

LABOR DEFENDER

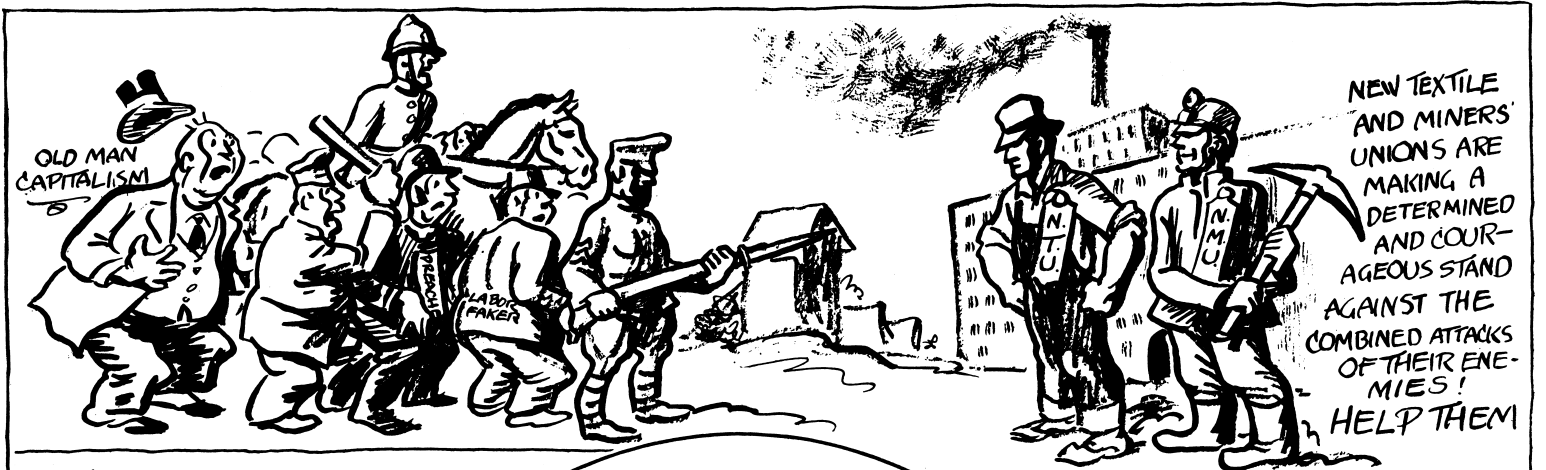


**THE ATTACK ON
THE MILITANT UNIONS**

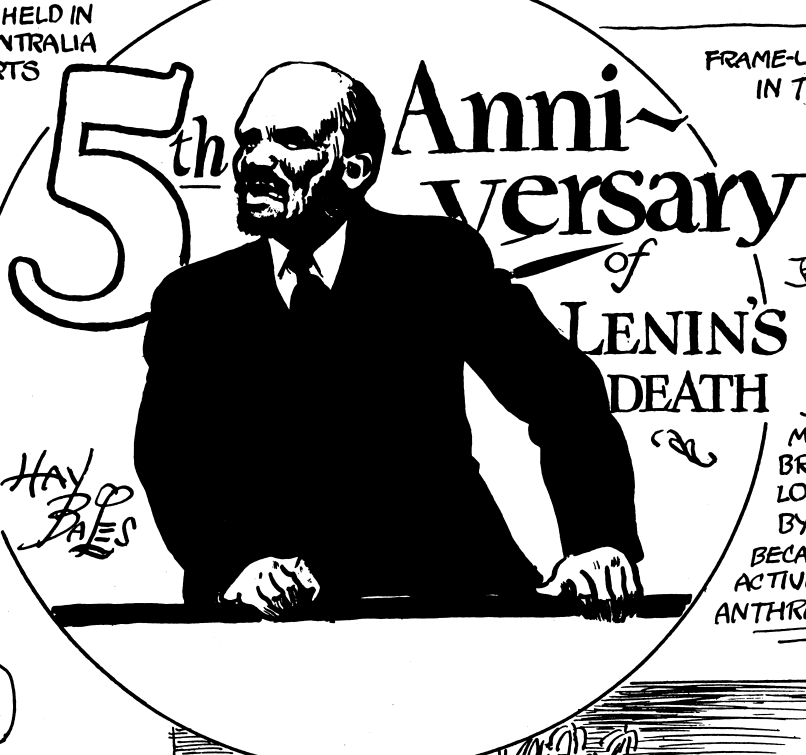
10¢

Jan. 1929

LOOKING at the MONTH with HAY BALES



UNITED FRONT CONFERENCE HELD IN SEATTLE IN DECEMBER BY CENTRALIA LIBERATION COMMITTEE STARTS NEW CAMPAIGN TO FREE CENTRALIA PRISONERS!



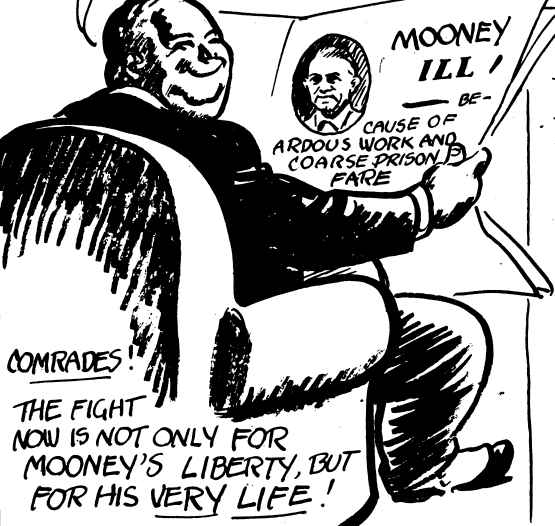
FRAME-UPS AND MURDERS IN THE ANTHRACITE!



JACOB LOYACK MURDERED AND HIS BROTHER, MIKE LOYACK, WOUNDED BY A GANGSTER BECAUSE OF THEIR ACTIVITIES IN THE ANTHRACITE STRIKE



AHA! STARVATION THAT'S THE STUFF!



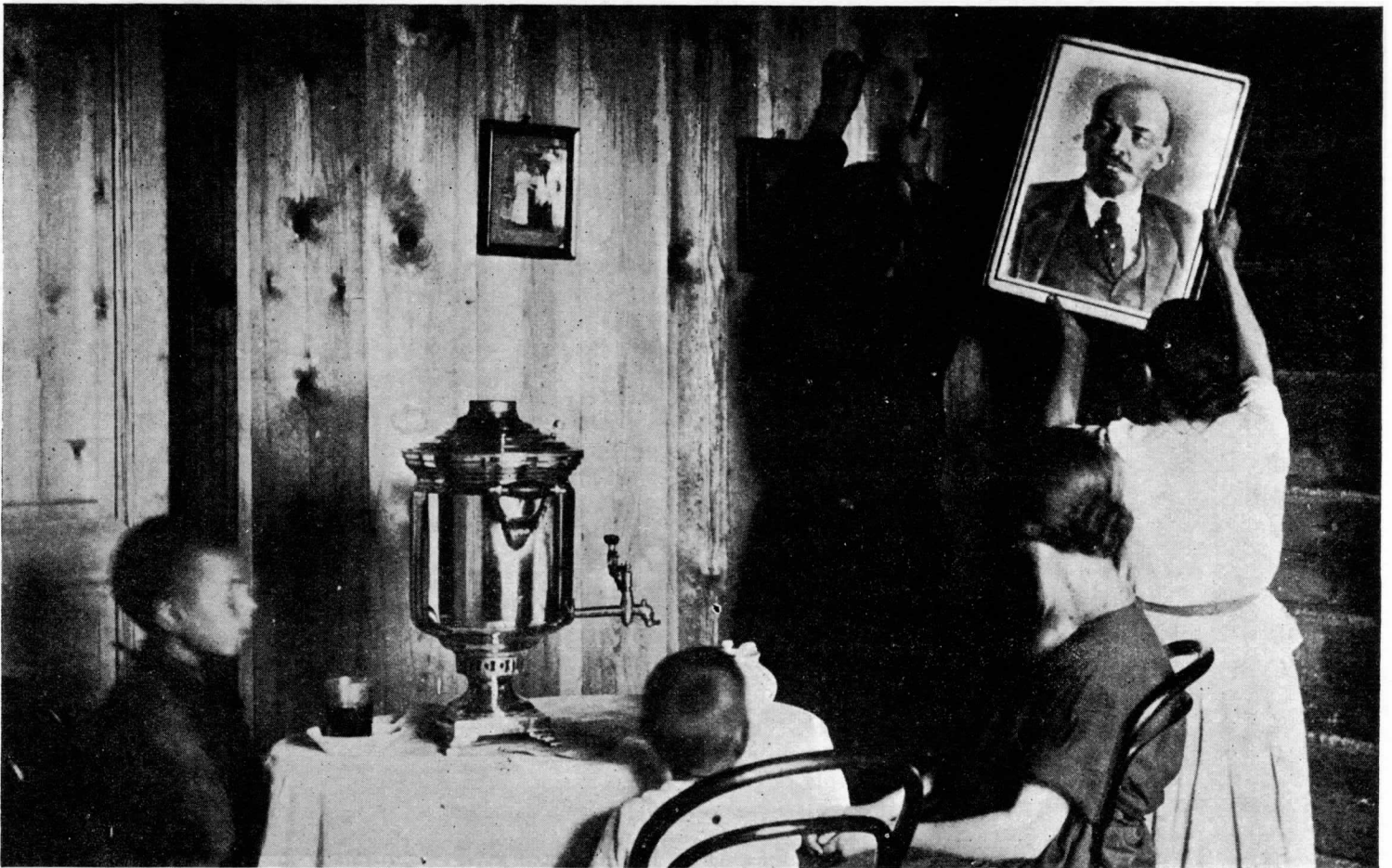


Photo Margaret Larkin

The article of Lenin here printed, exposes the bourgeois American "democracy" as the most brutal dictatorship of the capitalist class, directed against the workers. Lenin shows that in America, which is supposed to be "the freest and most civilized country," there is "the shameless rule of a clique of multimillionaires". Lenin in his brochure "Kautsky the Renegade", exposes at greater length the capitalist democracy of the American government as the ruthless dictatorship of the capitalist class. "On Equality" is a speech Lenin delivered in Moscow in August, 1918. It is reprinted by permission, from the International Publishers brochure "Voices of Revolt—V. I. Lenin".

On Equality

By

V. I. L E N I N

thority which took the place of the Tsar's authority? It was the authority of Guchkov and Milyukov, which began to prepare for a Constituent Assembly in Russia. What was it that really lay behind this work in favor of a liberation of the people from its yoke of a thousand years? Simply the fact that Guchkov and the

other leaders gathered around them a host of capitalists who were pursuing their own imperialist purposes. And when the clique of Kerensky, Chernov, etc., gained power, this new government, hesitating and deprived of any base to stand on, fought only for the basic interests of the bourgeoisie, closely allied to it. The power actually passed into the hands of the *kulaks*, and nothing into those of the toiling masses. We have witnessed the same phenomenon in other countries also. Let us take America, the freest and most civilized country. America is
(Continued on page 9)



Photo Labor Defender

A new, modern factory in the U. S. S. R.

We bolsheviks are constantly accused of violating the slogans of equality and fraternity. Let us go into this question in detail.

What was the au-



Photo Int. News.

Police of Palo Alto, Cal. show sign carried by workers arrested when Hoover left for Latin America.

Super-Salesmanship and Bayonets

By ROBERT W. DUNN

THE next Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the capitalist empire of the United States is now on a battle ship trip inspecting his imperial domains. With the exception of Charles Evans Hughes, master strategist of the Havana Conference, and dean of American secret diplomats, Herbert Hoover is undoubtedly the most skillful agent who has ever been sent South to insure Canal rights and marine rule in Nicaragua, the security of oil investments in Venezuela, the continuation of financial and military "advisorships" in a number of countries, and the general booming of trade and commerce.

Hoover goes to survey a field of conflict. That conflict, for the present is largely one of trade and invest-

ment between Wall Street and Lombard Street. He goes to combat the slogan "British Goods for British Markets," under which Great Britain "has developed an intensive selling campaign among her colonies, as well as in Latin America," according to a recent statement of the New York Trust Company. It goes on to say that "South America has now become the scene of intense trade competition between the two countries."

