

SPECIAL SCOTTSBORO-CONVENTION ISSUE

H. W. L.  
OCT 19 1932

# LABOR DEFENDER

OCTOBER  
1932

10¢



*Don't let them burn*  
Ada Wright



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# ON TO CLEVELAND

OCTOBER 8th—9th, 1932

To the 5th National Convention of the  
International Labor Defense

PREPARE for WORLD CONGRESS in NOVEMBER



# LABOR DEFENDER

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# SCOTTSBORO, ALA.

By LOUIS BERG

The Scottsboro case is not a simple case of race prejudice. Nor is it an isolated case in which human passions triumphed over reason and justice. The Scottsboro case is part and parcel of the direct attack upon a large and important section of the working class, part of a campaign of terror against the Negro workers and impoverished farmers and share-croppers of the South, to "teach the nigger his place," lest he join with his natural comrades, the white workers and poor farmers of America, in their struggle against starvation and boss rule.

It is on this basis that the I.L.D. has undertaken the defense of the Scottsboro boys; it is for this reason the worker masses all over the world have rallied to their aid. The Scottsboro defense belongs to the workers, their sympathizers and all fighters against national oppression; and they have undertaken it as part of their whole struggle against boss terror, against the attempts to beat and starve and jail the workers into submission.

The Scottsboro case besides being one of national oppression of the Negro people is a working class case. All other agencies that have entered have done so with the purpose of obscuring the real issues, and of isolating the victims from their natural defenders. In this light only can the role and tactics of such an organization as the N.A.A.C.P. be clearly understood.

Here are the facts of the Scottsboro case:

On March 25, 1931, a freight train pulled into Paint Rock, Alabama. It was met by an armed squad of deputies which had gathered because it had been reported that some Negroes on the train had engaged in a fight with some white boys.

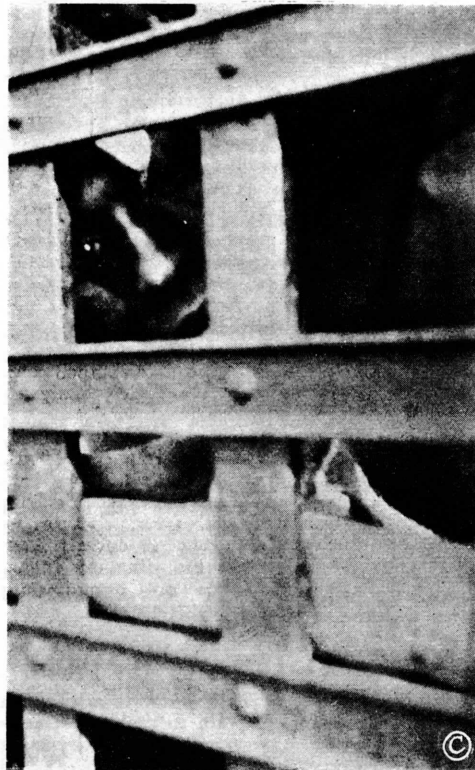
Nine Negro boys found on the train were arrested on charges of vagrancy. These boys had not been in the fight; they remained on the train after the others, fearing trouble, had hopped off. They were entirely without "consciousness of guilt." Nevertheless an excuse was offered to put them on the chain gang, for the benefit of Southern slave drivers, and as an object lesson to Negro "trouble-makers" in general.

On another car in the same train the deputies picked up three they took for white boys. Two of these three turned out to be girls, hoboing, dressed in boys' clothing.

Here was a chance really to fix the Negroes. Here was an opportunity for a real show. The charge was changed to rape. The prosecutor bullied the girls, known prostitutes, into making the charge of rape. "You know they did it. Why don't you come out with it?" he shouted. A doctor testified that the girls had had sexual intercourse. They had been traveling with white boys, incidentally. True, he also testified that there were no bruises, no hysteria, no excitement of any kind to indicate the horrible experience these girls were supposed to have suffered. That part of his report was ignored.

The trial was held on "horse-swapping" day. Tens of thousands crowded into Scottsboro for

the trial. A band outside the courtroom blared in triumph as each verdict was announced—Guilty! The whole trial of the nine boys lasted barely three days, hardly long enough for the legal formalities. Counsel for the boys, chosen by the court, undertook the case reluctantly, after seven local lawyers had refused. Stephen Roddy, a Chattanooga attorney, known to have Ku Klux



Tens of thousands of workers—white and Negro—as well as sympathizers will participate in Scottsboro week—October 3-10, set aside by the I.L.D. for the highest point to date in the Scottsboro campaign. October 1-2, days of mass collection of funds, will take place from Atlantic to Pacific in an intense effort to raise the funds necessary. The I.L.D. calls upon all workers to demonstrate on International Scottsboro Day, October 8—when tens of millions will go into the streets throughout the world to demand the "Freedom for the Scottsboro boys." Into the workers neighborhoods! Before factory gates! Spread the word, "The Scottsboro boys must be freed!"

Klan connections, and who said he was sent there by some Chattanooga ministers, not to defend, but to investigate and advise, advised the boys to plead guilty, although he has since stated that he knew the boys were innocent from the very beginning. Later the N.A.A.C.P. claimed to have hired him from the very beginning.

The I.L.D. entered the case from the outset, hired competent attorneys, investigated the records of the girls, exposed the methods of the prosecution, and obtained a new hearing. The I.L.D. policy from the beginning was clear-cut. The boys were to have the best of legal defense. At the same time mass pressure was to be applied to corrupt judges and crooked politicians, agents of the brutal ruling class.

And now a word about the N.A.A.C.P. and that great champion of human rights, Darrow.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People entered the case, if they did at all, with a timorousness that turned even their own supporters against them. They sought to hamper the collection of defense funds by the I.L.D. by raising the cry of "reds" and "propaganda." Meanwhile they themselves raised funds for mysterious defense moves which have never to this day materialized.

And Darrow? He is the hero, the great humanitarian who refused the I.L.D. request that he defend nine innocent Negro boys, who were unfortunately poor, on the grounds of his advanced age. Yet soon after he made the long and arduous journey to Hawaii, in defense, not of the lynched but of the lynchers. He has stood side by side with the N.A.A.C.P. in condemning I.L.D. tactics, he has issued public statements identical with statements issued by the N.A.A.C.P.

Meanwhile the I.L.D. tactics, which had so horrified Mr. Darrow and the N.A.A.C.P., have saved the boys twice from the chair. They were to have died July 10, 1931. They did not die. They were to have died July 11, 1932. They did not die. Mass pressure, the international protest, the widespread publicity given the case, the indignation of aroused workers forced a hearing before the Alabama Supreme Court. When this failed, mass pressure, plus the best obtainable legal advice, obtained a further hearing before the U. S. Supreme Court, to be held on Oct. 10.

The terror in the South continues unabated, and will continue until the power of the working class makes itself felt. After the Scottsboro Case, comes the cases of "Orphan Jones" and of Jess Hollins, railroaded on similar charges. In Alabama prison, Andy Wright, one of the Scottsboro boys under sentence of death, is cruelly beaten by the guards because he resented a slighting remark against his mother. Terror, brutal terror, unmasked and undisguised, reigns throughout the United States.

