for the Mangada column . . . Behind this, a truck full of blankets, quilts, warm clothing for the troops.

We are off for the glorious Navalperal de Pineras front, where Mangada, "the general of the people," stand as a barrier to the enemy. We are a delegation from the National Executive Committee of the International Labor Defense of Spain.

NAVALPERAL . . . The noisy column of Mangada . . . All the neighborhood and garrison crowding around our carriage . . . Again the demand for publications . . . The multitude of voices shouts "The General expects you in his quarters" . . .

Mangada's unforgettable face . . . Strong, interesting, noble, marked with the traces of a hard stubborn campaign . . . Memories of Mangada in the Ateneo of Madrid, in the prison, in the executive of the International Labor Defense of Seville.

A frugal meal, well prepared, served to all of us from general to the most modest fighters . . . Eating and chatting with the haste of those who cannot waste a second . . . Time is



This pregnant woman was tied to a car and dragged through the streets of Baena by the Spanish Fascists. Still alive, she was tortured and beaten. Her body bears 18 deep wounds.

gold, but in war it is something more precious. . . . Talk of operations . . . Optimism . . . Words of cheer and hope . . . On all fronts: unity of thought and action . . . Iron discipline and confidence in the command from top to bottom.

Interruption . . . The outposts announce the close proximity of the enemy cavalry . . . The general transmits orders to the batteries . . . The enemy changes his course . . . Afraid of the fire of our cannons . . .

Talk of the International Labor Defense . . . The "Julio Mangada" group has three hundred members; they expect to exceed a thousand . . . They all contribute from their incomes . . . Thousands of pesetas have been collected . . . "What sympathy the organization awakens!"

Out on the platform . . . "Machines" voices shout . . . Five fascist airplanes are flying at

a high altitude . . . No one stirs . . . Then the five little points disappear in the horizon . . .

Mangada speaks to me . . . Mangada tells that activity here began with the insurrection on July 24th . . . An attack the following day was repulsed . . . That same day a sortie toward Navalperal, toward Navas de San Antonio, taking the town . . . Causing injuries, capturing several trucks . . . Two days later another attack, again repulsed . . .

Mangada speaks . . . Mangada tells of the battle with Doval, the hangman of Asturias . . . The 31st of July . . . Doval's strong column was defeated . . . Eighty dead and many of their men wounded lay on the field of battle . . . They evacuated Avila and neighboring towns till Salamanca . . .

Mangada tells of the sortie on August 1st to Es Espinar . . . A long hard combat . . . Airplanes attacking in retreat . . . Three days later the la Reina column attacked . . . On the 19th and 20th of August the Moorish forces intervened . . . Mangada's men took seven cannon, two of them useless; five rapid-fire guns, rifles, trucks . . .

A young comrade proudly shows us a number of the weekly which the Mangada column publishes . . . It is called "Forward" . . . Interesting in content and appearance . . . The title printed in red . . . On one side, "Militiamen: Remember that in war not the most brutal is victorious, but he who is most able and serene" . . . On an inner page, "Militiamen: When you go to Madrid with permission, do not tell anyone, even your relatives, what you are doing in camp" . . . Brave combatants are fed with such principles of fighting morale . . . Political preparation builds prodigious results.

The departure . . . Fighters at Navalperal fired with enthusiasm and courage . . . Fists on high, firmly clenched . . . Hands extended, trembling with emotion . . . "The International" sung in a lusty chorus by throats inflamed with passion . . . Tones integrated . . . Tones of warlike impulses and tonalities of peace and fraternity among all men . . .

A family of Spanish peasants fleeing from the fascist terror of General Franco, Mussolini and Hitler, which has invaded Republican Spain.



A NEW RED CROSS RISES IN SPAIN

A correspondent of **AYUDA**, the **LABOR DEFENDER** of Spain, interviews the head of the Spanish Red Cross.

When a journalist used to write of the Red Cross in Spain he illustrated his article with pictures of aristocratic ladies, soldiers and monks. When I entered the Central Committee building today I saw immediately that a great change had taken place here, too, since the beginning of this civil war that is harrowing Spain. I asked the inspector general, Dr. Luna, about this tremendous transformation.

"The former Red Cross," he said, "was formed by the blackest reactionaries. General Burgette was the president, and the whole honorary presidency was made up of kings, princesses and noble ladies. You can see, therefore, how it was dedicated to help the counter-revolution. You can understand that in the early days of the war the former Central Committee barefacedly sabotaged the departure of ambulances for the front."

"But then?" I asked him. "When you and the liberal doctors of the Official College took possession, what happened?"

"Our group," he continued, "accompanied by some militiamen of the Fifth Regiment, dismissed those reactionaries who were still here. We formed a new committee and the great task of rejuvenation was begun. The fascists in the Red Cross continue in the same spirit. The International Committee asked us to join them, to receive international delegates in Madrid, Barcelona, Burgos and Seville. But we vigorously refused this. We cannot maintain relations with people who shoot at our ambulances and bomb our hospitals. Since these are the Spanish Red Cross fascists who have relations with the International Committee in Geneva we appealed to Geneva for the lives of two of our physicians who fell prisoners to the fascists. But we received no reply. In spite of the emblem of medical aid, these doctors were assassinated by the traitorous military. Could you expect us to deny our deep-seated feelings and work with these people?"

"Dr. Segovia and Dr. Catalina headed your new organization?" I enquired.

"Yes. But you know," he added sadly, "Dr. Catalina died a few days ago from an infection. By this time our personnel is perfectly controlled. The doctors, the stretcher-bearers, nurses, chauffeurs, they all belong to the Popular Front. In the hospitals there are committees of the wounded and technical personnel. A political control of the Popular Front has just been named. We all work now with one great interest."

When I inspected the hospitals, I was impressed by the sanitary conditions, the splendid care, the technical skill and the human kindness of the personnel. This is the new Spanish Red Cross. This is the medical aid for those who fall in the struggle for our liberties. This is the new Red Cross which labors in conjunction with that other great organization of solidarity and aid, the International Labor Defense.

SOCORRO ROJO INTERNACIONAL

DEPARTAMENTO
DE SANIDAD

CONSEJOS SANITARIOS A LOS MILICIANOS



SUCESORES DE RIVAOENEYRA, S. A. - ARTES GRAFICAS
PASEO DE SAN VICENTE, 28
M A D R I D

One of the many pamphlets of essential medical information printed by the I.L.D. of Spain and distributed to the Loyalist Militia.

SOLIDARITY WITH SPAIN'S DEFENDERS

Solidarity from Italy, Germany, Austria, the Soviet Union, and the United States—just a few examples.

Feverishly the Fascist Governments of Germany, Italy and Austria are supplying instruments of murder to the Spanish Rebels. But the real Germany, the real Italy, the real Austria—the countries of workers in factories and mines, stand in splendid solidarity with the Soviet Union and the workers of America and of other countries to combat this fascist death-dealing, stand on the side of the People's Front in Spain and give aid to this legal government.

While Hitler sends armaments and men to spread fascist terror, the Thälmanns of Germany, the heroic workers hold illegal meetings, spread illegal pamphlets for the fight of the workers. From mouth to mouth passes the slogan, "Help the Spanish people!" "Help the cause of freedom!" In spite of the close net of fascist spying, where a careless word, even a gesture will lead one to a prison and concentration camp for torture and death, thousands of brave people continue their fight. In one pit in the Essen coal district, 73 marks were collected for the Spanish people accompanied by a note which said, "... having learnt from experience, we are hoping for the victory of the workers and peasants." These are sparse

The New York State Prisoners Relief Staff of the I.L.D. sorting out medical supplies for the defenders of democracy in Spain. Doctors, druggists, and medical workers have already contributed several thousand dollars worth of miscellaneous supplies, which have been sent to the I.L.D. of Spain. This I.L.D. Medical Aid Station is at 112 East 19th Street, New York City.



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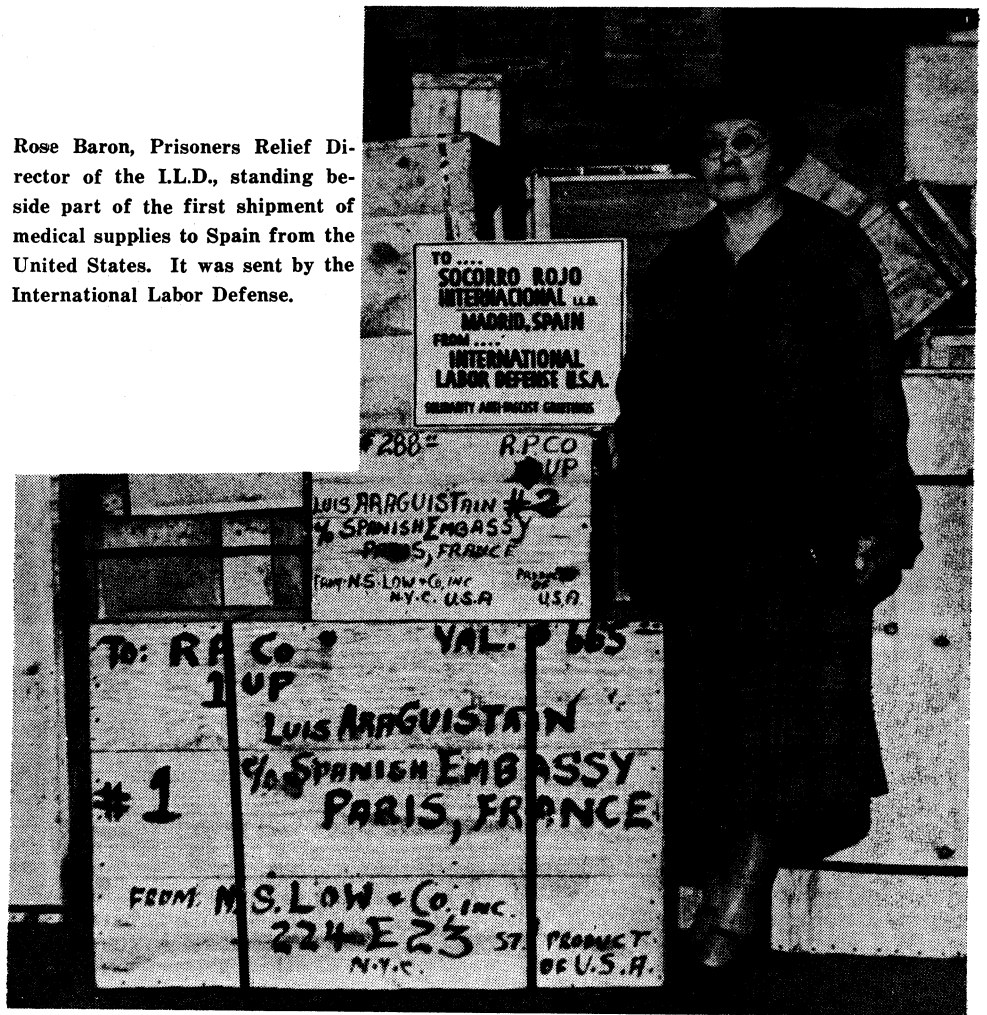


instances of a tremendous movement in the face of terrific odds.