The United States has gradually gained on its British Rival. Within the last 15 years American investments in Latin American states have increased over twelve fold, while trade has increased almost 200 per cent. Mr. Hoover goes to consolidate these gains and to stimulate still further this victorious march of American business men and bankers over South America.

Everywhere he goes puppet dictators and servile native rulers are tendering him elaborate receptions and sight-seeing trips. Honeyed words are spoken over the banquet boards. No peasants and workers, however, are included on these reception committees! Those who fight for the masses against exploitation by native rulers or by foreign bondholders, hate the

sight of Hoover. He symbolizes to them the tyranny of capital at home and abroad. What Hoover will not be shown should be of interest to *Labor Defender* readers. He will not be shown or told about:

The bodies of two hundred trade union leaders massacred by the bloody hand of President Machado in Cuba.

The tortured political prisoners in the dungeons of Venezuela, the students and army rebels who raised their voices against the tyranny of dictator Gomez and his oil company backers.

The imprisoned workers who have resisted the tyranny of dictator Ibanez in Chile. His government has sold out completely to the Guggenheim interests. All labor unions have been destroyed in the course of the battle for nitrates between the American and British capitalists.

The 5,000 Haitian citizens who have been murdered by the armed forces of the United States—all for the purpose of protecting a railroad concession owned by the National City Bank of New York. And the thousands of Haitian farmers turned off the lands to make way for Yankee sisal corporations.

The Guatemalan workers who are sentenced to eight years in jail for striking, the law being enforced by the military of a government completely controlled by

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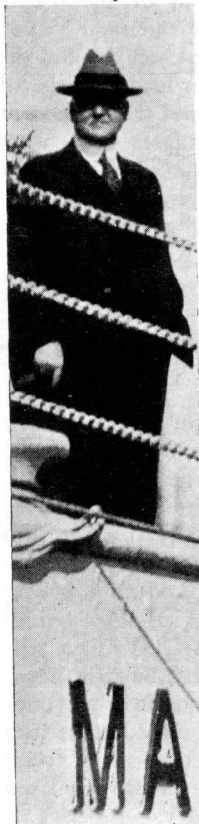


Photo Int. News.



Dwight Morrow

Colombia Workers On Strike

THE United Fruit Company is one of the rulers in Colombia. The toilers in the regions

By
JANET CORK

under its sway lead a feudal existence. The workers live more miserably than slaves. Entire sections of the country are controlled by company police who prevent the escape of workers. The workers are forced to live in company houses, receive fiat money for their slavery, and must buy all their necessities in company stores. Not only does the United Fruit Company control its own slaves but it wields great power beyond the boundaries of its own towns. It forces the small "independent" farmers to sell their products to the American company and to accept fiat money which they can spend only in the stores of the United Fruit. The hours of labor are from sunrise to sundown. If a worker should have the luck to escape from the plantation he is quickly returned by one of the many company police and often flogged to death. It is against such treatment that these workers have revolted.

A strike broke out among the fruit workers of the Magdalena District on the United Fruit plantations, one of the grievances being the refusal of the company to apply the insurance law. Violent clashes have resulted, many soldiers being killed and numerous workers injured. The railway workers' solidarity strike kept the United Fruit Co. from moving its freight

and the government from moving troops into the Magdalena district for several days. To date the strikers are still armed and fighting bravely against the government troops and preparing to meet any attempts at American intervention.

Alarmed by several victorious strikes early in April of this year among the port workers of Barranquilla and the stevedors and railway workers, the conservatives in the government, instigated by American fruit and oil interests, have passed repressive measures against Colombia's militant workers.

The chief law aimed against the workers is called the "law of social defense" and was passed on October 30. It is referred to as the "anti-Bolshevik law." There were many protest strikes throughout the country against this law to suppress the labor unions. It forbids "the establishment of all societies which like bolshevism, or communism, spread ideas against the state, encourage attempts against the constitutional organization or outrages against the Catholic religion and tend to relax discipline within the army or police or to destroy the home." "Societies attempting to organize strikes" are included in this law. It further provides that newspapers with "subsidies from abroad" will be prohibited and the editors imprisoned. All newspapers will be compelled to deposit a large bond

which will be forfeited in case of infraction of the law.

Couched in these terms the law is used to repress every labor organization and every political organization fighting for the interests of the workers and peasants. This law is a direct result of the pressure of



Photo Int. News.

American capital on the government of Colombia. A few months ago it was reported in the Colombian press that the Colombian government had authorized one of its oil companies to make a loan of \$200,000,000 in the United States. U. S. capital controls the puppet government of Colombia.



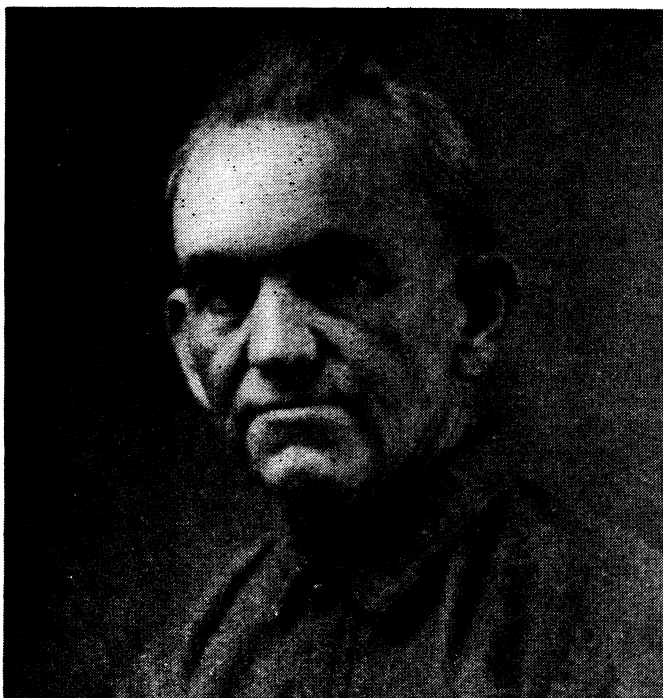
Photo J. Martinez
This rare photo of Gen'l A. C. Sandino was taken in his headquarters. To the left is Col. Francisco Estrada, to the right, Col. Juan Colindres. The photo was sent by Sandino to his father as a remembrance.

The Prison Hell-hole Of California

By

An Inmate Of

SAN QUENTIN



ing in the caged runways overhead are vicious in the extreme. A new inmate is assigned to a loom. On this obsolete piece of junk the inmate must manufacture one hundred yards of good Jute Cloth a day; if he does not fulfill this task he will spend his first four Sundays in solitary confinement in his cell with nothing to eat but a small piece of bread and his bucket of water. After the first four Sundays if he is still unable to perform his task he will from then on, until he can fulfill his task, spend his Sundays locked up in the dungeon without even the bread or a mattress to lie down upon. He will also lose thirty days of his "good time credits" for every time he is locked in the dungeon, which will serve to prolong his sentence in prison.

As the guards are only paid eighty-five dollars per month for a twelve hour day and seven day week, it is impossible to secure anything except the lowest type of humanity to work as a guard and it is a notorious fact that if you clothe this class of "skunks" with the badge of authority they become exceedingly brutal. The guards of San Quentin are no exception to this fact. They grasp every opportunity to beat-up the inmates with their twenty-two inch night sticks, a favorite method being to bring the club sharply against the inmate's back or stomach, although they are not bashful about clubbing an inmate over the head. If the inmate dies a resident physician protects the guard by signing a certificate of death caused by some disease with a name a mile long. The inmate's body is hurriedly carved up (which the penal laws of the state permit) and shipped to the University Medical College.

The merchant furnishing food supplies is

(Continued on page 16)

FIVE o'clock, and all is well!" Twenty-six sentries carry this call into every nook and corner of the two-hundred acre reservation at the California State Prison at San Quentin; lights "flash" on in three thousand cells and four thousand, seven hundred victims of the world notorious California brand of justice tumble out of bed to begin another day of torture in this hell-hole of prisons, a prison long infamous for its torturous methods employed to aid in the reformation(?) of those who have foolishly listened to the song of the real estate exploiters to "go west, young man."

At five-fifteen the doors of the cells in the "Old Prison" swing open with a crash and over two thousand men pour out of these tiny catacombs, each with a filthy slop-bucket in his hand. With a three minute allowance to do so, the inmate must climb down three flights of stairs, file through the "Old Prison Yard" dump his bucket into an oval trough and incidentally be splattered by the dumping of twenty-five or more buckets at the same time. Then he dips his bucket into a common water trough wherein he is compelled by the "gun-bulls" to submerge his bucket so deeply in the trough that his hands become wet with this dirty water in which hundreds of buckets have been rinsed. He then makes a "dive" back to his cell, places his bucket inside the door, throws the bolt on the door and rushes into the main yard where he falls into line to file into the mess hall where 4,700 men are fed at one sitting.

After a breakfast of "sour" (they are always stinking sour) red beans, mouldy bread and chicory coffee, served out of filthy buckets and by inmate waiters whose coats and aprons are so dirty they no longer resemble white, the inmates report to their places of employment.

Over one thousand inmates slave in the Jute Mill where the looms and other machinery are so old and dilapidated that it is

utterly impossible to produce the task that is assigned to you. The balance of the inmates are distributed among the furniture, shoe, tailor, print, plumbing, paint and tin shops and the quarry, new road, new construction, vegetable garden and scavenger "gangs" also to the hospital, cell tenders, office and library divisions. In all these departments the inmates with the exception of the stool-pigeons or informers, better known as the unpaid policemen by the rank and file of the inmates—must slave under the most brutal conditions. As an instance, let us see why the Jute Mill is so dreaded by all inmates. To begin with, all of the machinery is obsolete; both the "ground" guards and the "gun-bulls" work-

This vivid description of the actual conditions prevailing in the California State Prison at San Quentin brings us face-to-face with the life of hell that Tom Mooney has been forced to undergo for the past twelve years.

We are informed that Mooney is afflicted with a serious stomach ailment and is forced to undergo a very strict diet. As he works in the officers' and guards' mess he is in a position to secure one glass of milk a day. Mainly on a glass of milk and three slices of bread a day he has survived for over two years. How much longer he can exist on this severe diet is a matter of conjecture.

Should Mooney die in San Quentin Prison there is every possibility that his body would be wantonly desecrated. The penal laws of the State of California give the authorities the privilege to carve up the body of a prisoner as they see fit for experimental purposes.

Mooney works long hours and at very hard work for a sick man. His duties require him to prepare all the vegetables for the feeding of over a hundred guards three times a day, and in addition he must wash all the pots and pans used in the officers' and guards' mess.

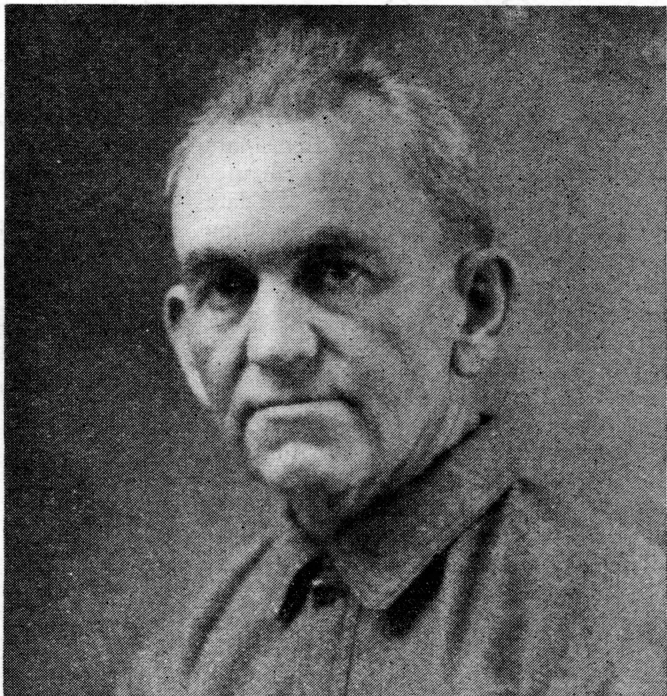
Although the state laws of California permit an inmate to receive any newspaper or magazine not published in the State of California, under an arbitrary ruling of the present despotic officials of San Quentin Prison, all inmates are barred from receiving labor papers—even the Labor Defender is barred from Mooney under this ruling, we are informed.