But so, too, is beginning the fearless fight of the white and Negro workers against this terror. The I.L.D. has become the rallying ground for workers' defense and against national oppression of the Negro people in the U. S. A.



# WHAT'S TO BE DONE!

The following article contains excerpts from the Draft Resolution on Organization which will be discussed at the National Convention of the I. L. D. in Cleveland October 8 and 9. The high-lights, principal points in the resolution, are dealt with here. The complete draft resolution will be on hand for all the delegates at the convention. The results of the convention—the final draft of this resolution—and other most important points to the membership of the I.L.D. and to the entire American working-class, will be printed in the November issue of the **LABOR DEFENDER**.

The I.L.D. is face to face with a set of inner conditions that threaten to bring to naught our tremendous agitational gains thanks to which the I.L.D. has become known to the widest American masses as their fearless leader against the raging boss-terror. These conditions if not checked at once will sap the strength of the I.L.D. to the point where our organization may lose the position it occupies in the struggle of the American masses and, at best, may be reduced to a small and helpless sect. Such grave threat is contained in the persisting organizational weaknesses, expressed mainly in our failure to lift our membership out of its passivity in the absence of personal responsibility and in the all around failure to apply methods of work that will translate our enormous ideological influence among the masses into concrete organizational results. Before us is definitely the question—*how to involve the whole membership into the work of the organization and in this way check the decline of the I.L.D. and raise it to the position it richly deserves; that of a stalwart leader of the toiling masses against the whole system of boss-terror.*

Since the last convention the I.L.D. has conducted broad mass-campaigns involving thousands of toilers in the stubborn fight to free the Scottsboro boys, free Mooney and Billings, the Kentucky miners, the Imperial Valley militants and all class-war prisoners. In the course of these campaigns the I.L.D. has ripped the masks off the social traitors—the Negro reformist (as personified by the N.A.A.C.P.) the A. F. of L. leadership and the Socialist Party.

The I.R.A. in its latest resolution on the I.L.D. concedes these successful mass-activities to its American section, but it correctly offers the question "still where were its organizational suc-

cesses?" It further asks, "have the wide sections of the toilers who have shown their sympathy for the campaigns carried on by the I.L.D., through active participation, been embraced organizationally through one form or another?" Still further, "was the influx of new members into the organization of the I.L.D. from the sympathizing sections of the population, sufficiently extensive?"

In the first 7 months of 1932, 5,157 responded to our calls to join the active struggle. Nearly the same number in the same period left our ranks—100 per cent turnover in membership. This fact is at once—a picture of our organizational state and a damning indictment of our methods. *We do not hold the workers and sympathizers that join our ranks in response to our passionate calls!* To overcome this the I.R.A. demands an "immediate and thorough-going change in its (the I.L.D.'s) entire activity." Therein lies the immediate and foremost task before us—to ruthlessly exterminate the present organizational weaknesses that stand in the way of consolidating our enormous agitational gains.

## INITIATIVE

This will be changed by placing the main importance upon personal contact between the leadership and members that will arouse and encourage their initiative. Only such methods will do away with passivity, create personal responsibility and check the frightful fluctuation in our ranks.

Our organizational letters must be but means through which we arouse our members initiative. **OUR BRANCHES, THROUGH SELF DEVELOPED INITIATIVE, CAN AND MUST BECOME, IN THEIR RESPECTIVE TERRITORIES, LEADERS OF THE WORKERS' STRUGGLES AGAINST BOSSES' TERROR.** Every police attack against employed and unemployed workers, every occasion of race discrimination and jim crow against Negroes—in short—every occasion of display of bosses' terror that occurs within the territory of a branch must meet in that I.L.D. branch a leader, ready and capable to lead the workers' struggles against terror and at the same time able to skillfully connect those neighborhood struggles with the major issues of the I.L.D. This will hold new members; this will swell our ranks with additional ones; this will do away with the passivity of old members. Such basic "change in our activities" followed right up to and including our highest committees will harmonize our organizational gains with the agitational.

## GROUP SYSTEM—EDUCATION

We must lend our collective efforts to establish the group system (a captain to each 6-10 members.) This will be of tremendous aid in curing our basic organizational ailments. Hand in hand with the group system goes the question of education of our membership.

## ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Only in a few districts there are present functioning leading committees. In most districts such committees exist on paper. The paid functionaries supply leadership and carry on the work single-handed. This is at the bottom of our whole trouble. The absence of collective leadership deadens our districts, branches, and the membership. Such conditions have been brought about by the miserable notion that "only paid functionaries can provide leadership." The I.R.A. says "THE VOLUNTARY WORKERS WHO RECEIVE NO PAYMENT FOR THEIR WORK MUST BECOME THE CHIEF FORCE OF THE APPARATUS" AND "THE ROLE OF THE PAID FUNCTIONARIES SHOULD ABOVE ALL CONSIST IN ORGANIZING THE WORK OF THE VOLUNTARY WORKERS."



**Government By Machine Gun—America's Capitol.**

In the districts the work is to be coordinated as follows: In the cities, where more than one branch exists, by City Committees; by Section Committees in a territory that takes in several cities and finally by the District Committees over the entire territory of the district. These committees must contain the most active and devoted members from the I.L.D. branches and factory groups, plus the delegates from affiliated organizations. To each member of such committees should be assigned a definite task. All should be drawn into the active leadership thus making these committees really leading bodies. Our leading committees must cease to lead a rubber-stamp existence that destroys them—often leaving the lone paid functionary to lead the work as best he can.

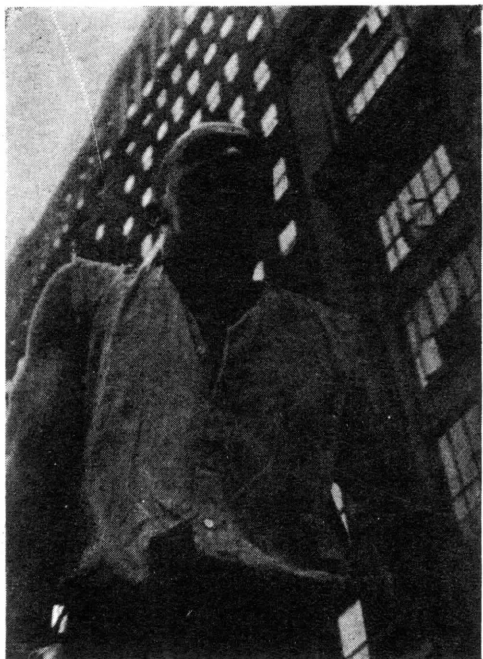
## SECTARIANISM

Our conditions of isolation arise out of efforts to cling to old, stupid, sectarianism and reveal a complete ignorance of the role of the I.L.D. as a non-partisan, mass defense organization that embraces in its fold all strata of the population willing to struggle actively against boss-terror. The best efforts must be made to draw into our campaign, in addition to workers, also the middle-class and professional elements who have been tested in our ranks and are found ready and willing to work side by side with us and under our leadership.