Mussolini proclaims the right of fascist intervention. Mussolini invades Spain. But in a ringing voice in the courtyard of the Madrid Montana Barracks, one hour before the Gastone Sozzi company, of which he is political commissar, marched to the front, Leone, Italian worker said, "The Italian people is represented by us, sons of the people, defenders of the people, and not by the Italian Government." This promise was sealed with the solidarity of the lives of Italian workers fighting in the ranks of the People's Militia. Persecuted as it is, in Italy itself the mighty movement goes forward. Two thousand workers from the steel smelting works of Bolzaneto in the Genoa province formed an imposing demonstration, which was followed by mass arrests. The Italian workers did not stop there. They did everything to give the world concrete proofs of the delivery of weapons by the Italian fascists to the Spanish rebels. From the province of Liguria they sent 1,010 lire, "knowing that the defeat of the Spanish people will also delay the liberation of the Italian people." Hundreds of worker's demonstrations are held all over.

The Government of Austria tries to imitate the dictatorships of Germany and Italy. Large numbers of weapons are sent and the Austrian press aids the lying campaign against the Spanish people. Austrian workers cannot be fooled or stopped. In a collection sheet circulating in Florisdorf one reads, "The Spanish toilers are fighting not only against their own oppressors, but also against the criminals of international fascism. They are fighting for democracy, freedom and peace, they are fighting for us. We must support them." They do. In the well-known armament factory Steyrwerk the workers refused to give an hour's pay for the purchase of an air squadron for the Austrian State forces, but they gladly gave a schilling apiece to the People's Front. Demonstrations, meetings, leaflets, pamphlets and posters flood the country in spite of mass arrests. The International Labor Defense, the Schutzbund, the Communist Party and the Young Communist League have allotted a first contribution of 1,000 schillings to the Spanish International Labor Defense. 175 schillings were given by the factory workers in Florisdorf and a decision passed to give an hour's pay for the next three weeks. In a neighboring factory the workers joined. One hundred schillings were sent by factories in another district. A large newspaper and

Rose Baron, Prisoners Relief Director of the I.L.D., standing beside part of the first shipment of medical supplies to Spain from the United States. It was sent by the International Labor Defense.



graphic factory sent a contribution. Spanish-fund stamps were printed and sold in tremendous quantities for 20 and 50 groschen and one schilling. During the evening an illegal broadcasting apparatus is often heard, which broadcasts the joint appeal of the United Front and the appeal of the International Labor Defense for solidarity.

Soviet Russia understands. Men, women and children have only one aim; to render the most effective and speedy help to the Spanish People's Front. The 157 nations have united; in the factories, in the collective farms, in the schools and universities, in the institutions, offices, theatres—everywhere that people work, study and live the workers of the Soviet Union have made money collections for Spain. All give liberally. Several Arctic flyers gave 3,000 rubles. All are collecting, all are contributing; in Moscow and Vladivostok, in cities on the White Sea and the Black Sea, in the cold North of the mountains of Azerbaijan, in the endless sun-scorched stretches of the steppes; relief for the wives and children of the fighters in Spain, that they may have strength and endurance and confidence in their hard struggle until victory is won. Steamers are loaded in the busy Odessa harbor—boats with 2,000 ton loads—butter, eggs, sugar, flour, canned goods, cocoa, confectionary, other foods. School children empty their pockets—give money they have saved for toys. At the International Labor Defense Central Committee a six-year-old girl explained, "All those whom we chased out of here are making war there. They must be arrested . . ."

And the United States? The workers of the United States are realizing, too, that the fight of the Spanish People's Front is their fight. Early in the war the International Labor Defense started its campaign. To the members of the I.L.D. and its affiliates were dispatched buttons in the red, yellow and purple colors of the Spanish Government to be sold, and posters urging aid. A cabled demand for specific medical supplies desperately needed by the Spanish I.L.D. acting as the Red Cross of the Government was further impetus. The first shipment to leave the United States was 20 steam pressure sterilizers and 12 blood transfusion apparatus. Other shipments have followed—serums and surgical instruments, bought with money collected and added to the miscellaneous contributions in kind from doctors and nurses all over the country, totalling \$5,500 up to November 10. The American Friends of Spanish Democracy, the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy have collected funds—money given gladly by trade unions, by intellectuals and liberals, to send food and clothing and medical supplies.

Even as the third I.L.D. shipment from the United States left for Spain on the Spanish steamer Sil, more surgical supplies came in from all over the country, more money with which to make further shipments of anti-toxins which must be bought in quantities from manufacturers.

Solidarity with the defenders of Democracy in Spain is growing, in the United States and all over the world.

October 24, 1936.

Miss Rose Baron,
International Labor Defense,
60 East 11th Street,
New York City, N.Y.

My dear Miss Baron:

I wish to acknowledge receipt
and thank you sincerely for your letter of October
22 with a copy of the letter you sent to our Am-
bassador in Paris.

I appreciate very much not only
what you are doing in itself, but also the mat-
ter—

Sincerely yours,
Fernando de los Rios,
Spanish Ambassador.

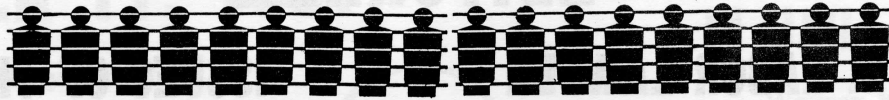


Rose Baron, Prisoners Relief Director of the I.L.D., standing beside part of the first shipment of medical supplies to Spain from the United States. It was sent by the International Labor Defense.



ARRESTS IN LABOR STRUGGLES

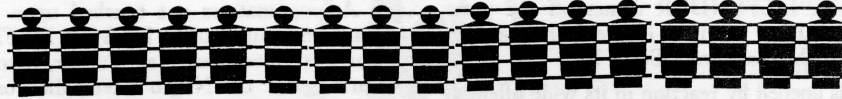
1935
(12 months)



Totals

18,000

1936
(10 months)



17,000

Each Figure Represents 1,000 Arrests

CHRISTMAS FOR LABOR'S PRISONERS

By **ROSE BARON**

*National Prisoner, Relief Director,
International Labor Defense*

I think that any issue of the **LABOR DEFENDER**, including the present one, is the best argument anyone can make on behalf of our Christmas drive for political prisoners and their families. The readers of the **LABOR DEFENDER** know who our prisoners are, why they need our support, why we owe it to them, and how we can give it.

The quota which we have set ourselves this year is much higher than ever before. We aim to collect \$20,000.

The bosses try to smash the morale of labor by arrests and imprisonment. The chart above shows the rate at which they are working. We aim to spoil their plans.

At this moment there are seventy-seven prisoners serving terms of one year to life because of their labor activity, and hundreds serving shorter terms. Some of them would not be alive today were it not for the help which the I.L.D. has given them since they went to jail. To that extent we have messed up the bosses' plans.

One of the most cruel elements in the imprisonment of men and women for their labor

activity is the tragedy that overtakes their loved ones on the outside. They are left without a breadwinner. They are persecuted by landlords and relief agencies. The Prisoners Relief Fund of the I.L.D. makes a break in that persecution, provides vital necessities to these families, important contact which makes them realize the solidarity of labor. It maintains contact with the prisoners themselves, provides them with extra comforts in jail, makes them feel that an organization exists that will help their families outside.

It is not only a matter of these seventy-seven long-term prisoners. We want to give help to every labor prisoner, and to the family of every labor prisoner. Whether he goes to jail for a day or a year, it means a hardship on him and his family. We want to lessen that hardship as much as we can.

Every Christmas we have a special cam-

paign for this purpose. We want to bring extra cheer into the prisoners' cells, into the homes of their families, at the holiday season.

This year we have an especially important duty also to the prisoners and victims of reaction in other countries. Every year we give a percentage of our collections to help them. Spain, Germany, Cuba, China, Austria, Italy—a host of prisoners and victims of fascist and imperialist terror call for our aid.

We call on you—every reader of this appeal, every trade-unionist, every progressive, every person with humanity in his heart—to give your support to these prisoners, who have themselves given their freedom in the cause of progress.

Join in the campaign now being conducted by the I.L.D. with the help of trade-unions and mass organizations throughout the country.

Or send your contribution of money, good warm clothing, toys for the children, directly to the Prisoners Relief Fund, International Labor Defense, 80 East 11th Street, New York City.



EDITORIALS

FRAMING A LABOR LAWYER

As this issue of the LABOR DEFENDER comes off the press, Leo Gallagher, the most famous labor attorney in the world, will go on trial in Los Angeles, before the California State Bar.

In this trial, another sector is opened by reaction in its wide offensive on political freedom in the United States. Around this trial, another squad is mobilized, of the progressive forces of the people fighting in defense of democracy.

Gallagher is the attorney for J. B. McNamara; he is one of the attorneys for Tom Mooney; he participated in the defense of George Dimitroff at Leipzig in the Reichstag Fire Trial; he has defended hundreds of trade-unionists, hundreds of Californians persecuted in the courts for their political convictions; he is the attorney in the famous Sacramento Criminal Syndicalism case.

The day after announcement had been made by the I.L.D. in San Francisco that he would defend any maritime striker arrested for strike activity, he was served with notice to appear and show cause why he should not be disbarred. The excuse for the notice is taken from his campaign last July in the non-partisan primaries for judge of the superior court of Los Angeles. The charge is that he said uncomplimentary things about the successful candidate. He won 66,179 votes in Los Angeles county in that election. The State Bar has refused to inform him of the nature of the charge; has refused him a public hearing; has changed the personnel of the committee which is to hear the charge, on the same day the charges were made.

It is significant that dozens of California lawyers, stung by the attack upon their liberty to act politically and to act as ethical defenders of their clients in labor cases, have volunteered to defend Gallagher before the State Bar. They are organizing themselves into a committee for his defense.

The I.L.D. is proud to have Leo Gallagher as one of its foremost attorneys; the LABOR DEFENDER is proud to have him as one of its most distinguished contributors. The I.L.D., side by side with California's progressive trade-union movement, with all lovers of democracy, will fight to keep Leo Gallagher active in his capacity as a most militant labor lawyer. It will fight to the finish for the right of attorneys to act as defenders of labor. That is the issue in this case.