The
Prison
Hell-hole
Of
California

By

An Inmate Of

SAN QUENTIN



THE JIM CROW RED CROSS

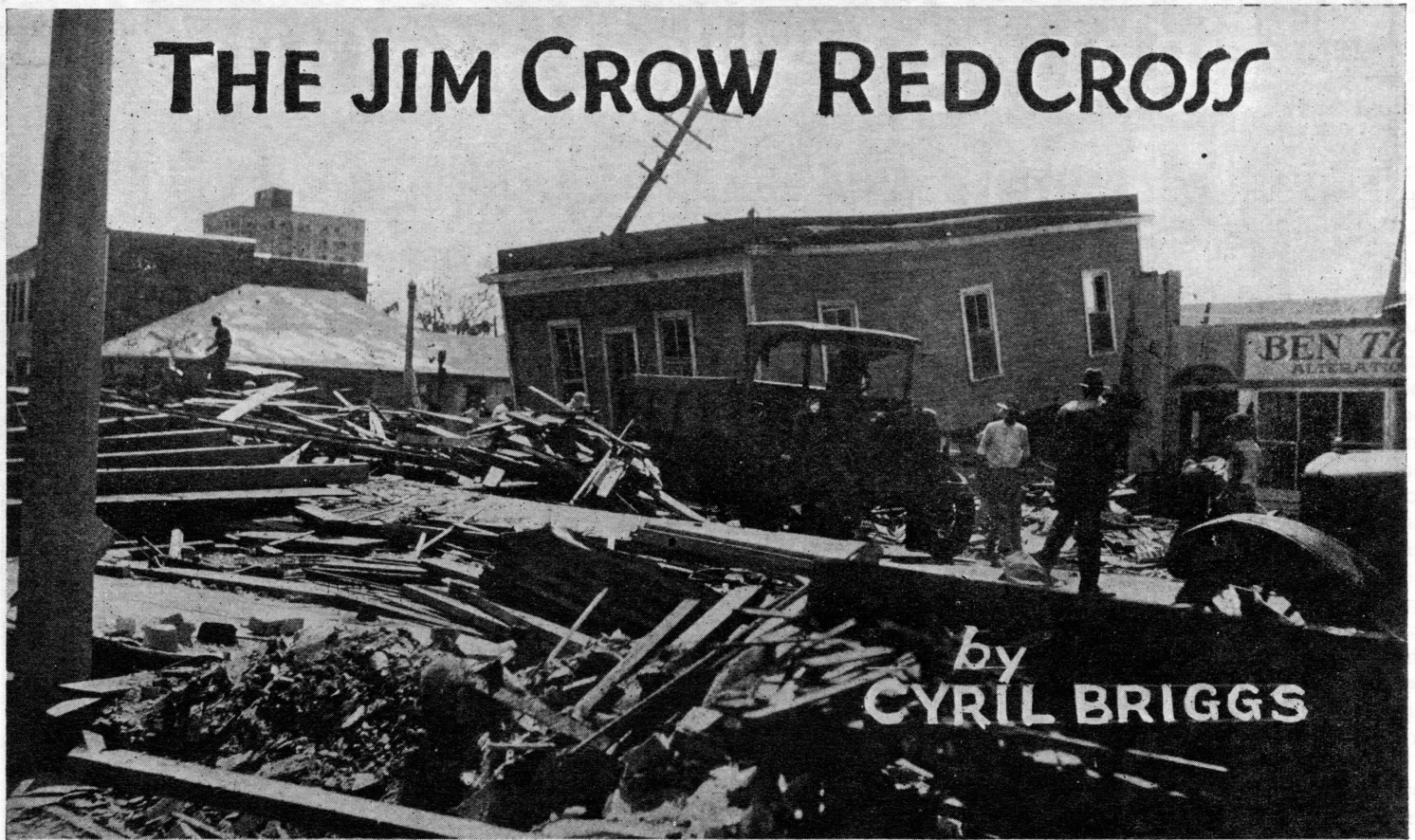


Photo Negro Champion

FOR thousands of Negro workers in the Florida area visited by the West Indian hurricane, the two nights of storm terror were followed by a Red Cross terror far worse than anything in their experience. To the horrors of a storm which snuffed out the lives of hundreds of Negroes and which contemptuously crumpled up the miserable match-box shacks in which most of the Southern Negro workers are forced by low pay and intensive exploitation to live, there was added a brutal terrorism against Negro workers and a cynical discrimination in the distribution of food and other relief by the Red Cross and its local agents.

Negro workers were taken from the sides of their sick wives, terror-stricken children and unburied dead and conscripted for forced labor without pay, at the most arduous and unpleasant tasks. Negro crews were sent out to "fish" for dead bodies; others were forced into work in the kitchens in white tent colonies. The State militia was used to round up conscript labor from among the

Negro refugees, and functioned with the utmost brutality. Many Negro heads of families in a desperate hunt for work of some kind to help their starving families ran afoul of the State militia. Edward Tolliver, one of these, was on the way to Belle Glade to hunt for work in order to relieve the tragic plight of his family when he was conscripted and forced to work picking up dead bodies for two weeks without pay. Coot Simpson, a 35 year old Negro worker,

was shot down and killed by a white guardsman at 8th and Division Streets, West Palm Beach, because he did not obey the order to "climb on that truck, nigger!" but insisted on explaining to the guardsman that he was working for a white man across the street and would have to "get permission of my boss." Simpson started to walk across the street to his place of employment and was shot down by the guardsman, the bullet piercing his back and causing instant death. The guardsman has been subsequently exonerated by a jury of white men.

Conscription of labor was confined to Negro workers.

All this time the Red Cross did little or nothing for the Negro sufferers. The families of the conscripted men were left to starve or beg a few crumbs at the back door of the more fortunate white refugees. Scores of Negro refugees were driven away from Red Cross stations. Even Levi Brown, hero of the storm, who saved many lives, was badly ill-treated at a Red Cross station.

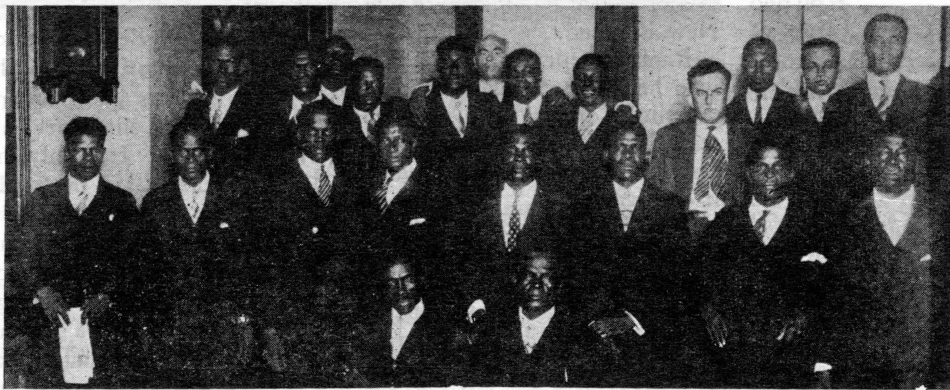


Photo Negro Labor Congress

The photo above shows the heroes of the Vestris disaster, Negro members of the crew, together with leaders of the American Negro Labor Congress and of the Marine Workers Progressive League. The members of the crew were guests of honor at a mass meeting held in Harlem. Robert Minor, editor of the Daily Worker is the sixth from the left, back row. Otto Huiswood, of the Negro Labor Congress is second from the right, back row. George Mink, national secretary of the Marine Workers Progressive League is fourth from the right, back row. The members of the crew are, reading from left right, seated: J. Ford, fireman and W. Dyer, seaman; front row: G. Carter, fireman; A. Bannister, boatswains mate; D. Holder, fireman; R. Weeks, fireman; F. Ford, trimmer; J. Garner, trimmer; Licorish, assistant cook; A. Crick, sailor. In the back row, from left to right are: J. Bramhill, fireman; J. Olliviere, seaman; O. Gordon, seaman, J. Scaly, fireman; J. Boxhill, fireman; Robert Monir; W. Pearman, greaser; R. Harris, steward; J. Williams, Labor Congress; Otto Huiswood and George Moore, of the Labor Congress. A number of those shown in the photo gave important testimony as to the brutal treatment accorded the crew of the Vestris which went down due to the owners greed for money.

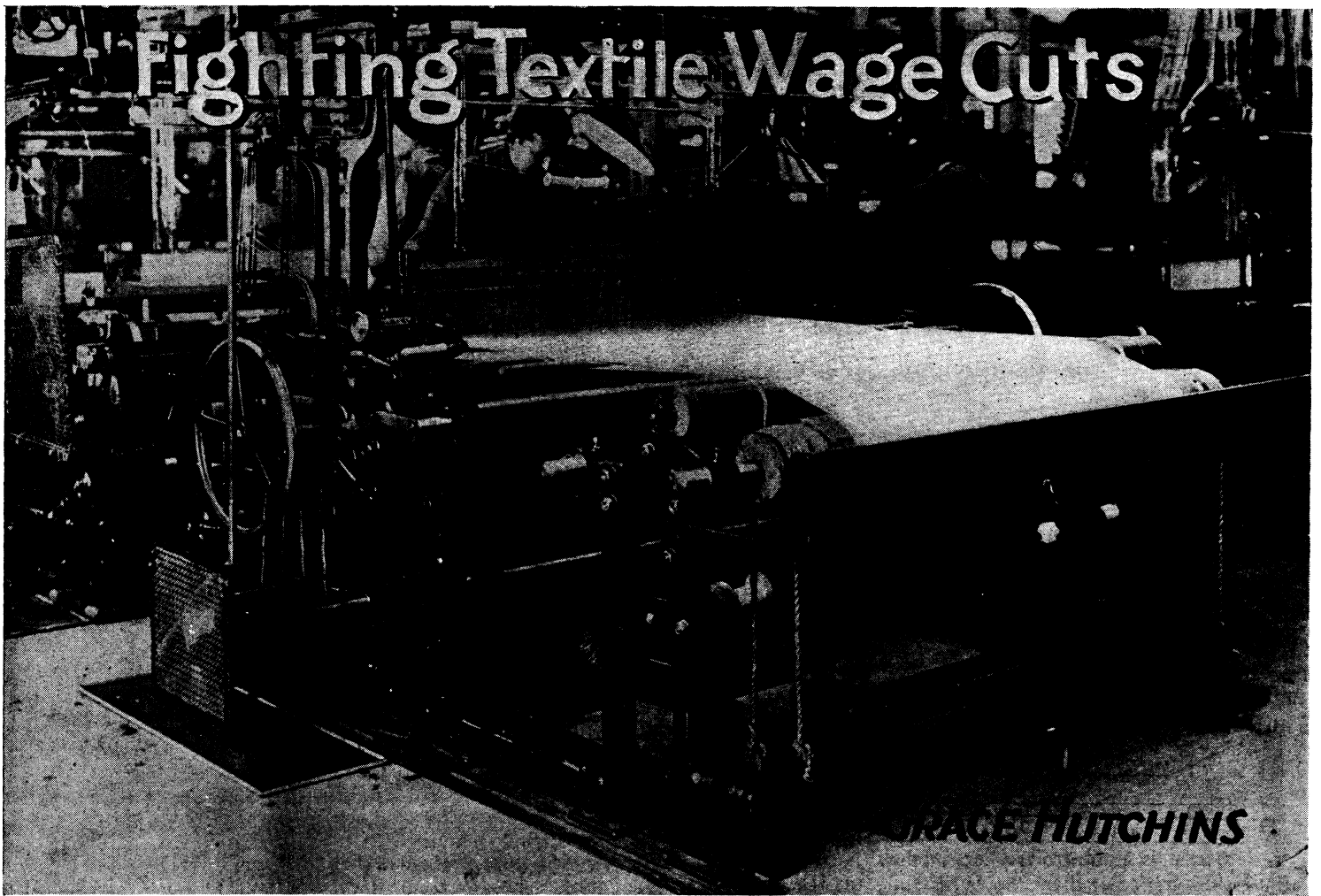


Photo Int. News.