## WORKERS SELF-DEFENSE IN COURTS AND LEGAL WORK

The teaching of the workers how to act when under arrest and how to defend themselves in courts is a task of first-rate importance. Our failure to do this aggravates our frightful financial situation. About 75 per cent of funds collected go to lawyers—a condition that paralyzes the I.L.D. and damages its mass activities. Alongside with the widest use of self-defense in courts comes also the establishment of legal committees of three sympathetic lawyers in each district, whose duty shall be to give full legal

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**Machine Guns Will Not Halt Him. Speaking for Scottsboro boys in New York.**



# I GO TO JAIL FOR THE SCOTTSBORO BOYS

By ADA WRIGHT

I am willing to make every possible sacrifice to save my two boys, Roy and Andy, from death in the electric chair.

I am not strong. My health has been undermined by life-long and difficult toil. I have brought seven children into the world and did my best for them. I am now more than 46 years old.

It is, therefore, not possible for me to do as much as I would like to save the lives of my two children and the other Scottsboro boys.

I never dreamed that I had the strength to make a seven months' tour of the United States and then to cross the Atlantic and for more than four months now to "carry on" in the European Scottsboro campaign.

There have been many difficulties. But my love for my two sons, the overwhelming desire and hope to see them free again, and very soon, with all the Scottsboro boys, with the growing desire, that I did not understand 17 months ago, to achieve something for my people and my class, have kept me strong. I grew to understand the police attacks upon our meetings. I could even understand my being expelled twice from Belgium, a country which tyrannizes over so many millions of my people in the Congo, in Africa.

But I didn't think that they would ever send me to jail and to prison,—just for trying to save the lives of my two sons.

Yet I have just been in police stations, jails and prisons for three long days and endless nights, that seemed to me like ages of horrible torture. I have never been in prison in my life. I never expected to be. I admit I have a fearful horror of police stations and jails.

Yes, I have been to prison in our struggle to save the Scottsboro boys. And, I will say now, that I am willing to go again, and for a longer time if it will help the cause in which so many millions of workers are struggling.

They arrested me at Klodno, in the coal fields near Prague, in Czecho-Slovakia. I had never heard of Czecho-Slovakia, or of Prague, or Klodno, before they were included in our European Scottsboro tour. But the workers here were just like the workers that I saw in the twelve other countries I had visited. One woman comrade who greeted me at Klodno had been a delegate to the Amsterdam Anti-War Congress.

They told me that Klodno was the birthplace of Anthony J. Cermak, the Democratic mayor of Chicago. He had been to Klodno only a few weeks previously. He had been acclaimed by the government and feasted by its officials. I remember Mayor Cermak's police in Chicago murdered two of my people, shooting them down in the streets, during an unemployed demonstration against the eviction from their homes of some jobless Negro workers. I have heard much more about the police terror in Chicago.

That makes it easier for me to understand why I should be arrested by the friends of Chicago's mayor in Klodno, over here in Czecho-Slovakia in Europe.

I was arrested before I ever spoke at or even reached the Klodno meeting. They dragged me off to the police station and tried to terrorize me into admitting that I was trying to carry on Communist propaganda. They tried to get me to say that I intended talking "politics," and that I was trying to interfere with the local conditions in Klodno. I told them I didn't know anything about conditions in Klodno, that I didn't know enough yet to talk politics, and that I felt I didn't know enough yet about Communism to be a good Communist.

At first they said they would release me after the meeting, which went on without me, was over. But they lied. They announced instead they would lock me up for the night. I demanded the right to go to a hotel and said I would pay for it with my own money.

This they refused me. It was one o'clock in the morning when they put me into a cell and locked me up.

Some of the comrades had remained close to me all this time. But they were forced at last to say, "Good Night!"

At that moment I never felt so much alone in all my life. I admit that I nearly broke down and cried.

*A son of Mrs. Wright: 14 year old Roy, who faces the electric chair in Alabama. "Help us boys," he has written in an appeal to the workers of the world, "Don't let 'em burn us boys just because our skins is black." It was his brother Andy who was beaten up three weeks ago by guards because he resented insults they cast upon his mother. Below: White and Negro workers'*



*camp of New York, reading I.L.D. literature calling for the fight to free the nine Negro Scottsboro boys.*

But in that very same moment I resolved not to shed a single tear in any boss class jail or prison. And I didn't although the two nights following were even worse than the first.

Sunday night I spent in the Prague police station fighting off the bugs and vermin. I shall never forget. And the next day, Labor Day in the United States, September 5, I was taken to the Fispann Prison where deportees are interned before being sent out of the country. Instead of releasing me, the interior minister, through his own paper, called me a "Bolshevik Negro Woman," in big headlines, and "A Black Communist."

But the women in the prison just loved me. I divided with them all the things the comrades brought me. The comrades gave me money to buy things to eat, whatever I needed. But the prison officials got their hands on the money and kept it.

So on the fourth day they sent me out of the country with Comrade Engdahl, declaring we were "undesirable foreigners."

Going to prison for the first time has started me thinking about many things.

The police accompanied us on the train as far as the Austrian border to see that we were safely out of the country.

The Austrian comrades greeted us on our arrival at Vienna and began arranging meetings to take the place of those denied us in Czecho-Slovakia.

And I see that the newspapers everywhere are discussing the action of the Czecho-Slovakian government and the Scottsboro campaign. Perhaps I did not go to prison in vain.

## After October 10; What Next?

By WILLIAM L. PATTERSON

The "court of last illusions," the court upon which the rulers of America depend most strongly to safeguard the illusions of "justice" and "impartiality" will review the Scottsboro case October 10.

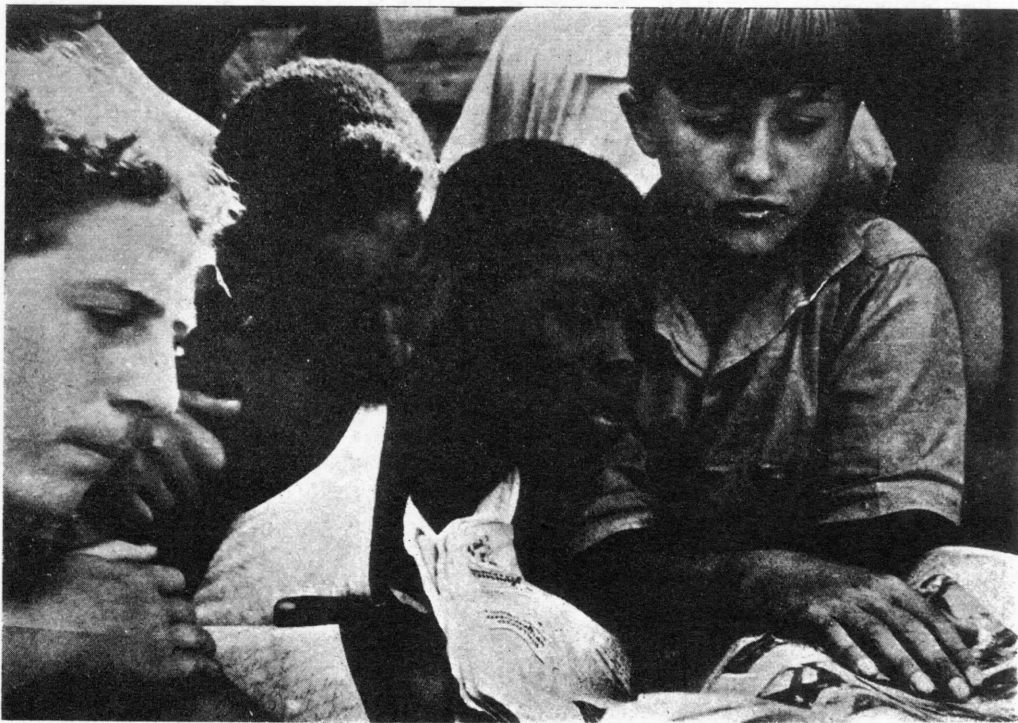
The case of these nine innocent Negro working class boys reaches this court not because the gentlemen who sit as judges there want to correct a vicious attack upon innocent workers. This case has been forced before the "worthy gentlemen" by the pressure of an outraged working class.