There are other angles to this case. Before the United States Supreme Court at the present time are two cases which are purely political. Two men from widely separated sections of the country who have been sentenced openly because of their political activity, under openly political laws, will come before that court and demand their freedom together with the nullification of the anti-democratic laws under which they were sentenced. Those two men are Angelo Herndon and Dirk DeJonge, the latter of whom tells the story of his case in this issue of the LABOR DEFENDER.

Literally millions of people are being mobilized, have been aroused, in the defense of these two cases. Around a third, similar case—the Sacramento case—California labor and California liberal progressive opinion as a whole has been aroused as never before. Through the trickery of the state, the Sacramento case has been prevented so far from being reviewed even in the State Supreme Court. But there is no doubt that it will be reviewed, and there is great likelihood that it will also go to the United States Supreme Court. California reaction is jittery because of the growing consciousness and strength of the fight against it. The disbarment proceedings against Leo Gallagher, an extension of the notorious California-Hearst frame-up system, indicate the depths to which it is willing to sink to make a point. Disbarment of Leo Gallagher, the Hearstlings feel, would be a blow at the Sacramento defense, a barrier in defense of the California Criminal Syndicalism law which is being attacked on all fronts, including the Herndon and De Jonge appeals in the United States Supreme Court.

As never before, however, the moves of reaction mobilize the forces of progress in California, as witness the great trade-union defense movement around the Modesto, Sacramento, and King-Ramsay-Conner frame-ups. The Gallagher frame-up will be no exception. Vindication of Leo Gallagher is a point of honor for all labor and all honest lawyers in the United States.

ISSUES OF THE MONTH

Among matters not touched upon more fully in this issue of the magazine, but vital to LABOR DEFENDER readers . . . 105 years ago this November, Nat Turner, heroic leader of one of the greatest uprisings of the Negro slaves, died on the gallows, defending to his last breath the right of his people to liberty. . . . 99 years this November, Elijah Lovejoy, martyr to the cause of freedom, was lynched by a pro-slavery mob led by city officials of Alton, Illinois. . . . 77 years ago this November John Brown was sentenced to death by a military court in Virginia. He gave his life that the slaves might be freed. . . . 49 years ago this November, the five Haymarket martyrs, militant pioneers of the American trade-union movement, died on the gallows at Chicago, for defending the rights of American workers to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness Lucy Parsons, widow of one of the Haymarket martyrs, tells of that day on the opposite page in this issue of the LABOR DEFENDER. . . . 21 years ago this November, Joe Hill was legally murdered by the State of Utah, because he sang of organization to the miners, lumber workers, workers in field and industry—and his songs bore fruit. . . . 20 years ago this November five young workers were mowed down in cold blood at Everett, Washington. They were among a free speech delegation of 200 I.W.W.'s on board a ship sailing from Seattle, to the vigilante-ridden town of Everett. . . . 19 years ago this November the workers of Russia broke the shackles and prison bars of slavery and established the Soviet Union, the first workers republic, where there are no working-class prisoners. . . . 17 years ago this November, Wesley Everest was lynched at Centralia, Wash., by war-drunk vigilantes and Legionaires for defending the I.W.W. headquarters against their murder attack. He was still clad in his U. S. Army uniform when they killed him.

In Massachusetts the state supreme court affirmed the convictions of three trade-union men on charges of contempt in a decision which would in effect outlaw labor defense committees or activities of any kind. . . . They were charged with publishing a leaflet stating that an assault charged against one of them was a frame-up. . . . It was a frame-up. . . . The LABOR DEFENDER also has contempt for that court. The answer to a contempt charge in labor defense is always more contempt. . . . A little contempt makes a judge mad . . . a lot of contempt puts his anti-labor apparatus out of commission.

Chicago has set up a committee of physicians, cooperating with the I.L.D., to collect medical aid for the defenders of democracy in Spain. . . . There's also a similar committee in the Bronx, New York.

Los Angeles reports: Copy of Bill for Status of Political Prisoners sent to candidates, trade-unions and mass organizations. Very broad conference to be called in January involving as many labor, progressive, fraternal, and mass organizations as possible. Delegation to go to Sacramento when legislature convenes to present Bill. We intend to use the newspapers, radio, letters, and all other means for this campaign.

More from Los Angeles: Flower sales held in November, and to be repeated Christmas week, for Christmas prisoners relief campaign. . . . All families and prisoners to be visited Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. . . . Printing a 1937 Political Prisoners Calendar. . . . New York—Christmas conference held Nov. 14 . . . official permit tag-days December 19 to 21. . . . Chicago—Christmas conference held November 14.

Anna Damon, acting national secretary I.L.D., visited political prisoners in Oregon, California, New Mexico . . . report next month.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

Because of unavoidable circumstances, no November issue of the LABOR DEFENDER was published. All subscriptions will of course be extended automatically to cover a full twelve issues.

The Widow of a Haymarket Martyr remembers

By LUCY PARSONS

The time is November 11, 1887, the city is Chicago, Illinois. What is happening? How strange everything seems in this busy city! The morning is gloomy, lowering clouds are gathering, the workers are on their way to work. They all seem to be discussing something very seriously. Let us approach and listen to two girls waiting for the street car. Their conversation runs about as follows:

"Why there was only one bomb thrown at the Haymarket meeting and nobody knows who threw that one, it never was proven that any of those men they are going to hang today had anything to do with it. It is an outrage, a crime to hang those men." Three others have just joined this group, hear what they say. "Yes, I should say it is a crime! Why, my wife and I were at the Haymarket meeting and heard all the speeches, and they were not at all violent. Mayor Harrison was there, I spoke to him. Mayor Harrison testified for the defense, said that he heard the speeches, that the meeting was peaceable and he instructed the captain to send the reserves around to their stations, that the speeches were 'tame', the meeting quiet, and he, the mayor, was going home, but instead of obeying the mayor's orders he rushes a company of police upon this peaceable meeting. At their onrush some unknown fellow hurls a bomb and these innocent men must hang for it because the capitalists demand it. It is hell to think of."

In the gloomy old jail, in their prison cells, sit the martyr victims, calm, quietly awaiting the fatal moment. Soon the hangman calls, followed by his gang of legal murderers. He halts at their door, commands, "Come on." Our comrades arise, follow to the cruel gallows, they ascend, the trap is quickly sprung! They were not even allowed the privilege of the vilest murderer, that of making a statement. They only uttered a few words as the hangman adjusted the caps over their faces. Their earthly clay is no more, but their valorous deaths will inspire the sons and daughters of toil everywhere to tireless struggle for the overthrow of this hellish capitalist system that condemns them and theirs to poverty and misery.

On November 13, their funerals were held. There meandered through the streets of Chicago five black hearses, decked with waving black plumes. These hearses contained five black caskets, all that was mortal of our beloved comrades. Each hearse was led by a band playing funeral dirges. Thousands lined the streets, men stood with hats off and heads bowed, and weeping women, children clung to their mothers' hands in awe at the solemn sight.

We buried them in Waldheim Cemetery, a few years later a beautiful monument, costing \$10,000 was erected above their grave, for which the funds were donated by their comrades and friends.



THE HAYMARKET MARTYRS

A WATCHMAKER IN JAIL

Warren K. Billings, in a letter from Folsom Prison, California, tells Rose Baron about his work.

Dear Rose:

Regarding your inquiries concerning my health. Since returning here I have been enjoying unusually good health and aside from having a slight twinge of neuritis now and then my only complaint is that I have too much work. I have been back now about six weeks and during that time have repaired more than 150 watches and clocks (not to mention other articles of jewelry including bracelets, earrings, fountain pens, etc.) and still have more than 30 jobs on hand that I have not yet found time to begin. This may seem like a small amount of work to the average watch repairer "outside" who does his cleaning by machine and has everything else handy to facilitate his work and then works full eight hours a day in the shop under the best conditions but working under the handicaps that I have here,—poorly lighted shop, make-shift tools, doing all cleaning by hand—working a maximum of seven hours a day in the shop and during that seven hours being forced to do many odd jobs such as cleaning the shop itself (I have to do my own sweeping and dusting and mopping) besides going around to all the offices and different departments of the prison to wind and set the clocks. Actually, I spend at least two days a week servicing clocks, calling for and delivering work to be repaired, and doing other odd jobs. Then too, most of the work I do is on watches and clocks that are considered "beyond repair" by watchmakers "outside."

My work being all gratuitous service it is very much different from the same type of work outside. For example, a year or more back, I repaired a watch that had been run over by a horse and buggy. It was necessary for me to straighten the train wheel bridge, close and re-fit the pivot holes (it was a 7 jewel movement), put in a new balance staff and three new jewels,—straighten two of the train wheels—straighten out the case, put in a new crystal and polish the case. A 7-jewel Elgin of that type, in a well worn gold plated case, would not be worth 50 cents in a pawnshop—if it were in perfect order you couldn't get any more than that for it.

Of course, I don't HAVE TO do all this. I do it more or less as a matter of accommodation and because I take great pride in my workmanship. I do it as a matter of "service." But I am one of those individuals who can never say "NO" when someone wants a job done that is in my line and so—I agree to do work that I am capable of under the circumstances—and then I 'complain' about it! Well, don't take my 'complaint' too seriously—I must like it or I wouldn't do it. However, it does keep me busy. It keeps me so busy that I don't do a lot of other things (for myself) that I ought to do, or that I'd like to do.

WARREN K. BILLINGS

Praise and Honor

By SARAH N. CLEGHORN

True and most true it is
I take the workers' part,
And keep their weary lives of want
Forever in my heart

What man can keep his manhood
And still be well content
To house the man that built his house
In a leaking tenement?

Or see the skill that wove his shirt
And the strength that mined his coal
Shiver in line on a winter night
For coffee and a roll?

True and most true, I honor
My captive comrades dear:
I know their good and glorious deeds:
I'll keep their records clear.

Well would it serve me
In friendless hands to die
If I did not praise and honor them
Who now in prison lie.

THINGS HAPPEN IN ALABAMA

By **BELLE BARTON**

Acting Secretary, I.L.D., Southern District

A trade-union committee in defense of workers' constitutional rights arises in Alabama

I think that only one who has lived and worked in the deep South, under the terror of the landlords and the U. S. Steel (represented by Tennessee Coal and Iron Corporation), can realize what it means when things start happening as they recently have in Birmingham.

To begin with, of course, it started with a terroristic act that shocked the consciousness of Alabamans—the kidnapping and beating of Joseph S. Gelders, Southern secretary of the National Committee for Defense of Political Prisoners, on September 23, 1936. Gelders was taken by four unmasked men, carried out into the country in a car, kicked, beaten with a chain-gang whip, gouged and trampled, and left for dead in a lonely wooded spot near Maplesville, Ala.