TEARING a 5 per cent cut from the thin pay envelopes of 12,000 textile workers, Rhode Island textile lords point gleefully to the New Bedford cut as a precedent. If Massachusetts rulers can stage a hold-up, with murderous intent, and get away with the loot, then rulers in the neighboring state must not be outdone.

About \$12,000 a week, or over \$600,000 a year, is the extra haul of Rhode Island barons as a result of the latest robbery. Four great companies, J. and P. Coats, Manville Jenckes, the Lonsdale Co. and the Valley Falls Co. will reap this harvest.

Wages of Rhode Island textile workers before the cut were averaging about \$19.36 a week, according to official government figures. The slash brings the average weekly wage down to about \$18.40. Countless workers are getting less than \$15 a week. The bosses know that an individual can barely live on such a miserable pittance. Certainly no family can live on it. How a man can meet the deficit when his wife must stay at home and look out for small children, the bosses do not know or care.

In announcing the slash, these powerful companies counted upon the timidity and weakness of old labor officials in the United Textile Workers. But they did not stop to measure the strength of the new fighting organization, the National Textile Workers Union. Just as the bosses expected, the United Textile Workers officials answered

the cut with a policy of nothingness, with timidity and submission.

These were the same officials who called off the New Bedford textile strike after 26 weeks of splendid resistance on the part of the rank-and-file. Some dicker with the bosses behind closed doors resulted in the order to accept a 5 per cent. cut, now quoted as a precedent by other mill owners all over New England.

Rank-and-file workers in Rhode Island, who had been members of the old United Textile Workers, were ready to strike and waited only for the assurance of real leadership. "Of course we *could* call a strike if we wanted to," explained the officials, according to one report, "But we should not like to call out our skilled union members in support of unorganized masses."

In spite of these officials, 350 workers at the Parker Mills of Warren, R. I. voted to strike every Saturday to demand a 48 hour week as against the 53-hour working week now in force at this mill and in most Rhode Island mills. Their protest should be the beginning of a strike that will spread up and down the Blackstone and Pawtucket Valleys.

A ringing call for such a strike comes from the National Textile Workers Union, with headquarters at 104 Fifth Ave., New York City. Albert Weisbord, national secretary-treasurer of this militant union, declared, "All indications point to the fact that the textile workers of Rhode Island

will put up a fight against the new wage cuts that the employers are handing out as Christmas presents. The National Textile Workers Union is already in the field, and is mobilizing its forces to stiffen the resistance of the workers and to fight to the finish against wage cuts."

The National Textile Workers Union organized the unorganized during the long New Bedford strike, has already sent representatives into the main textile centers, and is now organizing the unorganized broad silk workers and dyers in Paterson, N. J. It is only this fighting textile union that takes the lead in mass picketing and mass resistance to textile wage cuts and lengthening of hours. It is prepared to unite all textile workers against wage cuts and for higher wages, against the speed-up system, for a 40-hour 5-day week, for equal pay for equal work for women and young workers, a minimum wage of \$20 a week, and against child labor.

The union declares: "The National Textile Workers Union will lead the textile workers in this struggle, and will join hands with the other sections of the working class in America and throughout the entire world for a united front against the system of capitalist oppression and exploitation and for the complete freedom of all toilers. Textile workers, unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains. You have a world to gain."

Fighting Textile Wage Cuts



by
GRACE HUTCHINS

THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF LENIN'S DEATH



Photo Margaret Larkin

ON EQUALITY

By V. I. LENIN

(Continued from page 3)

a democratic republic. And what is the result? We have the shameless rule of a clique not of millionaires but of multi-millionaires, and the entire nation is enslaved and oppressed. If the factories and works, the banks and all the riches of the nation belong to the capitalists; if, by the side of the democratic republic we observe a perpetual enslavement of millions of toilers and a continuous poverty, we have a right to ask: Where is all your lauded equality and fraternity?

Far from it! The rule of democracy is accompanied by an unadulterated savage banditry. We understand the true nature of so-called democracies.

The secret treaties of the French Repub-

lic of England, and of the other democracies, have clearly convinced us of the real nature, the underlying facts of this business. Their aims and interests are just as criminally predatory as are those of Germany. The war has opened our eyes. We now "know" very well that the "defender of the fatherland" conceals under his skin a vile bandit and thief. This attack of the bandit must be opposed with a revolutionary action, with revolutionary creativeness. To be sure, it is very difficult at an exceptional time like this to bring about a union, particularly of the peasant revolutionary elements, but we have faith in the creative energy and the social zeal of the vanguard of the revolution—the proletariat of the factories and shops. The workers have al-

ready well grasped the fact that as long as they permit their minds to revel in the phantasms of a democratic republic and a Constituent Assembly, they will have to hand out fifty million rubles a day in advance for military aims that will be destructive to themselves, and for just so long will it be impossible for them to find any outlet from the capitalist oppression. Having grasped this, the workers created their Soviets. It was life itself, real, actual life, which taught the workers to understand that as long as the landholders had entrenched themselves so well in palaces and magic castles, for so long would freedom of assembly be a mere fiction and would mean only a freedom to meet perhaps in the other world. You will agree that to promise freedom to the workers and at the same time to leave the castles, the land, the factories and all the resources in the hands of the capitalists and land-holders—that this has nothing to do with liberty and equality. We have only one slogan, one watchword: Every one who works has a right to enjoy the good things of life. Idlers, parasites, those who suck out the blood of the toiling masses, must be deprived of these blessings. And our cry is: To the workers—everything; to the toilers—everything!

We know that all this is difficult to bring about. We know what savage opposition we shall encounter on the part of the bourgeoisie; but we believe in the final victory of the proletariat; for, once it has freed itself from the terrible quandary of the threats of military imperialism and once it has erected, on the ruins of the structure it has overthrown, the new structure of the Socialist Republic, it cannot but gain the victory.

And, as a matter of fact, we find a merging of forces in progress everywhere. Owing to our abolition of private property in land, we now find an active fraternization going on between the proletariat of the city and of the village. The clarification of the class consciousness of the workers is also advancing apace in a far more definite manner than before, in the West also; the workers of England, France, Italy, and other countries, are responding more and more to the appeals and demands which bear witness to the early victory of the cause of international revolution. And our task of the day is this: that of performing our revolutionary work regardless of all the hypocrisy, the base shouts of rage and the sermons delivered by the murderous bourgeoisie. We must turn all our efforts on the Czecho-Slovak front, in order to disperse at once this band of cut-throats which cloaks itself in the slogans of liberty and equality and shoots down hundreds and thousands of workers and peasants.

We have only one recourse:

VICTORY OR DEATH!



Photo Margaret Larkin

ON EQUALITY

By V. I. LENIN

FOR eight years militant sections of the American labor movement have raised

New Unions Framed-up

All of the above instances, together with the attacks on the militants in the needle

the slogan of "Organize the Unorganized" workers into Trade Unions. Now that the workers in a number of basic industries have actually formed their own, militant unions and have begun to draw into them masses of unorganized workers, they are met with the most vicious attack on the part of the bosses, their lackeys of the courts, the state constabulary, and the local police. In every section where there is a struggle going on to build a new militant union, whether it be National Miners' Union, the National Textile Workers Union or a Needle Trades union, conspiracy, the frame-up, jailings and even death are meted out to the strikers and workers attempting to organize.



Photo Valanchus
Jacob Loyack

Pittston, in the anthracite has been the scene of another cold blooded murder, the shooting down in the streets and the killing of Jacob Loyack, 21 year old member of the National Miners Union, and the wounding of his brother Mike, by gunmen of the Lewis-Boylan machine. In the same town Anthony Minerich, member of the executive committee of the National Miners Union, while speaking at a free speech meeting, after the miners had been forbidden to hold meetings in the town, was arrested and framed up on a charge of planting dynamite in a church. No sooner was this ridiculous charge dismissed than Minerich was sentenced to 45 days in jail in Ohio on a charge of violating an injunction, because he led a picket line in the strike there.

In Pittsburgh Patrick H. Toohey, national secretary of the National Miners Union was recently hailed into court and held under \$10,000 bail, on the demand that he surrender the books of the Miners Relief Committee, about which he knew nothing, as the relief organization was entirely separate from the Union. When the courts were compelled to



A group of New Bedford Textile Strikers who face prison sentences

By
NORMAN H. TALLENTIRE

release Toohey on this framed up charge, the agents of the coal operators immediately called him to trial together with John Brophy on the charge of disturbing the peace by holding a meeting at Renton during the strike there. Still another case in Pittsburgh which is now scheduled for trial arose out of the breaking up of a Sacco-Vanzetti meeting a year ago in Cheswick in which police brutally clubbed the miners and their families. One policeman was found dead on the field after their attack, and an attempt to frame up these miners on a charge of murder finally failed. Now they are charged with rioting.

In New Bedford as an aftermath of the recent textile strike 662 workers were sentenced to as high as 3 years in prison by the lower courts and their cases are now before the New Bedford Superior Court. But this was not enough. Realizing that the National Textile Workers Union was making progress in organizing workers, the courts, agents of the textile bosses, returned indictments charging conspiracy against 25 of the leaders of the union and active organizers of the strike. But still the union was not smashed and an additional charge was placed against Ellen Dawson, a leader of the union, and she was kept in the New Bedford jail several

trades, are a part of the plans of the capitalist class to attempt to destroy by a vicious, well knit frame up system, the workers' new militant unions. The courts and the government, agents of the capitalists, are being used to attempt to impose the speed up system, reduce wages, and destroy the militant unions of the workers. The workers throughout the whole country must answer this challenge



Photo Valanchus
The funeral of Jacob Loyack, militant miner, murdered by hired gunmen of Lewis-Boylan

and defend the militant leaders and militant organizations of the working class, knowing that when they defend the leaders they are defending themselves.

It is no accident that this attack was made simultaneously on the miners and the textile workers. In both industries the bosses are carrying out a process of "rationalization," that is they are trying to hammer down the standard of living of the workers by reducing wages, lengthening hours and installing and intensifying the speed-up system. These industries are thus made to produce bigger profits with fewer workers and the evil of unemployment is increased.

Textile mills and mines are opened up in the south, to be nearer the sources of raw material and a big supply of labor, and of course the Negro of the South is the most exploited Southern labor. Thus the National Textile Union and the National Miners Union are organizing the unorganized workers of the South.

The workers must resist this attempt to frame-up and smash the new unions.

THE name of Jacob Loyack, 21 year old rank and file miner is added to the

Militant Miner Killed

out of the jail, and are helped by the coroner's report, according to which the

death list of murdered miners in Pittston, Pa., the hotbed of gunman rule of the Lewis-Boylan contractor machine. A bullet in the abdomen, fired by his namesake and distant relative, the secretary of the administration faction in colliery number 14, bled him to death. His brother Mike, 24, a progressive miner, also from the famous local 1703 is lying in the hospital with a wound in the left thigh,

By

EMIL GARDOS

strike on the one hand displayed the splendid militancy of the miners and on the other the lack of organization and leadership on the part of the officials of the anthracite union.

Throughout the strike the most brutal terror of state troopers, company thugs and the government headed by mayor Gillespie, the little Mussolini of Pittston, was indulged in. All meetings were broken up, fake bombs exploded, pickets and bystanders on the streets beaten up, strikers terrorized and sentenced by the servile courts of the anthracite coal barons.

Added to all this terror, as a reminder to the rest of the strikers, the contractors showed their bloody fist and carried out the premeditated murder of young Jacob Loyack, one of the many thousands of loyal rank and filers in the struggle. The crime was a well prepared act of violence, something that is not new in the anthracite. Jake Loyack, the murderer, came home very nervous that afternoon, hardly touching his meal, and playing with his gun. Shortly after, the father of the victims was attacked by a scab. As soon as this occurred, the

murder took place "by accident." It is certain, that the judges, tied to the coal-operators by family, political and financial interests, will free this lackey of their masters.

In Pittston "justice" is the same for workers as in all the other parts of this country.