This court is part and parcel of that system which created the lynch courts of this country. It has to its record the murder of Sacco-Vanzetti. It has never sought of itself to "review" the vicious attacks upon the constitutional rights of Negro workers to vote, to organize, to meet and discuss their conditions. The outrageous attacks upon the rights of foreign born workers has passed by this court unnoticed.

How will it act as it "reviews" the Scottsboro case? The chief justice of the Alabama Supreme Court, to give an air of impartiality to its murderous act sustaining the legal-lynch decision of the trial court in this case, said "the boys did not receive a fair trial."

On the streets, in demonstrations which have saved the lives of these boys on three occasions, European and American workers have declared that the Scottsboro boys are innocent; **that They Shall Not Die.** The ruling class holds these boys as hostages demanding that the developing unity of Negro and white workers in struggle against the burdens of the crises shall cease; that the struggles of the Negro masses supported by the class conscious element of white workers, for equal rights shall end. The working class has answered. It holds the ruling class responsible for the lives of these boys.

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**Terror in India Against 300,000,000 People In Their Fight Against British Imperialism—Scene in Bombay. Against Such World-Wide Terror the I.R.A. World Congress Will Be Held in November.**

# TEN YEARS FIGHT AGAINST TERROR

## On to World Congress I.R.A.

By SASHA SMALL

On November 10, 1932, the tenth World Congress of the International Red Aid will open in Moscow.

Not only the eleven and a half million members of the I.R.A. in 69 countries will celebrate this anniversary. In prisons all over the world, in far-off places of exile, in penal servitude camps, in the homes of those whom class war prisoners have left behind this tenth anniversary will be hailed with hope and courage and determination to fight on against the increasing terror directed against the workers of the world by all the forces of fascism, white terror, and capitalist class "justice."

For 10 years the various sections of the I.R.A. have engaged in bitter struggles, demonstrations in front of factories, parliaments, embassies and prison gates, to aid those who have fallen victims to capitalist class "justice."

The idea of mass working-class defense is more than 10 years old. The need for proletarian solidarity against bourgeois persecution was felt and realized by Karl Marx in 1848. At that time he organized a committee to expose police brutality, provocation and court terror and to aid and support prisoners and political emigrants.

During the years of heroic revolutionary struggle in Tsarist Russia workers of all nationalities organized illegal "Red Cross" organizations whose purpose it was to give moral and material aid to those who were thrown into Tsarist dungeons, hard labor prisons or exiled to the icy wastes of Siberia.

The World War and the resulting wave of White Terror against workers the world over initiated an era of organized relief for the victims of this terror. The Red Aid in Germany was formed in 1921, the Polish Political Red Cross, the Organization of Relief for the Victims of Capitalist Dictatorship in Bulgaria were organized in 1920. The National Committee of Defense was organized in the United States in 1921.

The great weakness of these organizations, however, was the fact that they were not connected with each other. They failed to mobilize and organize the masses under the banner of a united Red Front, to struggle against White

Terror. They also failed to educate the toiling masses to the need and spirit of militant international solidarity.

And so in 1922 two groups of old fighters who had suffered persecution and torture at the hands of Tsarist police, who had lived in the gloomy dungeons and filthy holes of Tsarist fortresses, and who were now sharing the newly won freedom of all the Russian masses in the Soviet Union, decided to take the initiative in forming an International Organization for the relief of all prisoners in all bourgeois prisons. This relief was to be based on international solidarity.

These two societies were the Society of Old Bolsheviks and the Society of Former Convicts and Exiles.

This organization was founded in November, 1922, and was named International Red Aid.

The I.L.D. is the American section of the I.R.A. Its ranks like those of I.R.A. sections in all countries are open to all workers. It is not the organization of any party. Workers may join as individuals, or collectively as members of any revolutionary working class organizations like Trade Unions, Sport, Women's, Youth and Children's organizations.

On June 1, 1932 the I.R.A. had 3925 affiliated organizations with a total of 2,019,240 and 1,278,274 individual members. The Soviet section M.O.P.R. has 8,223,661 additional members.

In the face of the increasing terror that confronts workers all over the capitalist world it is obvious that the I.R.A. must expand tremendously—in numbers and in strength.

The number of victims on the class war front during these past 10 years is startling. There are no complete records, of course. The bosses keep no available records of their butchery. Untold thousands of workers and peasants have been killed and buried in secret graves. Truly "unknown soldiers" in the battles of the workingclass fought all over the world—in the Balkans, Bavaria, Hungary, Germany, Korea, China, India, Spain. Some records the bourgeoisie is forced to make public.

From 1925 to 1931, 1,040,608 workers were murdered and tortured to death. 232,801 were

sentenced to death and 1,223,052 were arrested! We know that the crisis is driving the capitalist class to an ever fiercer offensive against workers who are resisting starvation, misery and death. We know that the capitalists are engaged in feverish war preparations against the only country in the world where workers are free from terror, persecution and violence—the Soviet Union, with its message of freedom and hope to exploited toilers of all countries.

Terror is one of the most important points in capitalist war preparations. It is a strong weapon in weakening the resistance of the masses to war. And that is why the I.R.A. considers it one of its chief tasks to explain to workers every fact and act of terror from the point of view of the War Danger.

The day to day work of the I.R.A. is devoted to relief—material aid in the form of food and funds to prisoners and their families, protection of political emigrants, legal aid and maintenance of children's homes; and moral aid, showing our support and solidarity with those behind prison bars—showing them that they are not alone, that their brave struggles are not forgotten.

The World Congress will hear reports on 10 years of activity from the Executive Committee. There will also be reports from the German, Soviet, French, Polish, Chinese and Cuban sections. These countries were chosen because they present all the various conditions of legality and illegality under which I.R.A. activity must be carried on. Socialist Construction in the Soviet Union will be taken up so that workers all over the world will recognize and be prepared to counteract the lies which the capitalists have used and will use to get them to fight against their fatherland.

All members and friends of the I.L.D. will surely join us in hailing the tenth anniversary of the I.R.A. These congratulations must take material form. They must take the form of rallying thousands of workers into the fighting ranks of the I.L.D.—American arm of the International Red Aid, and supporting the delegation of five from the U.S.A. that will attend this epochal event.