The chain of circumstances following this occurrence—number 30 in a series of such kidnappings in Alabama—has not been accidental of course. We have been working toward it for years. The labor movement in Alabama, stirring and rumbling in a surge of revolt against the domination of cotton and steel barons, is fully ready for such a step. But when it did come it was like a streak of sunlight over a south that has for so many years been palled in clouds of terror.

To start with the latest development, because it is the most significant:

On October 26, the Birmingham papers announced the formation of a Labor Committee Against Terrorism in Birmingham. Its chairman is William Mitch, president of the Alabama State Federation of Labor, head of the United Mine Workers in that district, and Steel Workers Organization Committee Southern Organizer. Also on the committee are E. Z. Yeager, vice-president of the Alabama State Federation of Labor; C. P. Thiemonge, president of the Birmingham Trades Council; W. O. Hare, secretary of the State Federation, and the presidents of the Tarrant City and Bessemer Central Trades Councils. The last two-mentioned towns are steel company suburbs of Birmingham.

Mitch said of the formation of the committee:

"We had in mind not only the recent flogging of Gelders, but the recent atrocity at Gadsden when a number of union organizers were set upon by a mob, severely beaten and forcibly driven from the community."

That's one angle of the story that has boosted the hopes of black and white labor in Birmingham and Alabama generally higher than they can remember.

The particular activity of Gelders which aroused the ire of the Steel Company, and which its hired men told Gelders as they beat him he must stop, was on behalf of Jack Barton, Bessemer organizer of the Communist Party, sentenced to 380 days on the chain-gang for possession of the literature of his Party. Gelders was organizing liberal and trade-union defense for Barton, and against



The cartoon above was published in the Birmingham Age-Herald, September 26, 1936. This was the only one of the many forms in which popular indignation against the kidnapping of Joseph Gelders forced itself into public expression through the press. The title of this cartoon was "The Scars and Stripes Forever!"

the infamous "literature" ordinance under which he was convicted. The progressive forces of the state were responding, and they have continued to respond. On November 11, the state court of appeals declared the ordinance unconstitutional and ordered Barton freed.

Now there was nothing unique about the Gelders flogging. It was, as I have said, number 30 in a recent series in that area. The new element in the whole matter was the growing consciousness of labor in Birmingham, not only in regard to defense of labor's rights, but also in regard to its power by organization to make that defense effective.

Governor Bibb Graves called a conference of law enforcement officers. James W. McClung, ace investigator of the State Highway Patrol, was assigned to the case. C. G. Giles, Chief Detective of the Birmingham police department, directed the investigation.

Three of the floggers have been identified. One of them, Captain Walter J. Hanna of the Alabama National Guard, is reported to be a private detective in the employ of the Tennessee Coal, Iron, and Railroad Company, U. S. Steel subsidiary. Another is Dent Wil-

liams, who five years ago entered the jail in which Willie Peterson, a Negro prisoner framed on a rape charge, was confined, and shot him while he was held helplessly behind prison bars. For this he went unpunished, and has since been the terror of the Negro people in the Birmingham area.

The third man, whose name has been withheld by the police, is an organizer of the White Legion—a fascist outfit similar to the Michigan Black Legion.

John Temple Graves II, in his column in the Birmingham Age-Herald of September 28, had this to say:

"The conventional thing, when floggers or lynchers appear in Alabama, is for us newspaper people to get all excited about it, for the police and sometimes the governor to go into strenuous action, for indignation to run riot a few days, and then for all the hullabaloo to end with nobody punished, nobody caught. Here's hoping the Gelders case isn't going to wind up like that! This is one time when public opinion in Alabama calls for really catching the criminals—and their accomplices."

Mr. Graves is right, even if he doesn't suspect how high up "their accomplices" go.

THE HONOR OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT

By WILLIAM F. DUNNE

One of America's foremost labor journalist writes about the world's oldest political prisoner, who will on December 5, 1936, begin to serve his twenty-sixth year in jail for labor's cause.

Reaching back into labor history a quarter of a century, a petition has been signed by 48 nationally known persons asking a pardon for J. B. McNamara and Matthew Schmidt, imprisoned for 25 and 21 years respectively in San Quentin and Folsom by the California authorities for labor activity in a period whose bitter struggles are almost forgotten.

They are the oldest labor prisoners in the world. In no other country are there labor political prisoners who have been incarcerated for this length of time. Their case can be understood only in the light of the struggles of the unions against the open shop employers in that period.

Among the signers of the petition sent to Governor Merriam are Clarence Darrow, their counsel at the time of the trial, and the late Lincoln Steffens who was largely instrumental in persuading J. B. McNamara and his brother—released after serving a fifteen year term—to plead guilty to the dynamiting of the Los Angeles Times building and the accidental loss of life among non-union workers employed there at the time.

The International Typographical Union at its 80th Convention held September last in Colorado Springs adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas, J. B. McNamara, imprisoned by the state of California for dynamiting the Los Angeles Times Building during a strike of the Typographical Union, has been in prison longer than any other person in the world for a like offense, and

"Whereas, The International Typographical Union does not condone but condemns acts of individual violence, but since McNamara has served a prison sentence much longer than any other prisoners convicted of a like offense, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the I.T.U. join with liberal and progressive people everywhere in asking the Governor of California to pardon J. B. McNamara."

Labor has been lax in working for the release of these two loyal union men. The labor movement has been intimidated in this case by the open shoppers and their press, their pliant tools on the bench and the publicity puppets of the Hearst newspaper chain. These were the real criminals in the Los Angeles Times affair. They are today the forces behind every fascist trend in the United States. They are the forces that have kept Tom Mooney behind the bars though the whole world knows he is innocent.

Today the labor movement is growing stronger in every way in spite of the efforts of reactionary leaders to halt its progress by splitting it and attempting in this way to preserve its outworn and ineffective craft union structure and policy. In California the rise of a militant and powerful labor movement, especially in the decisive maritime industry, and the extension of its influence into the agricultural industry, is the most hopeful indication that McNamara, Mooney and Schmidt will be released to take their places in the ranks of the labor forward movement now gaining immense momentum.

In the panic year of 1907, and in the following years, 1908-09-10, the American Fed-

eration of Labor had only 1,500,000 members. The metal and building trades workers were the main targets of the open shop drive that was carried on by the use of every possible weapon—bought and paid for judges, private detective agencies and their spies and gunmen.

In 1908 President Gompers, Secretary Frank Morrison of the American Federation of Labor and John Mitchell of the United Mine Workers had been sentenced to six months in jail for contempt of court as the result of a boycott organized to support the Molders Union, on strike against the Buck Stove and Range Company.

In the building trades, especially in its structural iron and steel branches, the American Bridge Company and the Erectors Association representing the big iron and steel contractors, had launched a campaign to smash the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers Union and cripple the building trades councils of the A. F. of L., whose main weapon was the sympathetic strike.

The metal trades and building trades unions were honeycombed with spies furnished by the William J. Burns, the Pinkertons and other detective agencies.

The peculiar feature of the construction industry is that once a building is erected labor can do little about it. For that reason armed guards on and around a building being erected by scab labor in that period were as common as they are today in mass production industries like steel and automobiles. Since the skeleton of a building is erected first—preceded only by the foundation—the Structural Iron Workers Union was generally the first to strike. It was a not uncommon practice for the contractor to employ union laborers for excavating and foundation work so that when a strike occurred the structural iron workers had no members of the allied crafts to strike with them. The building job would be placed on the unfair list but with the steel structure erected it was only a matter of time until the rest of the building trades would have to capitulate. In many instances they would finally receive the union scale in return for taking the job off the unfair list after the steel work had been finished by scab labor.

The strategy of the Erectors Association, it will be seen, was to isolate the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers Union and make sympathetic strikes ineffective. The Iron Workers, therefore, had no alternative except to prevent the iron work going up with scab workers recruited by the detective agencies of the Erectors Association. This also became the objective of the building trades councils.

But since the non-union workers had the protection of the police and courts and of the private armed forces of the Erectors Associa-

tion backed by the Steel Trust and unlimited funds, and with the labor movement weak although committed to militant craft union tactics, sabotage was more or less a natural resort to what seemed to be an effective weapon. But the damage to the property involved was far less the result desired than that of frightening the scabs by adding another hazard to an already hazardous occupation.

At the same time the Typothetae—the association of employing printers and publishers—was waging war on the printing trades unions.

In Los Angeles the employers had announced their determination to keep the city open shop. The Times, owned by General Otis, who rode provocatively around the city with a machine gun mounted on his automobile, was on the unfair list of the Central Trades Council as was the Llewellyn Iron Works. It is this combination of circumstances—open shop war on the building trades, especially on the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, and on the Typographical Union and the printing trades generally, waged with every weapon at the command of the employers, sluggings, murders of union organizers, frameups of pickets, etc.—that explains why J. B. McNamara, a member of the I.T.U., his brother, J. J. McNamara, an organizer for the Iron Workers, and Matt Schmidt, a member of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, were all involved in the Los Angeles Times case.

This situation is dealt with in the petition for pardon as follows:

"These men are not criminals who ruthlessly sought their own personal gain at the cost of society; they are trade unionists, both members of the American Federation of Labor. Their participation in the Los Angeles strike, in line with their leading objective in life was to improve the working and living conditions, not only of themselves and their families, but of all their fellow trade unionists. The explosion for which they were imprisoned occurred during one of the most acute struggles between capital and labor in American history. Hard blows were being struck on both sides and both had recourse to violence. At the time, the situation in Los Angeles was widely characterized in the daily press as one bordering on civil war."

"It was during the waging of this combat against the forces opposing the betterment of wage earners of Los Angeles that the Times explosion was planned. The Los Angeles Times was one of the most bitter opponents of labor organizations in the United States, and was sparing no effort to keep Los Angeles an open shop city. It daily engaged in making most bitter attacks against the labor leaders of the State, and in distorting and maligning the whole of the organized labor movement of the entire country."

So well were these issues understood even by the authorities of open shop Los Angeles at the time that the defendants were not regarded as criminals or the case treated as a criminal case except by the open shop press with The Times leading the pack. But after their plea of guilty was entered in agreement with the prosecution and the shortest possible sentences under the statutes fixed, they were doublecrossed and railroaded by one of the

(Continued on Page 22)

TWENTY YEARS IN PRISON

A pen-portrait of the second-oldest political prisoner in the world, by a man who knew him in jail.

By PHIL McCANN

Very little has been written about Matt Schmidt. Looking at him you immediately gather the impression of efficiency, competence, ability. Why? Well . . . Matt looks like the expert workmen you see pictured around large projects, like Boulder Dam, Empire State Building, Dnieprestroy, Magnivorsk and Turk-Sib railroad. When I saw the picture of Bill Shatoff and Walter Duranty standing beside a finished portion of the Turk-Sib I thought, there's one of Matt's pals (Shatoff) who made good in a big way. And Matt is an expert workman in every sense of the word.