The murderers of Campbell, Lillis and Reilly are "not found" yet, but Sam Bonita and Steve Molesky, charged with the shooting of the Lewis-

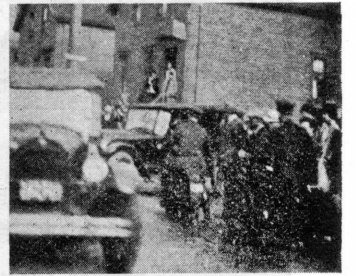


Photo C. Miche'son
Charging Textile Picket Line

contractor gunman Agati, were quickly sentenced to long terms by the servile Judge McLean. The militant Sam Licata is still under \$1000 bond for "spitting" in a scab's face, but the slayer of Frank Bonita is sitting under the protective wings of the Anthracite justice. And all this comes at a time, when the Miners Union is attacked at all points, when attempts are made to railroad Pat Toohey, Anthony Minerich and other leaders of the new Union into jail. All this comes at a time when not only the miners union is being attacked, but other militant new unions, such as the National Textile Workers Union.

The name of young Jacob Loyack is thus added to the death-roll of hard-coal miners killed by the Lewis-Cappellini-Boylan machine of District No. 1, U.M.W.A. in 1928, following Alex Campbell, Thomas Lillis, Pete Reilly, Frank Bonita and Steve Papinchak, all murdered because they fought for the interests of the rank and file. The coal-barons are trying to drown the fighting spirit of the miners in blood. But they will not succeed. For every bullet fired, striker framed-up, or gunman freed will make the blow still heavier the miners will deliver to the coal-operators and their agents, the Lewis unions, and to the bosses' government.



men of Lewis-coal operators machine, attended by thousands of fellow workers.

made by the same revolver which killed his younger brother.

This latest murder, recalling the slaying of Campbell, Lillis and Reilly in their car last February, is one more bloody episode in the years long struggle going on between 12,000 miners and the handful of the coal-operators and contractors, who, protected by the Lewis Boylan machine and the city government, are exploiting the men in direct violation of the union agreement. The last strike was called Nov. 8 by the grievance committee in the Penn. Coal Co., collieries, controlled by the separate Anthracite group of Frank McGarry, former insurgent president of District I, U. M.W.A. The separatists, in deeds proved to be a job seeking and weak-kneed leadership, and were no better than the Lewis reactionaries. They kept on negotiating with Lewis and the coal operators and threw cold water on the militant rank and file, which wanted action, not words. When the officials of the Anthracite Mine Workers Union found one day that their committee was not recognized by the company they called the strike. This

gunman ran out of a store, revolver in hand, terrorizing bystanders. The Loyack boys, seeing their father in trouble, came out of a pool room unarmed, and tried to make peace. When they got within good aiming distance, the fatal bullets were fired into them. The workers came out many thousands strong to pay last honors at the funeral, the biggest demonstration Pittston has had since Campbell Lillis and Reilly were laid to rest.

The company and union lawyers are working feverishly to get the slayer

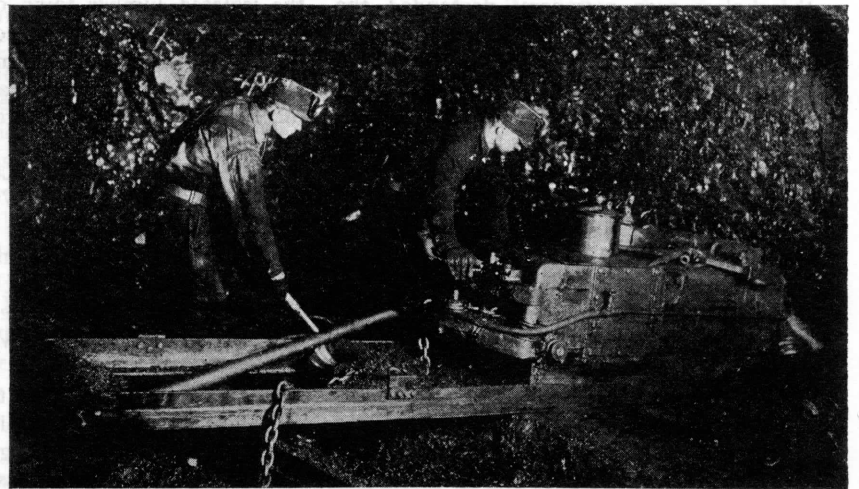


Photo Margaret Larkin

Extra profits from these new Mining Machines went to the bosses.

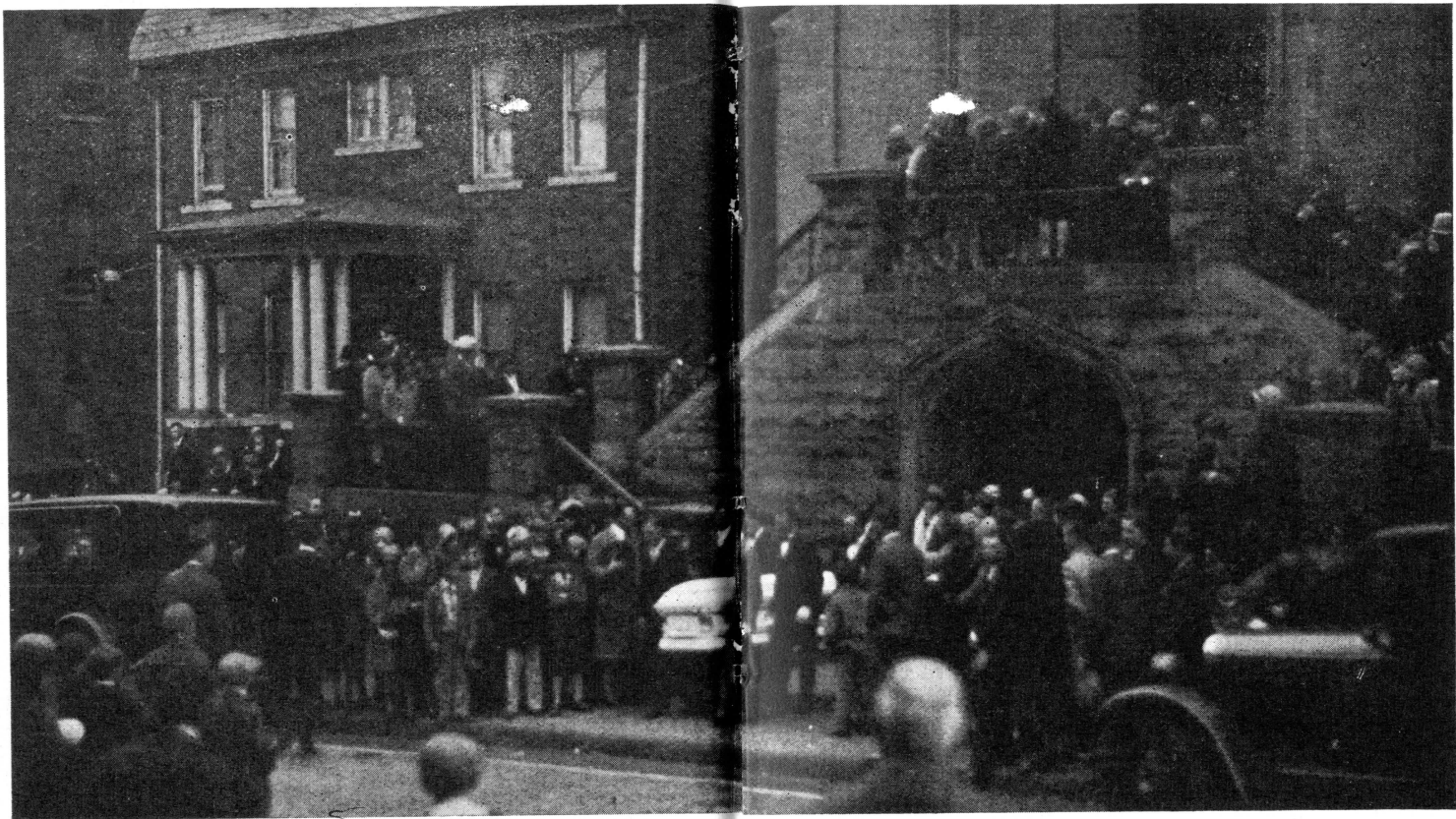


Photo Valanchus

The funeral of Jacob Loyack, militant miner, murdered by hired gunmen of Lewis-coal operators machine, attended by thousands of fellow workers.

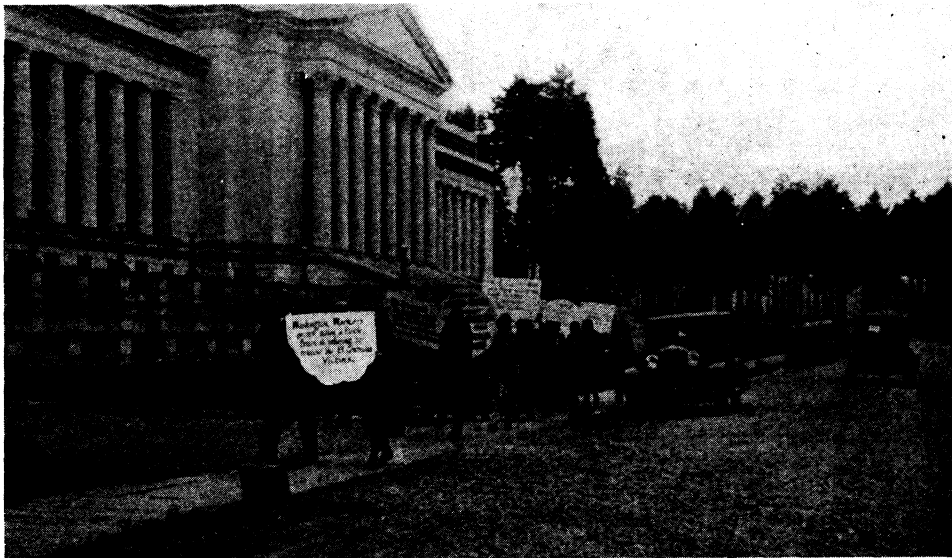


Photo Carl Brannin
Demanding release of Centralia victims at State House, Olympia, Wash.

FOR THE FREEDOM OF THE CENTRALIA PRISONERS

By Vern Smith

THE Centralia Liberation Conference, which recently concluded its first congress in Seattle, with 145 delegates representing 60 organizations, marks an important development in the fight to liberate the eight Centralia victims. The conference included representatives of the International Labor Defense, which took a prominent part in the work of organizing the conference, delegates from the Tacoma Central Labor Council and the Seattle Central Labor Council, the two largest in the state, and from the Building Trades Council, Structural Iron Workers, Order of Railway Conductors, locals of painters, iron, steel and tin workers, Electrical Workers Local 77, Laundry Workers Union, Steam Engineers, Meat Cutters, Teachers, Boiler makers, Machinists. In fact all the really organized sections of the labor movement in the state of Washington took part in the conference.

The resolutions, which were unanimously passed, called for the immediate release of these class war prisoners, demanded the repeal of the Washington criminal syndicalism law, and called on the parole board to immediately release these working class fighters. The importance of the conference, and the effects of the long hard campaign conducted by the International Labor Defense for the release of the eight Centralia loggers, is demonstrated by the fact that the state Parole Board is already sending out rumors that Eugene Barnett, one of the prisoners, is soon to be released on parole. This would mean a great victory for the I.L.D. and for the workers of Washington and the entire country who have carried on this fight, and would serve to intensify the campaign for the release of the remaining prisoners.

Why are the workers interested in the

fate of eight lumberjacks convicted of murder in the second degree, members of the I.W.W., and why are they determined to take them out of prison?

The American Legion is the very key to the Centralia conspiracy. It was this fascist organization, parading in military formation before the I.W.W. hall in Centralia, on Armistice Day, 1919, which at word of command broke ranks and raided the hall. The four men in the attacking party who were killed during that attack were Legionnaires. The Legion attended the trial in uniform, and howled for the death sentence upon the loggers arrested in the hall, or accused of taking part in its defense. The Legion erected a monument, after the usual financial scandals always involved in hysterical campaigns of this sort, to the four Legionnaires killed during their attack on the lumberjacks' hall, and almost the last public appearance of the late President Harding a few days before his death, was to make a speech at this monument, in the isolated lumber town of Centralia, in condemnation of organized labor in the lumber woods, and in commendation of the American Legion, which has done so much to crush the I. W. W., stopping not even at arson and murder.