# WHO ARE THE "UNDESIRABLE ALIENS"?

By ALBERT DEUTSCH

Edith Berkman, fearless organizer of the National Textile Workers' Union, faces deportation because she is a militant fighter in the ranks of the working class—and for that alone. For the same reason the following leaders in workers' struggles, along with thousands of other foreign-born workers, have been ordered deported; Frank Borich, secretary of the National Miners' Union; Vincent Kamenovitch, N.M.U. organizer; A. W. Mills, organizer of the great Hunger March on Washington last winter; Louis Bebritz, editor of the Hungarian workers' daily, "Uj Elore"; and G. Antinoff, leader of Detroit's unemployed.

The true meaning and direction of the deportation terror, latest weapon used by Hoover's government in its anti-labor attacks, is still misunderstood by large sections of the American working class. In a thousand and one ways American capitalism tries to inject into the native-born worker the false impression that his interests and that of his foreign-born fellow-workers lie in opposite directions. This "alien menace" dope is also peddled out in large quantities by traitorous misleaders of labor such as William Green and Matthew Woll.

Behind this smoke-screen of lies can be plainly seen the age-old ruling class policy—Divide and Rule! It is intended to foster dissension and to disrupt the unity of the American working class. Terrorization of the foreign born is aimed not only at keeping great masses of workers in submission and subjection; it is a weapon aimed at the very heart of the working class movement as a whole.

It is scarcely realized that fully 30% of the total population of the U. S. is made up of foreign-born and the children of foreign-born. Concentrated as they are in urban areas, and distributed for the most part in basic industries (for example, they constitute 59% of the steel workers, and 69% of the clothing workers), the foreign-born form, in large measure, the backbone of the American working class. Consequently, any attack on the foreign-born workers is of deepest concern to every native laboring man.

It should be noted that the capitalists who now vent their spleen against the foreign-born were the very ones who welcomed them to this country as a means of maintaining wages at a low level by pitting groups of workers against one another. In many instances, the industrialists actually sent agents to comb foreign countries, and to import great numbers of workers on the basis of rosy-hued pictures painted about the "Land of Liberty and Opportunity." They came to this country, expectant and enthusiastic, only to find bitter disillusionment. Poverty stalked all over the so-called "Land of Promise." Welcomed at first

with silk gloves, they are now faced with the mailed fist and the iron heel of capitalist oppression. The "streets paved with gold" are lined with unemployed millions seeking bread. Instead of plenty,



*Vincent Kamenovitch, a leader of the National Miners Union, held with Borich, secretary of the union, for deportation. Kamenovitch and Borich are being exiled for having led the great miners strike of 43,000 last year.*

they find starvation and misery. Instead of equality, they find boss inspired discrimination at every turn. Invariably, only the lowest paying and most dangerous jobs are open to them. In many in-

dustrial centers they are deliberately segregated from the natives by the employing class in order to easily breed hatreds, thus keeping the workers divided. They are frequently given the poorest quarters and charged the highest rents in company-owned communities. (This is particularly true of Asiatic and Mexican workers.) In an increasing number of states laws exist specifying that "no alien may be employed in connection with any state, county or municipal works." The unemployed and starving among them are often barred from sharing even the hopelessly inadequate "relief" meted out by some cities.

In several states, bills are pending that call for registration of aliens and the imposing of "certificates of identification" upon them. The portent of these outrageous acts is clear; they are intended to serve as additional weapons with which to terrorize the millions of foreign-born workers, to crush militancy among them, and to split the ranks of the workers of America. Several such bills, it is important to note, were brought before the U. S. Congress during the last session.

The culminating point in the boss class offensive against both foreign-born and native workers is the deportation terror launched by the Hoover government, which resulted in the deportation of more than 30,000 workers during the past year alone. And the "crowning glory" of this vicious boss drive against working class unity is to be found in the Dies Bill, which awaits passage in the next session of Congress. If this bill is enacted, it will hang like a sword over the head of every foreign-born worker who fights for better living conditions for his class. It is imperative that all American workers should be keenly alive to the tremendous danger that lurks behind this infamous bill. It must be fought tooth and nail by the continued organized mass protest of the working class throughout the nation. It was organized protest that prevented its passage by the last Congress. To fight all forms of discrimination against the foreign-born will be one of our major tasks during the ensuing months.

The workers must close their ranks against all attempts of the ruling class to divide them along national, as well as racial and sectional, lines. Native and foreign-born, north and south, white and Negro—one solid phalanx united against boss oppression!

Have you sent your greeting—and that of your organization to the special November edition of the **Labor Defender**? Greet the World Congress of the I.L.D.!



# ALMANAC OF PROTEST



**Typical scene in Scottsboro demonstrations held throughout the world.**

World protest—as indicated by the accounts on this page, have swept and continue to sweep over all the lands of the earth, on behalf of the Scottsboro boys. How was this protest mobilized? How was this protest set into motion with such terrific effect as to have three times destroyed the plans of the Southern ruling class to burn to death the nine innocent jobless boys they had captured on that freight car at Paint Rock, Ala., in March of 1931? It was accomplished only through the organization and the agitation of the International Red Aid of which the International Labor Defense is the American section. The international brotherhood of the workers reacted at once to the cables flashed across the oceans. The workers of Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, learned of the Scottsboro case from the press and publicity service of the I.R.A. Demonstrations were organized; deputations formed; thousands of telegrams and resolutions written; mass meetings held from Cape Horn to Archangel, from Tokio to New York with the cry, "Free the Scottsboro Boys." This cry must rise to even greater measure in order to completely destroy the plans of the American ruling class to stamp out the life of these boys in order to warn the Negro masses and white workers. Support International Scottsboro Day, October 8—demonstrate to free these boys—Support the I.R.A. in its epochal fight to smash this bloodiest attempt of all legal-lynchings.

Ivry, France—Communist Mayor G. Marrone and the Board of Supervisors representing 60,000 workers, cabled Governor of Alabama: "We will not allow another Sacco-Vanzetti case."

200 Negro and White delegates open All Southern Scottsboro Conference; Robert Minor, B. Amis, Tom Johnson, Harry Heywood arrested as they leave conference hall.

Camp Hill, Ala.—Ralph Gray murdered and three other Negro workers wounded at a meeting of Negro Share Croppers, during which they demanded freedom of the Scottsboro Boys.

Gov. B. Miller reports that 600 messages poured into his office in the last ten days, protesting legal murder of innocent children.

Chattanooga, Tenn.—Police arrest 15 workers, 12 of whom are Negroes, during Scottsboro mass protest meeting.

World Scottsboro protests alarm U. S. State Department; consular agents ask government for guidance in face of mass indignation in European cities.

San Diego, Calif.—Police attack large Scottsboro meet.

Chemnitz, Germany.—German toilers invite Scottsboro mother, Ada Wright, for defense tour of Germany.

Chemnitz, Germany.—Twelve workers shot at Scottsboro meet, one killed and two critically wounded. U. S. Embassy in Berlin guarded.