Matt has one "bum glim" (glass eye) but his sight is so keen that he can see small guide marks on material. He is a tall man, over six feet, and at present weighs about 200. He carries his weight well, and although inclined to look fat, Matt is exceptionally strong. I saw him lift heavy machine parts in the San Quentin jute mill that made many a convict nearby exchange looks of admiration. Matt was the trusted friend of such men as Ed "The Bear" Nockles, Anton Johannson, John McNamara, Alexander Berkman. With few exceptions all his friends were leaders in the labor movement, big tough, hardy fighters all; ready to get out on a picket line at any time, always spoiling for a fight, and trusted wherever union men gathered.

Jim McNamara and John Cornelison were comparing Matt with Harry Donlin. Harry came to San Quentin after the San Francisco General Strike. Jim said, "If Harry was taller, he would be just like Matt when Matt was young."

Harry Donlin was a leader of one of the "star gang" of longshoremen. He is better built, and in as good condition as most middle-weight boxers. He can hit like a mule's kick, has wide shoulders, a deep chest and can work in the hold of a ship thirty-six hours at a stretch. While boxers can punch bags, skip rope and trot on highways, few of them ever do longshore work.

Standing together one visions the old and the young in Matt and Harry. Matt is past fifty, Harry not yet thirty. We often argued how they would look together if both were the same age. Jim McNamara has great faith in Harry, he sees in him a future leader of waterfront workers. Matt likes him as well, and takes time to school him on strike tactics.

Matt's ability would be recognized anywhere. He has been convict-foreman of many shops in the prison. He has served under many wardens, all of whom have called on him to aid in the installation of new machinery, the erection of buildings, and the safe-guarding of the prison from fire hazards. For many years he held a responsible position in the prison furniture factory. He kept his books in a small cubby-hole "office" in the factory, and often loaned them to convicts whom he found inter-

esting. Most of his books have been sent to him by the authors. Robert Joyce Tasker, author of "Grimhaven," got his first lessons in advanced literature from Matt and his books. Ernest Booth read many of Matt's books, and from his reading and studies wrote such masterpieces as "Ladies of the Mob," "Stealing Through Life" and "Ladies in Durance Vile."

Matt and Big Bill Haywood were great friends. He told many stories of Bill, of his activities in the Western Federation of Miners, later in the Wobblies, and of his going to the Soviet Union, and his death there. Some day a biographer will get Matt into a corner and drag out all those stories and become famous when they are compiled. The chief difficulty is getting Matt to talk. I said "Hello" to him for six months, before I could get him to stop and talk a while. He was always busy. When I got to prison he was the "Chief" of the prison fire department, his immediate aide being Norman Shelby, known to the world as Kid McCoy, champion pugilist. As the fire department was outside the walls, Matt slept out there. He was allowed to roam about the prison at will, day or night. Guards on the ground and walls called to him as he walked about. His tall, erect figure commanded attention from everyone, even lowbrow guards.

Prisons change their methods, their procedure and their treatment of prisoners. When the "red herring" was dragged across the prison, the guards and officials became jittery. Since guards and officials usually have warped brains, it was no wonder they wrongly estimated the growing uneasiness that swept the prison during the time when the Sacramento defendants entered. They thought such an entry would be the spark that would touch off a prison rebellion led by the class-war prisoners of San Quentin. Nothing could have been more absurd. Had they judged the other way, their judgment might have been nearer the truth. For I personally know of many times when all of the class-war prisoners calmed down hot-headed sympathizers who wanted to "start something" over any of the various evils which infest any prison. Matt and Jim were particularly active in stopping such abortive movements. I've often heard Jim say, "This is no place to start trouble. Get on the outside and organize the workers, then you'll have some backing. In here all you'll get will be bullets and no results."

Mainly Matt's ability is around wood-working machines. At the time the Los Angeles "Times" case broke, Lincoln Steffens

obtained the promise of the authorities that Kaplan and Matt Schmidt would not be prosecuted since the McNamara brothers pleaded guilty and that should settle the case. Matt was working selling wood-working machines during the period following the trial. As the Burns Agency had a reward posted for him, he had returned from abroad thinking he was safe in this country.

One day he was demonstrating an intricate machine to a prospect. The buyer was impressed by Matt's clear understanding of wood-working machinery. He looked at Matt intently many times. With a \$25,000 reward hanging on his head Matt became suspicious of the buyer's attentions. Finally he said, "There is only one other man who knows wood-working machinery as well as you. If I didn't know you so well, I'd say you were him."

Matt became calm, looked squarely at the buyer. He smiled and asked, "Who is this fellow and what company does he work for?"

"Oh, you don't know him," he replied, smiling. "his name is Schmidt. But he is out of this country now, and the police are looking for him because of some labor trouble that took place out on the Coast."

Matt stood stock still. They were in an office with many people about. Escape would be impossible once the alarm was spread. Think of what \$25,000 would buy. He decided to bluff his way through. He laughed, admitted he knew "Schmidt" and invited the buyer out for a drink. The pall of suspicion broken, he and the buyer became good friends. Later, when Matt's picture was printed in the papers the buyer feared to tell of meeting the actual Matt Schmidt.

There are many traits to Matt that are well-known but little publicized. I know Matt won't like it when he learns he is being written up in papers. I don't think there is a large organization, wood-working or mechanical, who would hesitate to employ Matt despite his years in prison. He is able, well-versed and has kept pace, not only with technical and mechanical progress, but with economic and political changes.

We who have been in prison with Matt know his worth and we'd like to see him on the streets again where he rightfully belongs.

Isn't twenty-one years sufficient to serve in prison for labor?

How much longer will American labor leave him there?

Will protests, resolutions, demands accomplish results?

Try it and see.

Have your labor or fraternal organization demand the release of Matt Schmidt and McNamara.

For twenty-one and twenty-five years they have been patient—waiting—knowing that the workers of America have not forgotten.

Shall there be more prison years?

Get busy today while the campaign is on.

UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF MATT SCHMIDT AND JIM McNAMARA!





MATT SCHMIDT

FRAMING THE MARITIME FEDERATION

By JOHN CHESTER

In San Francisco, just 20 years ago, the street car companies conspired with city officials headed by District Attorney Charles Fickert and framed Tom Mooney for the Preparedness Day bombing.

Today, across the bay from San Francisco, District Attorney Earl Warren of Alameda county is preparing to try four members of the Pacific Coast Marine Firemen's Union for murder in a case that closely parallels and has the same background as the Mooney case.

The defendants in this new frameup (there have been many frameups in Fascist-ridden California) are Earl King, head of the union, Ernest G. Ramsay, former business agent, Frank J. Conner, and George Wallace.

Mooney, in 1916, was organizing the San Francisco streetcar men. The United Railways didn't like it. So they herded perjurers into court and doomed Tom Mooney to San Quentin prison.

men, a certain Ben Sackowitz, is accused of the actual killing. But, oddly enough, he is missing. He suddenly disappeared in April of this year. If Warren knows where he is, the district attorney isn't telling. The defense would like very much to locate Sackowitz. If he could be found, the frameup would probably be spoiled in a hurry.

King is accused only of asking Wallace to "go on a job" *the day before the murder*. Yes, that is the only accusation made. No one accuses him of mentioning murder, or violence, or the Point Lobos, or Alberts. The district attorney will, if he goes through with his plans for the frameup, have to resort to some elegant sophistry to link that simple request with a murder.

Ramsay is accused of nothing more than visiting Alberts *the day before the murder* on union business. The district attorney's own

and the district attorney to "protect" him.

The testimony he gave was not his; it was that of Deputy District Attorney Ralph Hoyt, who asked leading questions to which Wallace need only answer "Yes."

When defense attorneys asked for an injunction to prevent Warren from questioning the defendants in the absence of counsel—applying the third degree, in other words—Superior Judge Edward J. Tyrrell said: "I know of no law that would allow me to issue such an injunction, and if there were such a law I wouldn't do it."

When Superior Judge Frank M. Ogden was suddenly named in Judge Tyrrell's place to take the trial, the defense asked a postponement on October 22 in order to bring to Oakland badly-needed witnesses who were at sea. Judge Ogden denied the request.

On October 24, the defense again asked a postponement because Levinski was leaving the case and Conner was retaining a new attorney, Herbert Resner of San Francisco. Resner knew exactly nothing about the case, and was scheduled to go to trial only two days later. But Judge Ogden denied this request, too. So on October 26, the defense moved to disqualify Judge Ogden for bias and prejudice.

Now it happens that Judge Ogden, until his appointment to the bench, was a deputy district attorney under Warren, and owes his appointment to Warren's Republican machine. That circumstance would constitute a serious objection to him, even if he had not betrayed his prejudice by his actions.

Defense counsel made this clear on November 5 by offering a stipulation that any judge not a "graduate" of the district attorney's office would be acceptable as trial judge.

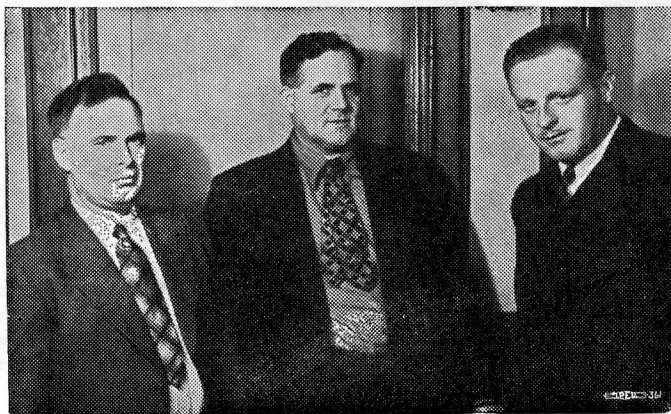
And the district attorney made it crystal clear that he *wants* a "graduate" of his office on the bench by refusing to accept the stipulation and announcing he would fight to retain Judge Ogden!

The trial is apparently to start soon. The date is indefinite as this is written because the matter of the disqualification proceedings against Judge Ogden must be settled first.

Pacific Coast labor knows the case is framed. The original King-Ramsay-Conner Defense Committee was set up by some 40 San Francisco Bay Region unions, and was promptly endorsed by the California State Federation of Labor. Defense committees are working in San Francisco, the East Bay (which includes Oakland, Alameda and Berkeley), San Pedro and Martinez, Calif., Portland, Ore., Seattle, Wash., Honolulu, New York City and Port Arthur, Texas.