Yet, in this American Legion, this anti-labor organization of Washington state lumber lords and business men, a certain Captain Coll, of Hoquiam, Washington, who to his dishonor has not seen fit to leave the Legion or to repudiate this fascist organization, says, "The I.W.W.'s in Centralia, Washington, who fired upon the men that were attempting to raid the I.W.W. headquarters were fully justified in their act. A great wrong has been done and the innocent party has suffered. Yet the day is coming when the prison doors

will also open to liberate the innocent Walla Walla prisoners."

Wesley Everest who was lynched in the raid fired back in defense of his life. In retaliation for the death of four of their number killed by a man defending himself against a lynch mob armed with ropes, a mob attacking deliberately and in accordance with a conspiracy to raid a union hall, to destroy it and the union, Wesley Everest was taken from the jail by hundreds of local business men. He was horribly mutilated by five big business men who rode in an automobile with him, bound and gagged, and "worked on him" with razors on his way to the Chehalis River bridge; he was hanged off the bridge with a short rope, pulled up half-dead because the blood thirsty mob wanted inch-long pieces of the rope for souvenirs, and hanged again. When there were not enough souvenirs to go around, the still living body was hauled onto the bridge again, another and longer rope substituted and once more pushed off—and so for four times. The mob got its souvenirs, and the last rope allowed so long a drop that Everest's head was half torn off. Then followed the legal lynching of the eight lumberjacks, seven of them seized in or near the hall, and one, Eugene Barnett, taken from his home, miles away, because he was known as a leader in union activity.

The court room at Montesano, Washington was packed with soldiers, soldiers were camped in the jail yard, witnesses were terrorized, kidnapped, hidden. Perjury unstinted for the prosecution brought a final verdict of "guilty in the Second Degree", a verdict now repudiated by nine out of twelve of the jurors, who have issued written statements that they were tricked and brow beaten into voting "guilty". The jurors thought that their recommendation for mercy would bring a light sentence. The judge gave 40 years.

And now for eight years, while Labor in general had its attention taken up with other cases, Eugene Barnett, Roy Becker, John Lamb, Bert Bland, O. C. Bland, J. McInerney, Loren Roberts and Britt Smith have lain in Walla Walla penitentiary. They are innocent of every crime. They had a right to defend their hall.

The Centralia Liberation Conference, determined to free these martyrs to the cause of the workers, elected a resident executive committee consisting of, M. J. Miller, Carpenters Union; Carl Brannin, Federal Labor Union; John C. Kennedy, Teachers Union; Charlotte Todes, International Labor Defense, Mrs. L. Burke, United Council of Working Women; A. Winton, Painters Union; Rev. F. W. Shorter, minister. The resolution recommending action for the release of the Centralia victims, calls for an intensified campaign of publicity, the formation of local co-operating committees in each organization, the raising of funds, and the selection of a representative to serve on the Centralia Liberation Committee.

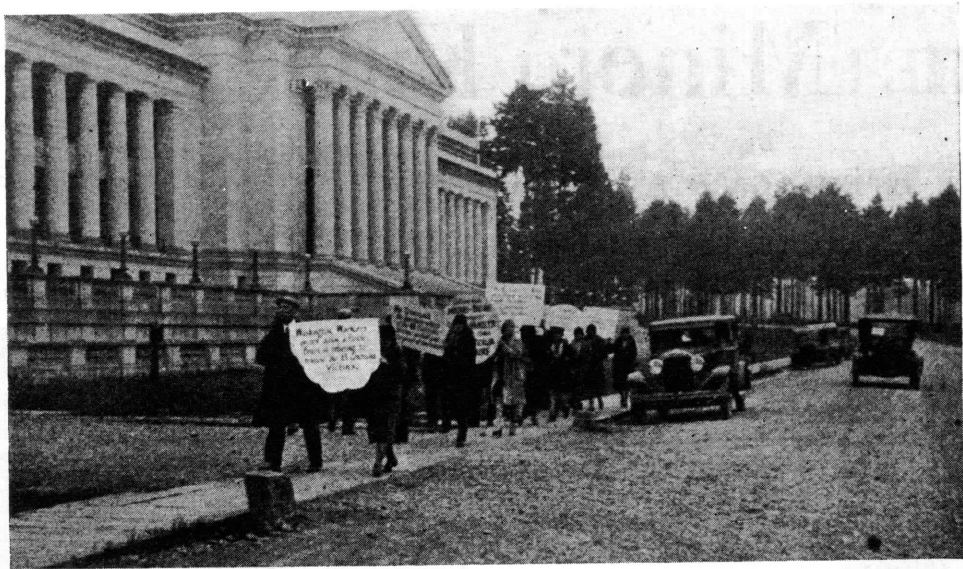


Photo Carl Brannin

Demanding release of Centralia victims at State House, Olympia, Wash.

Shifrin Fights For Freedom

By S. MILLGROM

AMONG the Jewish workers, the struggle against the system of terrorization, the framing-up of innocent workers by the bosses and the labor bureaucrats, has been particularly bitter and intense of late. In the needle trades we find the fight against the Sigmans and Schlessingers, who stood in the way of the progressive unions. The fights to better conditions in the Needle Trades and among the Furriers, have brought forth many worker-heroes who feared neither the gunmen of the reactionaries, nor their police brutality nor the framed-up charges and class "justice" of the capitalist courts. It is worth-while to review the long list of mass jailings, murderous, unwarranted attacks, such as were made on Gross, and frame-ups like the case of the Mineola victims. The Jewish workers are paying heavily in victims for daring to dream of organizing honest unions of the rank and file.

In order to properly understand the Shifrin Case, it is necessary to reconstruct a series of happenings in the Butcher Union. This Union has for sixteen years been dominated by a certain Korn and his clique, who has managed in that time to organize 400 of the 12,000 workers in that industry. For this tremendous accomplishment he receives \$150 weekly, mulcted from the miserably low wages of the butcher workers, who do not even have jobs all year round. Korn's reign in the union was marked by his utter lack of any attempt to organize the unorganized, to improve working conditions and culminated in his betrayal of the last strike. An already tense situation in the union came to a climax with Korn's refusal to render an accounting of Union Funds, allegedly mishandled, and his arbitrary expulsion of six members of the Executive Committee of the Union, who attempted to carry out the will of the rank and file. To still the rising indignation of the membership, a reign of terror was instituted against all workers who showed the slightest interest in the goings on. "Committees of Gangsters" armed with knives and blackjacks were sent to remove workers from their jobs, and in this way dozens lost their means of livelihood. It was during this upheaval that the new Progressive Butcher and Poultry Workers Union was born.

By way of initiating his cemetery-filling campaign against the new Union, Korn sent a "committee" to a Bronx Butcher Shop where he had become totally discredited with the workers. On the morning of September 10th, an automobile drew up close to the store, and six gangsters, the "committee", set upon William Shifrin, an active worker. With six murderers with drawn knives attacking him Shifrin fought

for his life. Blood was spilt and one of the gangsters fell, mortally wounded. But the guilt must be laid at the door of the reactionary leaders who instigated this murderous attack.

At the hearing the Judge stated that it was obviously a case of self-defense, and yet after reserving decision for the day, held Shifrin for Grand Jury, which in turn indicted Shifrin for second degree murder, and held him under \$15,000 bail. This in spite of numerous witnesses to prove the falsity of the charge.

In an interview, William Shifrin stated the following: "When I learned after my arrest, that one of my attackers had died,

I thought to myself, "If I must die, I must. Sacco and Vanzetti were framed and murdered; am I any better? At least I have defended the right of a worker to walk the street! I have not allowed myself to be murdered in cold blood."

The Jewish workers are united into a powerful mass movement to defend Shifrin, and save him from a life of imprisonment, and it is in the ranks of Shifrin's defenders that every class conscious worker belongs.

With the decision of the Internaitonal Labor Defense to take over the Shifrin case, the Jewish Workers have an assurance that the I.L.D. will do the utmost to save William Shifrin from living death in prison.



Photo Int. News

The Washington demonstrators taken to jail in handcuffs. They served thirty days.

The Porter Case

By GEORGE PERSHING
(Cousin of Genl. Pershing)

THE case of Comrade John Porter is one that must appeal to every militant worker in the International Labor Defense. There is a part each of us can play in securing the freedom of Comrade Porter that will help to open the prison gates of Fort Leavenworth and set Comrade John Porter, the working-class fighter, free!

Throughout my tour I have been making the appeal to all workers to write to Comrade Porter, to the War Department and to Col. Wm. Marrow, Commandant of Fort Leavenworth. I am proud of the response that this appeal has had and the letters that are pouring in telling in a real revolutionary manner of how the workers regard Comrade Porter's imprisonment and atrocious punishments.

Write to Porter and tell him of the struggle for his release and express the solidarity of the working-class.

Write to the War Department and send them resolutions that you must pass demanding that Porter be released and that the beatings he is receiving must cease!

Write to Col. Marrow and tell him that you know of his past record in dealing with Comrades Paul Crouch and Walter M. Trumbull in Alcatraz and demand that John Porter be accorded the best of treatment! Col. Marrow was in command of Alcatraz during Crouch's and Trumbull's imprisonment there.

If each of you will do this you will have become a part of the Mass Movement that is bringing pressure upon the War Department and Col. Marrow and that is creating a sentiment for Porter's release in the near future.

As one who knows the power of this work and as one who has also experienced the treatment that Comrade Porter is receiving, I ask this of you.



Photo: Int. News

The Washington demonstrators taken to jail in handcuffs. They served thirty days.

THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE LABOR DEFENDER

By Karl Reeve

THIS month marks the Third Anniversary of the founding of the Labor Defender. With the first issue in January, 1926, the Labor Defender stated that it would be devoted to the policies outlined in the program of the International Labor Defense. The Labor Defender has in the past presented to the workers the most important current cases of persecution against their class by the capitalist government, the courts, the police, etc. The Labor Defender has from the first been a magazine with an international viewpoint, describing cases of government white terror the world over and showing that the Fascist attacks on workers in the different imperialist countries are connected, are a part of the struggle of world imperialism against the working class of the world.

The Labor Defender has presented the rich traditions of former struggles carried on by the American workers against class justice. The stories of the Haymarket Martyrs, the lynching of Frank Little, the Homestead strike and other historic struggles of the past which have culminated in bloody encounters, have been described in our pages.

The International Labor Defense is a non-partisan, working class organization, and the Labor Defender as the official organ of the International Labor Defense has opened its pages to all class conscious workers regardless of their political affiliations who are fighting in the labor movement against the persecution practiced against the workers by the employers' courts and the employers' government.

Now the 4th year of the Labor Defender begins. Because of the sharpening attacks of American imperialism, our organization becomes more important than ever before.

The election of Herbert Hoover as president has been a signal for the immediate drive of American imperialism to capture and dominate the world market. Rationalization is carried out at home, that is, an attack on the standard of living of the workers, the attempt to reduce wages, lengthen hours, introduce the speed up system, and break up the workers' organizations. This rationalization at home is a part of the preparation of American imperialism for an imperialist war of conquest. The American government is competing on the world market and especially in Latin America against its imperialist rivals, in particular the declining, but still powerful British empire.

War has already begun in Latin America. The so-called "good will" tour of Hoover to Latin America has served to bring out in bold relief the discontent of the toilers of Latin America with the yoke of Amer-

ican imperialism. We see bloody battles between Colombia strikers and the troops of the puppet government controlled by American capitalism. We see war between Bolivia backed by America and Paraguay, and we see the permanent conquest of Nicaragua by America marines; we see the protests of the peoples of Argentina, Uruguay and the other Latin American countries against Hoover's insolent salesman's junket.