Sacramento, Calif.—2,500 workers demonstrate against legal lynching of Scottsboro Boys and imprisonment of Tom Mooney.

The National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, with such prominent members as Theodore Dreiser, Lincoln Stephens, Prof. Franz Boaz and John Dos Passos, send a protest telegram to Gov. B. M. Miller of Alabama.

Oakland, Calif.—Thousands of white and Negro workers paraded for freedom of nine Negro boys and Tom Mooney, victim of capitalist frame-up.

**Eugene Williams, youngest of the Scottsboro boys, still in jail for life. A new trial must be won for him. He must be freed! Unparalleled world protest rings throughout world on behalf of the Scottsboro boys. American capitalism fears this demonstration of international solidarity of the working-class.**



Africa—Thousands of Negroes and whites protest Scottsboro case in gigantic May Day demonstrations held in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Pretoria, Durban, Cradock. In Johannesburg the meeting was attacked by police, several workers badly beaten.

Paris, France—

Scottsboro Negro mother places wreath upon the Mur De Federes (The Red Wall of the Paris Commune) before which thousands of Communards were slaughtered and where their remains were buried.

Great ovation greets Scottsboro mother. Thousands of workers pledge to fight and help free boys.

Bezons, France—

Mrs. Ada Wright welcomed officially by the Communist Administration, greeted by Mayor Louis Perronnet at great meeting that demands liberation of Negro boys and Tom Mooney.

Ivry, France—

Led by the Communist Council, a great workers' demonstration demands freedom for the Scottsboro boys, Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings.

Holland—

Scottsboro appeal broadcast through the air for the first time in Europe.

Amsterdam, Holland—

10,000 workers march through streets vigorously demanding that the innocent boys be freed.

Amsterdam, Holland, Aug. 27-29, 1932—

World Congress Against Imperialist War demands freedom of the nine Negro children at meeting of 15,000 workers.

Dusseldorf, Germany—

Three overflow meetings weld solidarity with International Proletariat in fight to save Scottsboro Boys.

Hamburg, Germany—

Attended by 4,000 workers, Scottsboro mother addressed the First World Congress of the International of Seamen and Harbor Workers that pledged itself to raise the Scottsboro protest in all the seven seas.

Berlin, Germany—

Gigantic meetings held throughout city. Social-Democratic police president, Grzesinski, attacked Scottsboro meeting, savagely beating women workers in audience.

Leipzig, Germany—

Authorities refuse Mrs. Wright permission to attend mighty protest meeting.

Darmstadt, Germany—

Big demonstration and march on the main street of this city of metal industry.

Frankfurt-Am-Main, Germany—

Demonstration forbidden by the police president, Steinberg.

Vienna, Austria—

Scottsboro mother shadowed by "Socialist" police. Streets flooded with workers in mass demonstration and indignation against Scottsboro persecution.

Brussels, Belgium—

Expelled from Belgium, Mrs. Wright returned across the border unannounced and addressed a tremendous meeting in Brussels.

Berne, Switzerland—

2,000 workers demonstrate in public square.

Schauffhausen, Switzerland—

1,500 workers, many of them social democrats, attend Scottsboro meeting.

Norway—

Government refuses Scottsboro Mother permission to broadcast her message to the workers.

Sonderberg, Denmark—

"Scottsboro Day" declared by the workers of this city. Great demonstrations throughout city.

Copenhagen, Denmark—

At mass meeting, Seamen's Union pledges support to the International Red Aid in its Scottsboro Campaign.

Esbjerg, Denmark—

Great throngs demonstrate in streets demanding "Freedom for the Negro Children."

Aalborg, Denmark—

6,000 workers register their anger and determination to fight against the legal lynching.

Soviet Union—

Ten million workers in M.O.P.R. (Russian workers I.L.D. to aid working class prisoners throughout world) continue mass meetings; pass resolutions, demand freedom of Scottsboro boys. Four collective farms named in honor of the Scottsboro boys.





*Farmers children guarding the roads leading to Sioux City. They'll see to it that no scab food passes them!*

## THE FARMERS FIGHT

By DAN LOWELL

Sioux City, Ia.:

The farmers' strike which is going on now in the States of Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota and South Dakota, is proof of the militancy of farmers who must find some sort of relief from the crisis; farmers who raise grain, livestock, potatoes at a cost greater than the prices they get at market, who get as milk producers a fraction of the sum paid by the consumer, who are forced, many of them, to go without coal in the winter or warm clothing for their children, who cannot get gasoline for their cars or pay off the interest on their mortgages or their taxes; farmers who are losing their much-vaunted position of capitalists and are being pushed into a state of peasantry, farmers who were once proud owners of broad acres and are now tenants on foreclosed land or dispossessed altogether.

There was much talk of a strike for several months before the strike began. The strike was to be of a passive sort, the picketing was to be silent, "barndoor" picketing. The Farmers Holiday Association, an organization led by rich farmers, middlemen, Chamber of Commerce officials and politicians who had been losing their influence among the farmers, was organized. When the Holiday Association called for the strike, the farmers took up the call but soon decided that they would not only hold back their own crops, but keep others from bringing crops to market, from scabbing. So they picketed the highways.

The picket lines are of the same sort all over. The farmers choose a grade outside the city for the picket place. Several will stand with red flags halting all trucks and cars that may be carrying produce. If the trucks do not stop, a warning signal is sounded and the other farmers, standing about 200 feet away immediately pull logs across the highway, lay bales of hay and spiked boards on the road and then mass to prevent trucks from getting through.

Everything has not been velvet for the farmers, however. They have found much opposition to their picketing, they have been forced to defend themselves against the deputies and thugs hired by the sheriffs, the business men and the strike-breaking farmers (generally rich far-

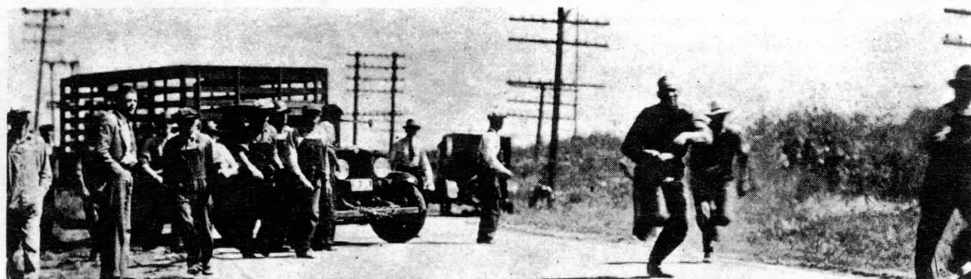
mers or farmers who are also in business). Hundreds of such special deputies have been sworn in and many attempts to break the picket lines by sheer force have been made. Such action is indicated by the statement of Sheriff Lainson of Pottawattamie County that: "We'll fight this out if it costs the county \$1,000,000"; by the leaders of the Des Moines Milk Cooperative (led by rich farmers and milk distributors) in their organizing of a "wrecking crew" of fifty men to clear the roads by force; by the use of tear gas bombs in breaking a picket line of 300 farmers outside Council Bluffs; by the wounding of fourteen men when the picket lines around Cherokee, Iowa, were fired into by a carload of gunmen.