Individual contributions have been received from more than 90 union locals as this is written—and that does not include the \$5 per member assessment the Marine Firemen were paying before the present strike. Yes, labor is reacting to this new Tom Mooney case.

But more money for the defense—which will cost something like \$40,000—is necessary. Now that the strike is on, the defense committee is paying no more than rent, \$15 a week to a stenographer, and the same amount to a publicity man. The defense is all but poverty-stricken, and the trial hasn't started. Contributions should be sent to the King-Ramsay-Conner Defense Committee, Room 510, 112 Market Street, San Francisco.



The Alameda frame-up victims, left to right, Frank J. Conner, Earl King, Ernest C. Ramsay.

King, in 1936, is one of the leaders of the strong Pacific Coast waterfront unions that gained the right to existence in 1934 and are now on strike to maintain that right. The ship-owners don't like what these unions have done. So they are framing King, Ramsay, Conner and Wallace.

The United Railways in 1916 had two aims: to remove an efficient labor organizer, and to paint labor unions as organizations of thugs and murderers.

The shipowners in 1936 have exactly the same aims.

The crime of which these members of the Marine Firemen are accused is the murder of George W. Alberts, chief engineer of the steamship Point Lobos, in his cabin aboard the vessel in Alameda harbor last March 22. Alameda is across the bay from San Francisco, and is adjacent to Oakland, the county seat, where the trial is to be held.

Alberts was stabbed to death. Who did it, nobody knows—except perhaps District Attorney Warren. If Warren knows, he is telling nobody. If the defense knew, King, Ramsay, Conner and Wallace would be freed immediately.

It is significant that each of the defendants is absolved by the district attorney's own evidence of the killing itself. Each is accused only of a vague "connection" with the murder.

Still another member of the Marine Fire-

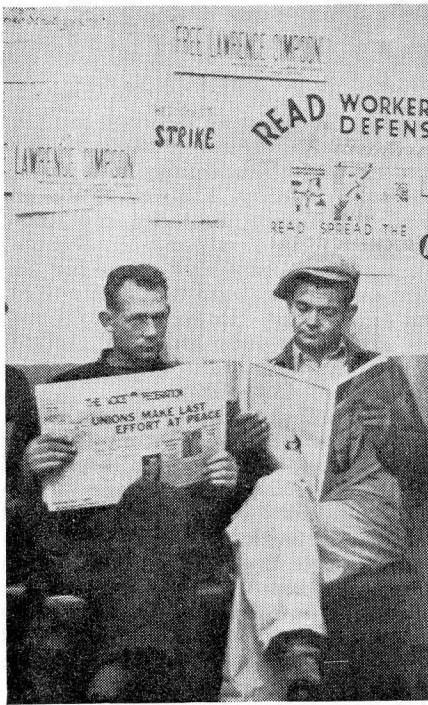
evidence admits that Ramsay saw Alberts, talked quietly with him, reached an agreement with him, and that there was neither violence nor the suggestion of violence.

Conner, a member of the ship's crew at the time of the killing, is accused only of showing the supposed murderer, Sackowitz, the way to Alberts' cabin. Conner is not accused of taking part in the crime, nor even of having any evil intentions. Yet he is indicted for murder.

As a matter of fact, Conner was definitely cleared of even this charge at the coroner's inquest by the testimony of the ship's captain and first assistant engineer.

Wallace, utterly illiterate, has been in the hands of the district attorney ever since his arrest. He has never been allowed to see anyone but two members of his union whom he asked specifically to see. His union offered to furnish him an attorney, but he "refused" via the district attorney, who announced that Wallace has no money and couldn't afford to have an attorney. His case is being handled by Public Defender Willard Shea—a cog in Warren's Republican machine that controls both Alameda County and state politics. In the court room, Shea has always stood at Wallace's side, flanked by a policeman; no one is allowed to get within ten feet of Wallace.

Wallace has been told over and over that his union brothers have "deserted" him, that they are "after" him, that he must allow Shea



N. Y. WATERFRONT DEFENSE CENTER

Pictures on this page taken at the Lawrence Simpson Branch, I.L.D., headquarters, at 22 South Street, New York.

LEFT and RIGHT are two typical scenes in the Waterfront Defense Center, during early November maritime strike days.

BELOW LEFT, one of the daily meetings of the Strike Defense Committee. Left to right: Isaac Kuperman, seaman; Andrew R. Newhoff, New York State Secretary, I.L.D.; Greenmore Skogman, secretary of the Defense Committee, member of the Strike Strategy Defense Committee; Roland Perry, seaman; Frederick Robbins, secretary of the Simpson Branch; I. Lebovici, I.L.D. lawyer, John Nelson, seaman; Alex Racolin, I.L.D. lawyer. The first six mentioned constitute the defense committee, official body of the Strike Strategy Committee.

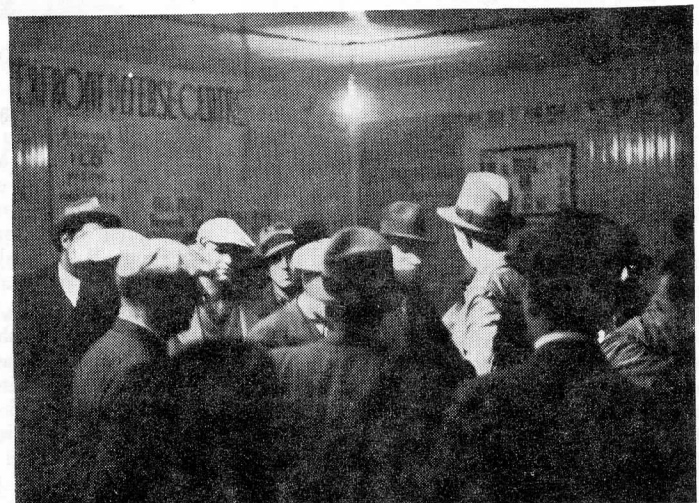


RIGHT: the defense headquarters of New York's waterfront, viewed from across the street.



LEFT: seamen signing up for I.L.D. membership at 22 South Street, New York City.

RIGHT: the defense center is a busy place, and popular with seamen in times of strike and times of peace on New York's waterfront.



FREEDOM AT THE BAR OF JUSTICE

It was Saturday afternoon, October 3, 1936. And standing there in the sunshine, with my back to the stone barracks which had towered so forbiddingly between me and freedom for eight long dreary months, I breathed as I had never breathed before. The grim, grey gates of the Oregon State penitentiary were behind me, the air was fresh . . . and, temporarily, at least, I was free.

To those who have never had their freedom denied them, who have never been a body with a number in a stone tomb, it will be difficult perhaps to appreciate the surge of feeling that swept through me that morning when the guard unlocked my cell and told me I was being released on \$2000 bail, that the International Labor Defense and the American Civil Liberties Union were to carry my case to the highest court in the land—the Supreme Court of the United States.

I have spent eight months of a seven year's sentence in the penitentiary, and I don't want to go back! I am not a criminal, I have committed no crime. And—if the Supreme Court of the United States returns me to the penitentiary—they do not sentence Dirk DeJonge alone . . . they imprison with me Free Speech, Democratic Tradition, and the inalienable rights set forth in the Declaration of Independence.

I was sentenced by Circuit Judge Jacob Kanzler in 1935—after the jury which convicted me had sent in a plea for extreme leniency. It is rumored that Kanzler is a member of the Friends of New Germany, American Nazi organization with a very active local in Portland. But the judge, in my case, according to himself, was acting as a good American. Before he sentenced me he made a long speech. DeJonge, he declared, was a dangerous man . . . an enemy to society.

This had been the tenor of the whole trial. Stanley "Larry" Doyle, special prosecutor who directed the state's case against me, had this to say to the jury:

"I will tell you the type of man this DeJonge is. And I will tell you further than that, each and every one of this jury, if these were war times there wouldn't be a trial here at all. I wouldn't be able to hold down the sentiment that has accumulated as a result of this man's dangerous activities."

This rather uncomplimentary introduction to Dirk DeJonge may give you the impression that I am some inhuman type of monster, a dark designing creature who has committed a heinous crime against everything that society holds dear. Therefore, let us examine the nature of that awful "crime"—a "crime" which brought me seven years in the Oregon State Penitentiary.

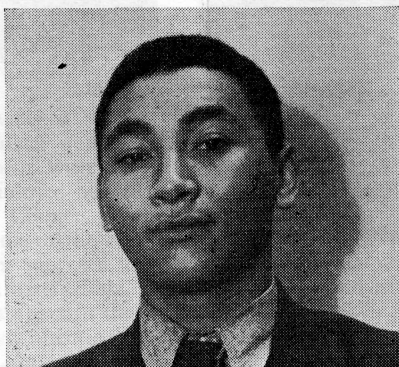
Portland in 1934 had one of the most powerful and influential unemployed organizations along the Pacific coast. When the great maritime strike broke in May of that year, therefore, the unemployed were destined to play a highly significant role. The employers had boasted that, should the maritime workers walk out, thousands of unemployed would be clamoring at the docks for jobs—that Portland's jobless army would break the strike. The morning of the strike dawned bright and clear—and the waterfront employers and the

By DIRK DeJONGE

Two cases charging political crime are coming up before the United States Supreme Court soon—the case of Angelo Herndon, and that of Dirk DeJonge, who tells his story in this article. The case has an important bearing on the Sacramento cases, and on the whole fight for the repeal of criminal syndicalism and insurrection laws.

Chamber of Commerce and the vigilante Citizens Emergency Committee got a rude jolt. The docks were very quiet and along the picket lines and in front of employment agencies walked hundreds of unemployed carrying on their shoulders huge banners that flashed to the world the slogan "THE UNEMPLOYED WONT SCAB." And throughout the strike the ranks of the jobless held solid. The unemployed in Portland did not scab.

Shortly after the strike started a tremendous mass meeting was held at the Unemployed Unity Center, a huge building in downtown Portland leased jointly by the city's four unemployed organizations. At this meeting strike officials and unemployed leaders spoke to a packed and enthusiastic gathering—complete and elaborate plans were worked out for co-operation between the strikers and the unemployed. And from that time on, as one



ANGELO HERNDON

of the speakers at that meeting, I was marked for special attention by the ranting, labor-hating daily press. Moreover, up and down the coast, plans were being made for a concentrated drive against the Communist Party—a drive which later culminated in wholesale criminal syndicalism arrests in Washington, Oregon and California.

On July 11, 1934, in Portland, an incident took place which shook an already critical strike situation to the very core. A desperate employer group, thirsting for blood, decided to move cargo—and in the attempt four unarmed longshore pickets were shot by the police.