With this policy of rationalization at the expense of the workers in order to prepare for an imperialist war which would insure American domination of markets abroad, the American government continues its Fascist policy announced to the world with the murder of Sacco and Vanzetti. The American government is a government of millionaires which openly uses its entire legal machinery and all its institutions against the workers to further its imperialist designs. Of course the American government is only temporarily on the up grade. The contradictions which the imperialist era has generated arise to plague American imperialism; the contradiction between the enormous increase in production and the power of the masses to consume; the contradiction between the imperialist United States and the workers and peasants government of the Soviet Union, which is building Socialism; the contradiction between the imperialist powers; the contradiction between the growing strength of the working class of the U. S. and of the world and the decaying world imperialism, and others equally important.

We may expect in this period of American imperialist aggression more attacks on

the working class than ever before. The open dictatorship of the bourgeoisie, now often undisguised even by democratic artifices and subterfuges, may be expected to, and is already attempting to break up working class organizations, such as the new militant unions, to institute an even more severe reign of white terror, of police brutality, of arrests and murders. This white terror is not new. Already in New Bedford nearly 700 workers face the courts in the largest mass arrests in the history of the American labor movement. Militant miners, members of the National Miners Union are being murdered, and the leaders of that union throughout the country are being arrested and sentenced to jail. Meetings are being suppressed, deportation proceedings are being instituted, picket lines are broken up, injunctions are issued against strikers, and working class fighters are sentenced to long terms of imprisonment. Thus the U. S. government fulfills its mission as the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie which has always been its role.

The International Labor Defense is now defending nearly 1100 workers against capitalist justice. With the beginning of the 4th year of the Labor Defender the International Labor Defense enters a more important period of its existence. The policies of the Labor Defender in the coming year will be the policies of the International Labor Defense. We are first of all a working class organization which conducts its campaigns for the purpose of freeing the class war prisoners, to shield these workers against capitalist justice, and which in its activities exposes before the workers of this country the fact that the government and all its institutions are being used to subjugate the workers of America and the toilers of Latin America and the colonies. The International Labor Defense has been conducting a Christmas campaign for the freedom of Mooney and Billings and of the Centralia prisoners, in addition to defending the workers mentioned above. It will



Photo Fred Beal

Ellen Dawson, courageous organizer for National Textile Union, jailed on Federal charge.

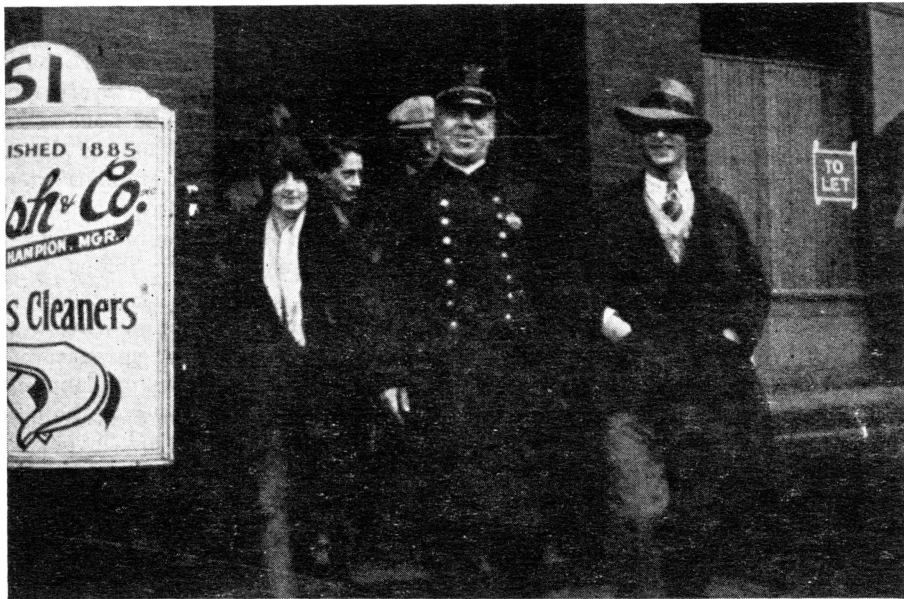


Photo Fred Beal

Ellen Dawson, courageous organizer for National Textile Union, jailed on Federal charge.

soon launch a campaign for new members. In all these campaigns the International Labor Defense and its organ, the Labor Defender, will carry on its work of protecting the class-war prisoners against the capitalist courts by the means of mass protest.

Now more than ever before in the period of the offensive of American imperialism, is it necessary for the workers to surge into the International Labor Defense to make more effective and powerful its work of fighting on behalf of the class-war fighters and their organizations against capitalist justice. We do not carry on our work as some members of the Boston Committee attempted to do in the Sacco-Vanzetti campaign. In the campaign to free Mooney and Billings, and the campaign to build the organization which is to accompany it, we will, as in the Sacco-Vanzetti campaign, rely on the mass power of the working class itself in the fight against employers' justice. We will not, as did some members of the Boston Committee, try to release these leaders of the working class by flattering and begging governors and other lackeys of American imperialism. We know that we can expect nothing from our class enemies.

In the three years of its existence, the Labor Defender has developed and expanded and has presented to the workers of the United States a workers' illustrated pictorial which has ably pictured both in America and abroad the struggle against capitalist justice. It has made the voices of the class-war prisoners of America heard around the world. It has ever defended the workers' and peasants' government of the Soviet Union. The Labor Defender will continue this policy. The magazine is already on the road to becoming a potent force, read by many thousands of workers. The Labor Defender will always attempt to be a fighting magazine, a magazine which will be in the forefront of the struggles to protect the new militant unions of the workers, to protect the workers engaged in strikes for better conditions, in their struggles to organize their class, and in all of their activities in wresting from American imperialism a better standard of living, and in struggling against the system which employs capitalist justice. The Labor Defender, as the official organ of the International Labor Defense is in the forefront of the struggle of the working class on all its fronts to smash the attack of American imperialism and to beat back the government's attempts to plunge the working class into a new bloody imperialist world war.

PHOTOS FOR L. D. WANTED

All readers of the Labor Defender are urged to send in photos of interesting events, persons and scenes which may be used in the Labor Defender.

When any interesting event occurs, take a camera and snap it for us. Some of the best pictures in this issue were taken by our readers.



Photo Int. News

Members of I.L.D. arrested in Palo Alto in demonstration against Hoover's tour.

Super-Salesmanship and Bayonets

(Continued from page 4)

United States fruit, sugar, and public utility companies.

The peasants of Nicaragua murdered by marine airplanes; the ruins of Chinandega after its partial destruction by American bombing planes.

The citizens of Santo Domingo who were imprisoned, tortured and killed during the United States marine occupation.

The farmers and workers who slave on the plantations of the United Fruit Company which controls the government of Honduras, and sucks profits out of that country.

The equally oppressed population of Salvador whose ruling class is in the hands of New York bankers assisted, as usual, by the State Department at Washington.

The workers of Colombia oppressed by a government the control over which is bitterly contested by American and British oil companies. Striking banana plantation workers employed by the United Fruit Company were shot down by the military during the Hoover tour.

The tin mine and oil workers of Bolivia under the heel of native as well as American and British capitalists and a government mortgaged to the Equitable Trust Co. of New York.

These are only samples. The workers of Panama, Costa Rica, Peru, Equador and half a dozen other countries are in practically the same position, paying tribute to owning class dictatorships controlled by the Hoover empire. Some are described as "protectorates," some are virtual colonies.

It has been stated that of the 20 Latin American countries at least 11 now have their financial policies directed by Washington agents openly appointed and recognized, in six of which American marines and military forces back the advisors. Large loans and concessions tie at least five more countries to the will of the Wall Street bankers. This is the growing empire Hoover goes to inspect.

Hoover and his class bitterly oppose the aims and aspirations of the working masses in all these countries. He represents, as he represented while Secretary of Commerce, triumphant American capital ready to ruthlessly crush any movement that stands in the way of its advance in Latin America.

If mouthing "goodwill," "friendship," "better understanding" and "idealism" will bring more trade and security for American investments Hoover will speak these meaningless platitudes. When it is necessary to speak with 16-inch guns and battleships Hoover and his class will be found just as expressive, as they have been already in a half dozen Latin American countries where they have butchered the population to guarantee dividends on dollar bonds.

Against this band of pirates, disguised as "big brothers," all the forces of the workers and farmers of the United States, together with their class brothers in Latin America, must be strongly organized. Those who, like Sandino, fight heroically against the invaders from Wall Street, must be supported by everyone who is against imperialism and imperialist war.



Photo Int. News

Members of I.L.D. arrested in Palo Alto in demonstration against Hoover's tour.



VOICES FROM PRISON

LETTERS FROM WARREN K. BILLINGS, HENRY CORBISHLEY, MRS. JOHN LAMB,
JOHN J. CORNELISON AND MRS. ISABEL MEANOVICH

San Quentin, Cal.

PUT YOUR NAME AND REGISTER NUMBER HERE.

Name *Henry Corbishley*
Register Number *8168*

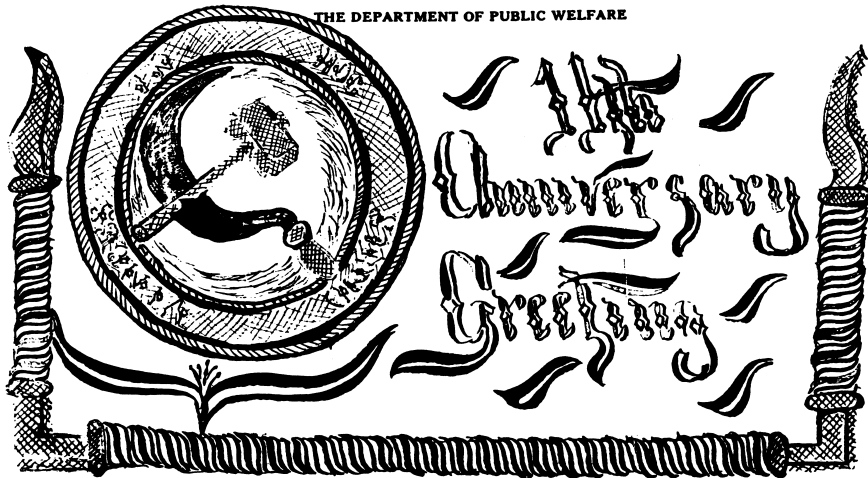
PUT FULL ADDRESS OF YOUR LETTER HERE.

Name *International Labor Defense*
Street No. *80* Street *East 11th St.*
Post Office *New York*
State *N. Y.*

NO CRIMINAL NEWS WILL BE PERMITTED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES

Southern Illinois Penitentiary Division

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE



*Mr. Alfred Wagenknecht. Dear Friend,
Yours of 14th at hand and contents carefully noted.*

Henry Corbishley sends the above greetings from his prison cell.

Southern Ill. Penitentiary.

Mr. Alfred Wagenknecht,
Dear Friend:

Yours of the 14th at hand and contents carefully noted. I wish to say in regard to the October and November check you spoke of owing me, you may turn them into the New Bedford defense or relief fund as I still have a few dollars left and will be glad to contribute that much to the strikers who are still carrying on the fight for the betterment of the working class. I am only sorry that I cannot do more.

I shall never forget how the workers came to our assistance. A man only needs to fall into prison to see the need of such an organization as the I.L.D. There is not one reason why every worker should not join. I am indeed proud to be one of the founders, not because of the benefits I have derived from it, but because of the ever sharpening of the class struggle and the inability of the poor individual worker to adequately defend himself against the ruling class, who is ready to imprison or execute those who dare to stand for the right, or to question their right to rob and exploit as they see fit.

Will close by giving my best regards to all and wishing you every success in the New Bedford cases.

As ever yours,
(Signed)

HENRY CORBISHLEY.
Box 10699, Represa, Cal.

Mr. Alfred Wagenknecht,
Dear Friend:

Your letter reached me about ten days ago and I assure you that I am aware of your difficulties regarding the New Bedford cases and am not worrying a bit about the monthly allowance. In fact I would be very much pleased

if you could transfer that money over to the N. B. Defense fund as a contribution from me. However, to do this you must make the transfer in your own office because if the checks are sent here for me to sign I will not be allowed to send them back again. It is a strict rule here that any money that comes here must stay here. To send money away from here one has to have nine reasons and the extra special permission of the warden and the unanimous consent of the board of Prison Directors. It takes four to six months to acquire these special permissions—if they can be acquired at all—which is indeed rarely. If you can possibly arrange the matter, please do so. You might do it by sending me the receipts and letting me sign them and then transferring the money over (in cash) to the Defense Fund.