The farmers have not let the sheriffs have it all their own way. Sheriff Slocum of Union County, Ia., was disarmed by farmers after he had fired a shot at the picket line. Most important, the sheriffs have not dared make many arrests. Strikers who have been arrested were freed when the farmers threatened to storm the jails—at Clinton, Cherokee and Sioux City.

The incident at Sioux City is a case in point. The sheriff of Ward County arrested, in the early days of the strike there, 84 pickets and brought them to the Ward County jail in Sioux City. Within an hour, a thousand farmers were in front of the jail, on the streets opposite and around the jail. They sent a delegation into the sheriff and gave him 15 minutes to free the

pickets—the pickets were out in ten minutes. Subsequently a farcical trial was held and the pickets were released, not because the judge was kindhearted or because the lawyer was eloquent but because the courthouse was packed with indignant farmers. At Des Moines, some 60 odd strikers were released in ten minutes because the farmers picketed the jail.

Such is the way in which the farmers have defended themselves against the attacks of the sheriffs, of the law and order forces of the business men and middlemen. When 30,000 farmers paraded in Sioux City on the day of the Governor's conference and turned Governors' Day into Farmers' Day, when these farmers, who shouted to the workers cheering them on the city streets: "You workers, stick by us and we'll stick by you when you go on strike." When these farmers passed under the windows of the Hotel Martin where the Governors were meeting they declared their militancy in no uncertain tones. The Governors, huddled behind the curtains of the hotel windows, looking down on this tremendous parade of men and women in trucks, autos and on foot, hearing the shouts of the hundred-odd farmboys riding bareback on farm horses and crying: "The Militia is Coming," also heard the shouts: "You tell us not to picket the roads and we'll come down and picket something else." And these Governors understood very well just what and who the farmers were going to picket.



*Farmers on Sioux City picket line running to stop a truck that is trying to pass their line.*



## CLEVELAND CONVENTION I.L.D.

## WORLD CONGRESS I.R.A.

Three years have passed since the 4th convention of the International Labor Defense. These have been the most bitter years ever experienced by the American working class. Unemployment has reached a figure never before approached in American life.

The 5th Convention of the I.L.D. approaches at this hour. The working class is seeking desperately to defend itself. Its defense struggles during this period between the 4th and 5th conventions have been of tremendous scope. The I.L.D. has played a great role in these battles.

But greater battles loom ahead. The steel workers, the marine workers, the coal miners are passing through the first stages of heroic struggles are preparing for them. These struggles will furnish tremendous defense tasks for the I.L.D. Its preparation must be no less definite and wide than are the preparations of these other organizations. It must penetrate the ranks of these mass organizations. The defense arm of the working class must be one of its most powerful weapons.

From which source flows the shortcomings which have prevented our gaining great organizational strength while we were so widely spreading our influence? We must put our fingers on these injurious agents. We must expose our bureaucracy and its source; our tendencies to separate ourselves from the masses and its cause. The correctness of our policy is little doubted yet in size we are not gaining strength.

It is vitally necessary that we understand how to improve our organization work. We must be rooted in the factories. Our desperate financial situation, now of major political and organizational importance, must be solved.

The 5th Convention of the International Labor Defense must point the way along to the accomplishments of these many other essential tasks.

1. Pennsylvania Cossacks trying to terrorize mass meeting of miners at which Vincent Kamenovich of the N.M.U. is speaking. He is now being held for deportation.

2. Giving a worker the "works"—at New York demonstration. Hoover the Great Engineer—of starvation.

3. Chivalry—but not for workers. Textile worker of Philadelphia being choked for opening her mouth against hunger.

4. But the cops who guard capitalism don't starve. At a textile strike in Pawtucket, R. I.

5. Same stuff in Wall Street's Mexico. National Hunger March in February, 1932.

6. Kicking a fallen worker—New York's finest go into typical action.

All over the world, wherever there are workers who dare to resist the official starvation, terror and murder policy directed against them by bosses' governments, we see the same methods of slugging, beating and killing being directed against them. The bosses have discovered that terror and violence are their strongest weapon in defending their spoils. But the workers have discovered that mass defense is an even stronger weapon—and through their defense organizations, sections of the International Red Aid, they are forging this weapon to ever greater power.

On November 10, 1932, the tenth anniversary of the I.R.A., its World Congress will open in Moscow, U.S.S.R.—the only country where workers need no longer fear or suffer terror, violence and exploitation.

Representatives from 69 sections of the I.R.A. will meet to give and listen to reports, conditions and work in capitalist countries all over the world during the past ten years. All around them they will see the workers of the Soviet Union engaged in building Socialism—all around them they will see what workers can enjoy when once they have overthrown their masters. With this inspiration they will be able to return to their own countries with greater courage and determination to build gigantic mass defense movements, organize all workers into the I.R.A. sections.

The I.L.D., American section of the I.R.A., will have 5 delegates at the World Congress. We greet these delegates in the name of all the readers of the LABOR DEFENDER and we give them a mandate to carry our message of international solidarity to our brother sections of the I.R.A.—fighting the same battle as we are—against bosses' terror, persecution and murder.

7. Mussolini—Patron Saint of Fascism—pledging terror against workers.

8. In Simla, India. Ramsay MacDonald's dogs unleashed against workers.

9. British troops in gas masks marching through Shanghai.

10. Chiang Kai Shek, Wall Street's agent in China, having a worker beheaded "for being a Communist."

11. Worker arrested in Germany.

12. London's famous "Bobbies" riding down on masses who fight against cut in "dole."

13. In front of Buckingham Palace, London. "The King is in his counting house, counting out his money."





# When Gangsters Lead Unions—

By FRED GILLETTE



Illinois State police and coal company thugs ambush vanguard of 48 mile long picket line, afterward shooting dozens of miners. They were on their way to picket Franklin County—key production center.

Springfield, Ill. (by mail).—Six-foot Nick Fontecchio, 200 pounds of gangsterism written in his every movement, his dark glance darting to all points of the compass, does not appear misplaced in Hotel Leland, Springfield's ritziest hotel, where John L. Lewis has his suite of temporary offices, beginning with Room 201. Nick is clad in latest style: expensive gray suit well pressed, shoes shiny and necktie a gleam, his attire does not reveal what miners in the know—say about him: that this Lewis adviser has bumped off at least two men.

## "LEWIS IS IN TOWN"

I had just returned from the United Mine Workers' district headquarters at Fourth and Monroe Streets, where gloom is as thick as pea soup. John H. (Weepin' Johnnie) Walker was out of the office. I overheard somebody say Lewis was in town—at the Leland—and went over to try my luck at getting an interview with him.

For rumors are running up and down this end of the coal fields that Corey mine No. 52, three miles northwest of Springfield—a highly mechanized Peabody mine—was getting ready to start up again: that Lewis had ordered his corps of high-class thugs into the region to "take care" of the picket line which would be on hand to keep the Lewis scabs from entering the pit. Scouts for the miners report machine guns have been placed in the bushes about Corey: the same tactic used at Mulkeytown on the giant caravan entering Franklin County two weeks ago.