On the night of July 27th a public mass meeting at the Unemployed Unity Center was called by the Communist Party to pro-

test against the longshore shootings and the raids. As principal speaker at this meeting I devoted my talk, almost entirely, to a protest against police brutality. The meeting was an open public discussion, conducted in a traditional American democratic manner. But this didn't phase the Portland red squad. Just before the meeting concluded the police walked in and the chairman, two other speakers and myself were placed under arrest and charged with criminal syndicalism.

In the trials that followed, the daily press, the employers and the courts were very frank about the issues involved. The judge that bound us over to the grand jury was no exception.

And, never before in all the history of Oregon jurisprudence, has there been such a bold faced acknowledgment of class interests as those displayed in the case of "Oregon State vs. Dirk DeJonge." The case against me was assisted by the Citizens' Emergency Committee, vigilante group, members of which proffered their services as under cover agents and witnesses, and by Stanley M. (Larry) Doyle, special prosecutor, supplied the state at "no expense to the taxpayer." Doyle, formerly national commander of the 40 and 8, was tendered the District Attorney's office by the leadership of the American Legion and other veteran groups, an act which was later to stir up a wave of resentment on the part of rank and file veterans in Portland.

The trial lasted approximately two weeks. During that time the newspapers published prejudicial editorials and the judge refused to grant a mistrial or cite them for contempt; Larry Doyle, the 200% patriot who made his last appeal to the jury in a drunken stupor, attempted to contact a defense witness during the trial and the incident was dismissed as unimportant by the nimble Kanzler. Professional stool pigeons testified solemnly that DeJonge was a dangerous man because Stalin stole the Tzar's jewels, that the Communist Party advocated murder and bank robbery and that they were positive of this because they had read open postal cards to the local party from "higher ups" advocating such crimes.

On the other hand a long line of Portland citizens who had attended the July 27th meeting testified that criminal syndicalism had not been advocated by me or by any of the other speakers. None of the state's witnesses were able to refute this testimony, some even admitting that it was true.

The Jury, after many hours deliberation, however, declared me guilty. It was not necessary, it held, to prove I had advocated the criminal syndicalism and sabotage with which I was charged. All that was necessary, it was determined by the judge and the jury, was to prove I had spoken at a meeting held under auspices of the Communist Party. That, under the decision, constitutes criminal syndicalism in Oregon.

Thus, as a Portland attorney stated to the Oregon Supreme Court, should a Republican or Democratic speaker appear at a Communist meeting to urge a vote for his party, he would be subject to imprisonment under the criminal syndicalism law. This is all the more paradoxical because the Oregon law does not

(Continued on next page)

LIBERTY IN THE ELECTIONS

By **ALINE B. LOUCHHEIM**

"No free speech for these God damned Communists!" yells a Tampa vigilante. But "Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech or of the press or the right of people peaceably to assemble," says the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Free speech? Free assembly? The Communists had contracts to speak in various halls. George U. Harvey, Borough President of Queens, member of the American Crusaders (foreign-born branch of the Ku Klux Klan) refused a permit for a meeting in the Jamaica Town Hall, and later filed a petition asking that the Party be barred from the ballot of New York State. In upstate Buffalo, halls twice were denied to Earl Browder, Communist Presidential candidate. There was no place for James Ford, Vice-Presidential candidate, to speak in Richmond, Va. A large padlock and a sign saying "No Trespassing" closed the door of the Pentecostal Hall in Turlock, Calif. to L. B. Patterson, Congressional candidate. After weeks of red-baiting editorials in the *Tampa (Fla.) Morning Tribune* and resolutions in it by the Concord Baptist Church advocating force and violence against Communists, on September 13 a group of Tampa citizens led by the Bay Lodge Knights of Pythias and the ever-present Ku Klux Klan padlocked the hall in which Browder was scheduled to speak.

The traditional Hearst-inflamed "Red Squad" police policies of California did not stop at banning halls. In Los Angeles alone, five street meetings were broken up by police, who brutally charged on horseback into the crowds, upset speakers platforms, slugged persons mercilessly, and who did not hesitate in two instances to use tear-gas bombs. The press reports eight arrests in Los Angeles; in San Francisco two. Five persons were arrested in Fremont, Ohio, one of these merely for applauding the speaker and two for inquiring about him. Two Communist speakers were arrested in Kingston, N. Y. In Peoria, Ill., where certain American Legion members had been spreading anti-Communist propaganda, six Communist Party members were arrested for getting petition signers, a legal measure for insuring the candidates' names on the state ballot.

Beaten with blackjacks and arrested on charges of "vagrancy, abusive language, and resisting arrest," two Communist Party workers were sentenced to a year on the Missouri chain-gang for distributing leaflets.

Homer Brooks, Communist candidate for Governor of Texas, was seized with two companions in Port Arthur, jailed for several hours, released, driven 10 miles in a police car, told to walk 40 miles to Galveston, and then forced to run from the gun-fire aimed at him by deputy sheriffs and vigilantes in a car following him. A homemade bomb in a burning handkerchief was found on the stairway of the Yorkville Labor Temple (in New York's nurtured Nazi-land) where a Communist meeting was scheduled.

A dramatic climax was reached on Oct. 25 in Tampa, where the ominous shadow of Ku Klux Klan terror hovers. Browder was speaking in a vacant lot when a flying wedge of men, some of them wearing Legion caps, swinging pistols and clubs, broke up the meeting, upset the platform and transformed the peaceable gathering into a bedlam of fighting, wherein several persons were injured. Warrants charging assault and inciting to riot were issued against three of these men—former Deputy Sheriff L. Ponder, Constable F. Newberger, and John Parrish,—self-styled "red-blooded Americans." National Commander of the American Legion, Harry W. Colmery repudiated the Legionnaire's action saying they acted as individuals in spite of their insignia, and that the use of force "to suppress persons or groups whose opinions differ from our own" is "the very essence of *un-Americanism*."

Free speech? Free speech through a microphone? The National Civic Federation appealed against the Communist "privilege" of radio broadcast; the Daughters of the American Revolution passed a resolution

from other fascist sources, for instance from M. Kendall, president-general of the Sons of the American Revolution and L. Fairchild, vice-president of the National Americanization League. When Browder returned to Terre Haute for a broadcast over WBOW on Oct. 20, 150 of these same fascist-minded citizens blocked the station, hurled rotten eggs at him, and precipitated fighting in the streets and injuries to at least three bystanders.

STATUS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS?

Justice Gavin W. Craig of the California Appellate Court, began serving a 12-month federal sentence in Ventura County Jail, California, November 12, on a conviction of conspiracy to obstruct justice.

By special decision of the State Supreme Court, he will receive his full pay of \$10,000 a year, including 18 months back pay, while he serves his sentence. He will also, under the special ruling, carry his judicial title into his cell, and must be addressed as Justice Craig by prisoners and all prison employees. He will also carry his office into his cell and write judicial opinions while serving time.



against it. Hoodlums blocked station KFXM in San Bernardino, Cal. and cut the power transmission lines to prevent a Communist speaking. With an injunction against vigilantes denied, Esco Richardson, Congressional candidate and Mrs. Bessie Kuckler, State Assembly nominee, entered radio station KXO in El Centro, Cal. for a scheduled address. Led by Sheriff Ware, 300 armed men entered, wrecked the station, severely beat Richardson and escorted him to a train while pelting him with a barrage of rocks and rotten eggs. It was Sheriff Ware who applauded the actions of Chief of Police James Yates of Terre Haute. Twice this Indiana city became the focal point of public indignation. On his first visit there, Browder and his two companions were prevented from speaking when they were jailed on "vagrancy" charges. This ridiculous procedure was fostered by the Mayor, the Vigo County Law and Order Committee (whose secretary Collins participated in the arrests) and the Merchants' Association (whose secretary Quinn tried to prevent the broadcast). But the speech travelled over the air anyway, —because David Bentall, Browder's attorney, closeted himself in the broadcasting booth and read it. Along with Ware's congratulatory messages to Yates came similar praise

FREEDOM AT THE BAR OF JUSTICE

(Continued from facing page)

include membership in the Communist Party as constituting criminal syndicalism. The terms of the statute specify "the advocacy of criminal syndicalism and sabotage." Neither I, nor any of those arrested with me ever advocated either.

Edward Denny, chairman of the July 27 meeting, followed me to trial. He was declared guilty and sentenced to two years in the penitentiary, where he is now serving.

My case goes to the Supreme Court of the United States while that body is about to begin deliberation on the fate of Angelo Herndon. From the far southeast and from the far northwest these two strangely similar cases come to the highest court in the land together. Herndon led the unemployed of Georgia in a bitter struggle for the right to live. For that "crime" he faces torture and death on the Georgia chain gang. My "crime" was to lead the unemployed in the greatest anti-scab movement Portland ever saw.

CHICAGO ON THE MARCH



Chicago reports on the Labor Defender appeal:

Mrs. Paralee Hill, joined 1932, Herndon Branch, collected \$11.00 selling 1100 pieces of homemade candy at a penny each.

Tom Mooney Branch raised \$10.00 with the help of Mr. and Mrs. Brezen, Galia Zoglin, Sloan, and others.

Lovett Branch raised \$27.03. Thanks to Mrs. John Stuffers, George Paros, Mr. and Mrs. Newhoff, J. Wittenber, Rossberg, Doris Wicks, Peterson.

Canton Commune Branch raised \$5.60, with hopes of a much better showing in the Xmas and winter relief drive.

Bussel Branch, in unemployed flop-house territory, raised \$11.80. Led by Orfinger, Brass, Lazar, Rosenbloom, Hartman, Hartman aiming for \$10 and the Gold Honor Pin and missing it by \$3.00.

Thomas Jefferson Branch turned in \$14.90.

Erich Becker Branch, organized in honor of one who died in the line of duty, meets at the Temple Judea, 2nd and 4th Wednesday, raised \$10.00.

FOR THE DEFENSE OF SPANISH DEMOCRACY

An elderly man, poorly dressed, walked into the State office. He extended greetings and said, "I have some money for the Spanish people," placing five bills on the desk. Lillian



MRS. PARALEE HILL

Goodman held on to her chair. There were one, two, three, four, five twenty dollar bills. And he walked from the office, failing to leave name, address, or other information.

An Aid-Spain meeting at the West Side Forum—C. P. Branch No. 115 affair was addressed by the Spanish Consul, and by Morris



ERICH BECKER

Childs, State Secretary of the Communist Party. J. Wittenber, secretary of the Illinois I.L.D., appealed for aid. In this poor, unemployed area \$84.00 was collected.

At a Benefit Concert for Vilnis an appeal was made for medical aid for Spain, result: \$100.08.

The Professional Committee for Aid to Spain is sponsoring "A Night in Spain." Leading Spanish artists and a Mexican Troubadour group will supply music and entertainment. Date, December 10. Place, Steuben Club, 188 W. Randolph Street.