Assuring you I wish you every success with the New Bedford cases and the Christmas Campaign, I am,

Sincerely and fraternally yours,
(Signed) WARREN K. BILLINGS.

Centralia Wash.

International Labor Defense,
Dear Comrades,

Through the request of my husband I am writing you these few lines. We would like to have you kindly send him the Labor Defender and also send one to McNeary. My husband thought that you might be able to sell the bead necklaces he made. As news is scarce I guess I will close.

As ever,
A Friend and Fellow Worker,
MRS. JOHN LAMB.

International Labor Defense,
Dear Comrades,

Enclosed please find receipts signed for the two \$5 checks received for the past two months.

I wish to thank all the dear brothers and sisters for their remembrance of us labor prisoners each month. This money each month helps us to be able to buy the few things that a prisoner may have. In the last two months we have been able to buy a box of fresh apples each month. Of course one must not think that Republican prosperity had anything to do with us getting these apples, even though Hoover does claim this state as his own. A State of Republicans, and a state that has held two known innocent men in prison for over twelve years. Justice, yes, for those who can buy it, with money or their souls.

Fraternally Yours,

JOHN J. CORNELISON.

Ziegler, Ill.

Dear Comrades,

I received my check and many thanks for it.

Best wishes, and luck,

MRS. ISABEL MEANOVICH

A Prison Hell Hole

(Continued from page 6)

compelled to pick up the waste and condemned supplies for delivery on his contract because of the excessive rebates he is compelled to make to the political grafters in order to hold his contract.

Not only are the food conditions bad but just as bad are the crowding of two, three and five men into cells that were built to house one man, the damp, musty condition of the cells, the insufficient number of blankets to protect the inmates from the cold, damp climate of San Quentin, the brutality of the attendants and especially of the University Internes assigned to the hospital, the physically impossible tasks assigned to the undernourished and maltreated inmates and the unreasonably long terms of the sentences given for the most trivial offenses by the State Board of Prison Directors. All this makes the California State Prison at San Quentin the hell-hole of penitentiaries.

The Jute Mill, furniture shops and tailor shops clear enormous profits. Who gets them? The tax-payers are being heavily drained to support the heavily populated institution, a population that is increasing at the rate of around three hundred inmates per month due to the increasing economic difficulties, and the grafters are now preparing to ask the next legislature, which meets in January, 1929 for three million dollars to build an additional Jute Mill that will employ four thousand inmates.

JANUARY ISSUE

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BUILDING THE I.L.D.



Photo Frank Henderson
Six I.L.D. members arrested for "rioting" at Sacco-Vanzetti meeting at Harpers Ferry. They are: Kenokas Trysoch, John Cicci, Frank Sepich, Carl Hacker, Chas. Guynn and Frank Henderson

A Phila Militant

By C. RABIN

DOMENICK Flaiani is one of the leading militant workers in Philadelphia. He is particularly well known to the membership of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union as a man who can be depended upon on all occasions to fight the battles of the workers in that trade, whether on the picket line during strikes or inside of the union against reactionary and corrupt union officials.

Flaiani has been a worker since childhood and has been in the revolutionary movement since he was 15 years old.

Several months ago the police terrorism against militant workers increased in intensity. Strikes were declared in several shops and Flaiani was daily on the picket line.

During the month of June, Flaiani was arrested twice on the picket line. The police had it "in" for Flaiani and in the course of six days Flaiani was arrested five times.

On July 28, Flaiani was again arrested and charged by a 100% American Legion dumbbell and Fascist with "seditious utterances against the United States government." So serious did the magistrates regard this alleged "crime" that not a single "judge" would sign the bail bond for release.

After two days in jail Flaiani had a "preliminary" hearing and he was held in \$1200 bail. He is now out of jail but will in the near future be tried for "sedition."

Money must be had to successfully defend Flaiani and many others arrested on similar charges. Above all, the workers must rally to and join the International Labor Defense, which fights for the protection of workers against the capitalists and their vile henchmen.

THE CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN

On another page are printed letters from W. K. Billings and Henry Corbishley, donating their monthly checks of \$5.00 which the I.L.D. regularly contributes to class war prisoners, to the Christmas Campaign of the I.L.D. This is a challenge to all workers who are not behind the bars to contribute substantially to the I.L.D. Fund. Contributions must be sent in during the month of January. The I.L.D. is conducting nearly 1100 cases of workers now before the courts or facing trials in the near future. Legal expenses are very heavy. The Christmas lists, etc. must continue to pour into the national office if the I.L.D. is to function as it should to keep the class war fighters out of the clutches of capitalist justice and to aid those already behind the bars. Join the I.L.D. Contribute to the Christmas Campaign of the I.L.D. Subscribe to the Labor Defender.

MOONEY MATERIAL WANTED

The national office requests all those who have any material of any kind bearing on the cases of Mooney and Billings to send it to the office. This material, clippings, articles, photos, letters, or material of any kind, will be of great service to us in our campaign to free Mooney and Billings. When sending in material please state whether or not it must be returned.

The next issue of the Labor Defender will contain an article on the mass trials of workers and peasants in Rumania by E. Welter, and will tell of the effect of the change of government there on the masses. This article was omitted from the present issue due to lack of space. Another excellent article which will appear next month is "Dollar Terror in Cuba," by J. A. Mella.

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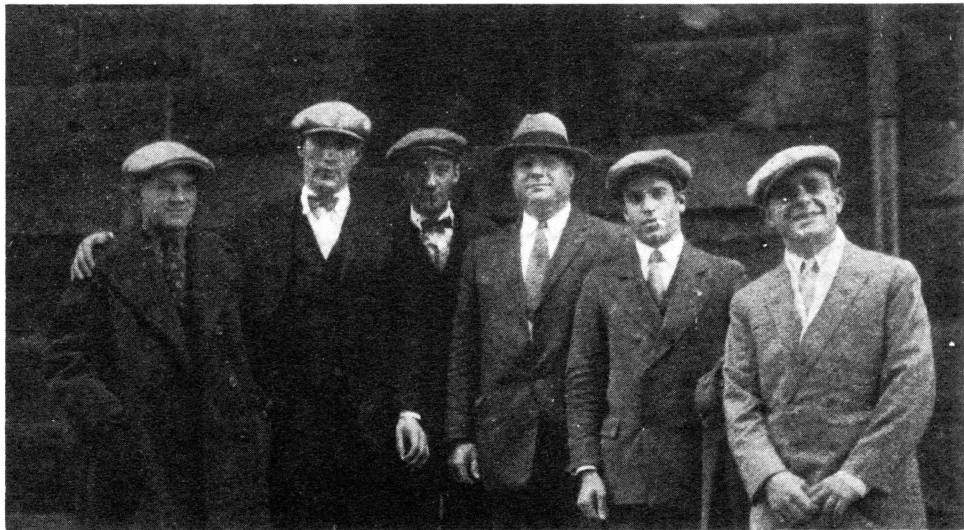


Photo Frank Henderson

Six I.L.D. members arrested for "rioting" at Sacco-Vanzetti meeting at Harpers Ferry. They are: Kenokas Trysoch, John Cicci, Frank Sepich, Carl Hacker, Chas. Guynn and Frank Henderson

FOR 1929

A series of unusual features is being prepared for the readers of the

LABOR DEFENDER

Maxim Gorky, Henri Barbusse, Rob't Minor, Scott Nearing, Rob't W. Dunn, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and others who have contributed the unusual features of 1928 will be with us again. In addition many other writers from America, Russia, Germany, and France will contribute to make the Labor Defender a greater magazine in 1929

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Alfred Wagenknecht, Executive Secretary
Norman Tallentire, Assistant Secretary

Contributors To This Issue

Robert W. Dunn, author of "American Foreign

Investments", "Company Unionism", etc., and a new book "Labor and Automobiles" about to appear.

Grace Hutchins, on the staff of the Federated Press, is the author of "In the Silk," now being published.

Cyril Briggs is a leading member of the American Negro Labor Congress.

Vern Smith is a member of the editorial staff of the Daily Worker.

Emil Gardos is an organizer stationed in the anthracite coal fields.

Norman Tallentire is assistant secretary of the I.L.D.

George Pershing, cousin of Gen. John J. Pershing, is now on a tour for the All American Anti-Imperialist League.

S. Millgrom is the I.L.D. organizer among the Jewish workers.

GREETINGS

to

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE

We call upon the workers everywhere:

Support the International Labor Defense!

Release Labor's Fighters.

We pledge our unfailing support to aid and will fight constantly for the unconditional release of all Class War Prisoners.

Bishop and Mrs. Wm. Montgomery Brown

Congratulation

TO THE LABOR DEFENDER AND ITS ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE WORK OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE. MAY IT CONTINUE THE VALIANT FIGHT FOR THE WORKERS IMPRISONED AND THE DEFENSE OF WORKERS IN STRUGGLE.

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CO-OPERATION

has become a word much misused and misunderstood. There is a vast difference between the co-operation in general and co-operation as a means of workers and farmers to organize collective action thru the co-operative movement.

The Co-operative Movement is a growing movement even in America. All kinds of co-operative ventures are being organized. Some are genuine co-operatives, many are fake ones. We should know more about co-operatives. We must learn to centralize our efforts on this field and to imbue the co-operatives with a real working class spirit.

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ARRESTS

DUNGEONS

EXTEND YOUR HAND THRU PRISON BARS AND HELP

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON MUST MEAN BUT ONE THING TO YOU THIS YEAR. You must extend the hand of comradeship thru the prison bars of Walla Walla, San Quentin, Sing Sing, Folsom, Leavenworth, Columbus, Moundsville and a dozen other dungeons. **YOU MUST GIVE PROOF OF YOUR SOLIDARITY WITH ALL CLASS WAR PRISONERS WHO SUFFER BECAUSE THEY FOUGHT OUR BATTLES.**

**FREE MOONEY AND BILLINGS
FREE THE CENTRALIA VICTIMS
UNLOCK THE PRISON GATES FOR EVERY ONE**

The key for every jail in which there are class war prisoners rests in your hand. The mass power of the working class can open every dungeon door. Join us in a nation-wide mobilization to release our jailbirds. Their prison-paled faces have looked out at you from behind the steel bars for many years. —**Waiting for you to act!**

**DUNGEON DOORS STAND OPEN WIDE
TO SWALLOW 1,100 WORKING CLASS DEFENDANTS**

Shall the bosses and the bosses' courts close prison gates upon another thousand workers? Do nothing and you vote YES! Help defend these workers and you vote NO! And comrades, the NO VOTE must be unanimous, must echo and re-echo from New York to Frisco, from Chicago to New Orleans. Textile strikers 662; Miners 125; Cheswick defendants 24; Boston, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Columbus, Wyoming, New York—big cities, small cities everywhere—the claws of the capitalist courts seek to throttle the organization of the unorganized workers, the building of the labor movement. Deportations, persecution of Negro workers,—and how about the 15,000 labor prisoners in other lands?

**AND WHO SUPPORTS THE WIVES
AND CHILDREN OF THOSE BEHIND
THE BARS?**

Maybe you would like to help. We say—**YOU MUST**, and all the time. This becomes a **DUTY** of the working class, of every worker — **YOUR DUTY**. And we must send a little money to the many class war prisoners as well, for comforts, books and whatever else may cheer their lives, as their days and years in prison pass.

**AND NOW — TO WORK — AT ONCE!
JOIN OUR CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN FOR FUNDS!**

SELL ONE, SELL TWO \$5.00 CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN COUPON BOOKS! INDUCE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION! ASK THE MEMBERS OF YOUR ORGANIZATION TO GIVE! ENLIST IN OUR NATION-WIDE HOUSE TO HOUSE AND SHOP COLLECTION DECEMBER 22, 23, 24 AND 25th! VISIT SYMPATHETIC ORGANIZATIONS FOR FUNDS! COLLECT FROM EVERYBODY! ALL THE TIME, EVERYWHERE, TO FREE, TO DEFEND OUR LABOR PRISONERS AND TO SUPPORT THEIR FAMILIES!

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