ITEMS

A delegate to the International Machinists Convention, an ILD member, introduced a resolution for United Defense. Resolution unanimously endorsed.

Over a year ago Sol Bornstein, member of Painters No. 275, was beaten by Hearst thugs, arrested and fined \$100.00 and costs by the Hon. Judge Green. The case was appealed to the Appellate Court on November 2 and the decision reversed.

Lovett Branch secured delegates for Christmas Relief Conference from 8 organizations, four of them trade unions. Recruited 30 new members in November-December Drive.

Fourteen members of the Thomas Jefferson branch, youth, face trial for picketing Paradise Theatre showing Hearst films.

LEGAL STAFF

Landon Chapman addressed a group at the Chicago Federation of Labor School on defense as a factor in winning strikes.

Attorney Meyers has had a fine article printed in the Federationist, organ of the A. F. of L., dealing with research on injunctions. He also participated in a round table discussion on Labor and Civil Rights Violations, broadcast over the ABC network.

The legal staff conducted a successful meeting on the Terre Haute and Swimmer case civil rights violations. A group of new lawyers signed cards agreeing to help in research and brief work.



Mrs. Minnie Pshaenich and family. Mrs. Pshaenich joined the I.L.D. in 1933. She is a member of the Chicago Humboldt Park Community Branch. Children and household problems did not prevent her from collecting \$13.00 in greetings to the LABOR DEFENDER. Mrs. Pshaenich also won a gold pin for her work in the Summer Milk Fund campaign.

WELCOMED TO THE FOLD

Uptown Branch, just organized— orchid to Fania Bunin, Bernice Stein, Vera Block, Anne Shuman, Mrs. Sahud.

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VOICES FROM PRISON

A Word Of Encouragement From Tom Mooney

I greatly enjoy your regular weekly News Letter. It is very timely and fills a gap in the lives of labor prisoners. I like it very much and I hope that it will continue to improve with age, like good wine.

Again from the bottom of my heart goes my thankful appreciation, with warmest comradely greetings and every good wish.

I am,
Fraternally
TOM MOONEY—31921

What The Campaign Means To a Kentucky Martyr's Family

Dear Comrades:

In answer to your letter received several days ago was pleased to hear from you all again. This money was sure a great help to me and the children. We are all O.K. at present.

Hope you all have great success with the Christmas Campaign.

We are looking forward to the box of clothing we receive each Christmas from our true comrades. Hoping and expecting an early reply from a comrade.

ELIZABETH BALDWIN

From a Scottsboro Mother

I received your kind and useful letter, it surely did come in a needed time.

You say it is cold up there, it is cold down here too. All are well but me, I still go to Grady twice a week for treatment. My check was truly appreciated this month. Listen Comrade Rose, if you can please send me some old sweaters to wear and a coat. I need one to wear to the clinic Thursday and Monday.

I went to the clinic Monday and was treated and have been in bed ever since so I will close. Answer soon. From

JOSEPHINE POWELL

His Mail Is Withheld

This is to acknowledge the receipt of the money order. Regrettable as it may seem or sound, I was not permitted to have your letter which came with the money order. I look forward to the footnotes of your letter.

I do want to get your letters and to avoid inconveniences. May I suggest that you get in touch with the office of San Quentin Prison. This matter should be corrected.

Write again.
With kind regards, sincerely
JACK CRANE

What a Prisoner's Family Needs

I will drop you a few lines. We sure need plenty of clothing for winter, and I hope that you will be able to send me and my family enough clothing to do us this winter. We need more shoes than anything else, and we need heavy clothing too. We need some rain coats too if you can get them, to stand this rain in. I have to get out and get wood and coal and need one bad.

I would like to know if you could any way
(Continued on next page)

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Matt Smolkovich	Charles Seebe
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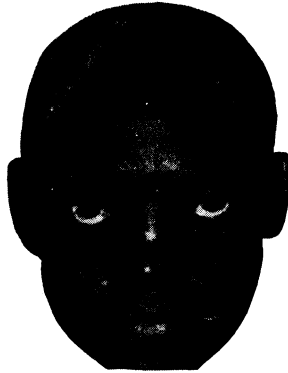
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FARMER LABOR PARTY 4th Congressional District Philadelphia, Pa.

(Continued from preceding page)

in the world send me enough to buy coal, for if you don't I will have to get out in the rain and carry it on my back, me and my little children, and we will freeze this winter for coal is \$2.25 a load here, so if you can please write and tell me and send me some shoes. We are all bare footed, every one of us are.

So will close, your long remembered friend,
MARY JANE CLOUSE

Send Him Greetings



HAYWOOD PATTERSON

Five and a half years in jail is five and a half years too long. The International Labor Defense has fought consistently for these long years for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys. The fight it put up is the fight that has kept them alive so far. As members of the Scottsboro Defense Committee, we are continuing this fight.

At the same time, we do not neglect prisoners while they are in jail. They need smokes, writing paper, money for razors, soap, and other comforts. The Scottsboro boys are no exception and month in and month out they and their families receive regular checks from the Prisoners' Relief Department.

Prisoners need more than that. They need moral encouragement, of the sort that comes from direct contact with the "outside". Especially they should feel that such days as birthdays, which meant so much to them outside in the way of celebration, are not forgotten.

December 12 is Haywood Patterson's birthday. He is under sentence of 75 years in the Scottsboro frame-up. An appeal of this conviction and sentence will be heard by the Alabama State Supreme Court in January. Write him for his birthday, at Jefferson County Jail, Birmingham, Ala.

An Oregon C. S. Prisoner Has a Visitor

Received your letter of Oct. 15th, and also the money order. Well at present my health is fair. Last Sat. October 17th was my 36th birthday, and the workers of Oregon and the North West sure remembered me. I received so many cards, letters and telegrams from relatives, friends and organizations, that I am having the I.L.D. in Portland answer them

(Continued on next page)

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ELIZABETH SANTORE
Los Angeles, Calif.

PORTLAND, OREGON

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A. Friend	Dirk De Jonge

(Continued from preceding page)

through whatever method they see fit. Due to the prison rules we are only allowed to write one letter a week. I also had a surprise visit or visitor, all the way from New York, Anna Damon, and Mr. Goodman, one of the local I.L.D. attorneys. They informed me of the latest steps to be taken in my case, and some very good news. That the United States Supreme Court has accepted jurisdiction of the De Jonge case. Well I really enjoyed her visit she gave me your best regards, many thanks.

When she gets back to N. Y. please give her my regards and say hello. I realize how busy you people are back there with the different campaigns and I hope they will all be a success.

I remain, with fraternal greetings,
ED. DENNY

Billings Writes On The Christmas Campaign

I sincerely hope that your Christmas Campaign will turn out to be a successful one and that you will be able to send a little gift to my mother this year again. She is past eighty now and unable to do any work of any kind and although she makes her home with my brothers and sisters none of them are able to do much for her beside supplying her with board and lodgings. She needs very little else, of course—but then—every one needs a little money for clothes and other little necessities and whatever you can send her will help her out in that regard.

Again thanking you and our mutual friends for their kind assistance and demonstration of solidarity, I am,

Always sincerely yours,
WARREN K. BILLINGS

From a Gallup Martyr's Widow

The days are getting colder every day telling us that winter is here. We had a lot of rain for the last three days, now we are waiting to have a blanket of snow. Winter really seems the hardest for me and I believe it is hard for everybody. The children need warm clothing indeed, and also need plenty of fuel to keep the house warm and it's rather hard when you can't get it.

I will appreciate, and be very grateful if you do send me the clothing.

Thank you,
Respectfully yours,
MRS. SOLEDAD ESQUIBEL

It's Cold In The Kentucky Hills

Received your letter yesterday, and sure was glad to hear from you. I also received the money you sent to us and I think I put it to good use. I bought coal with it, for we are going to have to keep a fire these cold days.

Me and the boys are all well, and I hope when this letter reaches you it will find you well. Well I have started my children in school. Don't know whether they will get to go all winter or not, but I sure want them to. Well I had a letter last Tuesday from my husband and he is getting along very well. He said to send you all his regards for him. So I don't know much to write as I can never thank you all enough for the way you have treated me and my children, so I will close.

POLLIE MARTIN

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Greetings from the

I.W.O. DENTAL STAFF
New York City

I. IVANOVICH
Ford City, Penna.

THE HONOR OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT

(Continued from Page 1)

foulest employer-stoolpigeon-detective conspiracies in labor history. The petition says on this point:

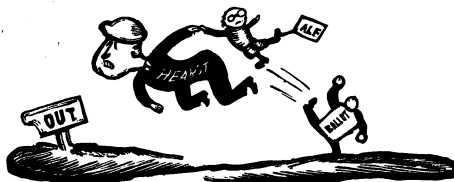
"At the time of the trial growing out of the dynamiting of the Times building an agreement was arrived at between the prosecution and the defense that J. B. McNamara should plead guilty to murder occasioned by the dynamiting of the Times building and that J. J. McNamara should plead guilty to the dynamiting of the Llewellyn Iron Works. It was further agreed that J. B. McNamara should be paroled at the end of seven years and that J. J. McNamara should be paroled at the end of three years and three months. It was further agreed that there should be no prosecution of any of the other alleged conspirators and particularly that Matthew A. Schmidt and Dave Caplin should never be prosecuted if they remained out of the state of California. The agreement was broken almost at once by Judge Walter Beardwell who sentenced J. J. McNamara to fifteen years in the penitentiary. The agreement was kept by the then District Attorney John D. Fredericks so long as he was in office. When Fredericks was defeated by Thomas Lee Woolwine for the office of district attorney, the latter, disregarding the promise made by his predecessor, and in cooperation with W. J. Burns, brought Dave Caplin back from Washington and tried and convicted him of manslaughter. He was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary and served the full time of six years and six months. Matthew Schmidt was brought back from New York, tried for murder, sentenced to life imprisonment in the penitentiary and has now served twenty-one years."

"J. B. McNamara has never asked for parole to which he is entitled under the agreement as a result of which he pleaded guilty, since he feels that to do so would be a violation of his duty towards Schmidt who was never to be prosecuted if the McNamaras pleaded guilty."

The honor of the American labor movement has been besmirched too long by the unprecedented sentences served by two staunch unionists whose only guilt is that of carrying out a mistaken labor strategy and tactical line.

The labor movement can take no more effective action than to place itself officially on record, as an unmistakable sign of its growing independence of the employers and their political parties, and of its gratitude for those who served its cause loyally a quarter of a century ago, for the fight now under way for the release of J. B. McNamara, Matt Schmidt—and Tom Mooney.

Open the prison doors for all class war prisoners! None of us is free while one of ours is imprisoned for our cause.



Greetings to the

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from
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