## PHIL MURRAY—WITH THE GOLD CHARM

The polished husky at the door with the gold charm on his watchfob (it was Phil Murray, vice president of the U.M.W.), asked for my credentials, suspicion written all over his mug. He twisted upside down and over the letter announcing I was making a survey of the coal fields.

"Survey, eh? Well, who told you Lewis is here?" I learned it at the district office, I told him. "Well," he said, "Lewis is at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York at this minute. You'll have to get your interview with him there." Seeing my stay here was to be brief, I asked him some quick questions: what did the U.M.W.A. think about the strike, etc.

Fontecchio edged over.

"Hey," he said, "Let me look your credentials." He inspected it carefully.

## "NOT FOR THE GOOD OF LEWIS"

He pulled a chair over and plumped it squarely between me and the door. Somebody else closed the door. "You know" he said, "I no think you here for good of U.M.W., you unnerstand? What you want? What you racket?" The rest of the room turned very silent. Fontecchio chewed his cigar into a number of angles.

I explained again: survey . . . would like to speak to Lewis . . . Labor Research . . . etc. If you want to you might call up the Labor Research in New York . . . they'd tell you who I am, etc. . . .

Fontecchio handed the credential back. I asked Murray a few more questions.

"Hey," Fontecchio inquired again several minutes afterward, "Who this Labor Research, eh?" More explanations. "Lotsa Communists fishin' round, you unnerstand?" he said, "Lotsa dem snoopin' round." He leaned forward on his chair. Murray tried to smooth things over . . . but Fontecchio broke in, "Nothin' doin', you unnerstand. We got nothin' say dis feller. Better beat it, feller. Good-bye."

As I was leaving Fontecchio bethought himself suddenly. "Three-quarters Southern Illinois miners is workin', you unnerstan', and working under U.M.W. Put that in your paper."

Now to repeat what happened at district headquarters of the U.M.W. "No, Mr. Walker is too busy to see you . . . besides he has no statement to make . . . besides he will be too busy all day." I finally got to the editor of the "Illinois Miner," official organ of the U.M.W.A. He is a tall, lethargic individual who looks for all the world like Wm. Nuckles Doak. George L. Mercer is his name. After satisfying him as to my credentials, he answered questions for an hour or more, then suddenly bethought himself. "Say," he said, "Don't quote me, will you? I'm appointed, you see . . ." I saw. He thought it would be a lot better if Mr. Walker would answer some of those questions. "He's the chief executive, you see." I was astounded at some of the confidences he let slip. Perhaps some of these facts are common property in the field here, but I had never heard them, and certainly for a Lewis man to admit them to a stranger—well, it must be the witlessness of despair. Here are some of the facts:

## A GROSS EXAGGERATION

One: That the ambush in Franklin County was "grossly exaggerated." No. (with a smile),

of course 150 weren't shot. It was really four or five. You see how they exaggerate such things. No, nobody was shot seriously. Some of them got some little shots in them—buckshot. In fact, the deputies really scared them more than hurt them. Machine guns? No, I don't think so. I told him some of the local papers carried the story that there were machine guns . . . "gross misstatement" . . . "Why," he said, "the deputies really only paddled most of them."

## IMPORTANCE OF FRANKLIN COUNTY

And then he let the cat out of the bag concerning Franklin County: why it is *THE* key county of the Illinois situation. In 1931, for instance, Franklin County, with its giant New Orient, C. W. and F. (Chicago, Wilmington and Franklin) and Old Ben Coal Co. mines, produced 9,030,985 tons; Mercupin County was a poor second with 3,984,000 tons; third came Springfield County with 2,900,000 tons; next, Christian County, which includes Taylorville, with 2,768,000 tons; fifth, Williamson County, which includes Herrin, Marion, etc., with 1,986,000, and so on.

In other words, Franklin County, where practically a Chinese Wall of terror has been built up to keep the opposition from tying up the pits, produces more than twice as much as any other county in the state.

I tried to get in to see Weepin' Johnny Walker before I left, but he was still busy. I heard loud and angry voices in the locked room adjoining his office. I glanced at the editor of the "Illinois Miner."

"Oh, some meeting or other," he said offhand.

It was undoubtedly the pack of snarling gunmen moguls of the U.M.W.A. charting their next steps. For, as some of the Scotch rank and file miners say, "the devil's pot is a' brewing." Messrs. Walker and Lewis see the handwriting on the wall. And, like all the rest of their capitalist brethren, they won't give up power without a cornered-rat's fight.



# "WE MARCH TOGETHER AGAINST WAR"

By MARTIN BANK

"War Against Imperialist War!"—the slogan so terrifying to the capitalist class arose from the throats of the 2,200 delegates at the World Congress Against War that met in Amsterdam, Holland, August 27, and is today ringing throughout the world.

The delegates came from 40 separate countries. They were 2,200 workers, farmers and intellectuals representing about 30 million individuals. They came from lands in the midst of a staggering capitalist crisis; lands where workers are unemployed and starving; lands where capitalism is preparing another imperialist blood-bath—War!

The delegation from the Soviet Union, including the great writer, Maxim Gorky, was absent from the Congress. Imagine, the only country that seeks, demands, fights for peace is barred by the imperialistic Dutch government at an anti-war Congress! What a shock this was to the pacifists! Their brains clattered; a few learned a great lesson from this. They understood better afterward the slogan "Defend the Soviet Union."

Composed of honest and sincere elements, the delegates met to discuss ways of combating imperialist war. Said the German Communist delegate, Willi Muenzenberg: "We declare today

that we are ready to march together with all sincere fighters against war—We make no conditions but one; those who took the oath to fight with us must keep it, must fight until death, nay, until the victory of the Proletariat over the common foe—"

Most of the delegates agreed that the only way of ending all wars was to scrap capitalism. The exceptions, of course, were the pacifists. They loathed any mention of the class struggle. The few pacifists in the Congress made unimpressive, foolish talks. They reminded the audience of the last war—how futile and feeble they were.

The Communists presented the clearest, most realistic program of fighting imperialist wars. Contrasting the pacifist twaddle, the great French leader, Marcel Cachin, said in his program speech: "In order to defeat imperialism, we must turn imperialist war into civil war.—We must win over the soldiers on our side.—The transformation of the imperialist war into civil war has brought freedom to the workers and peasants of the Soviet Union."

One thing the preparations for this Congress clearly revealed. It showed who are the enemies of the workers. Those who betray, befuddle and obstruct. What did the Socialist Interna-

tional do? They tried to stem all efforts of a broad united front from below. They threatened their rank and file membership against endorsing and supporting the Congress. They showed their true yellow, anti-working class color.

But despite their threats and boycotts, over four hundred social-democratic delegates were elected to the Congress, defying the leaders of the Second and Amsterdam International.

Romain Rolland, the famous French writer, was ill and unable to attend the Congress. Henri Barbusse, noted writer and magnetic figure, read Rolland's stirring speech to the delegation.

Beside being against imperialist war, the Congress was against capitalist class justice. It demanded freedom of the nine innocent Negro boys who are in their death cells waiting for their savage executioners.

A common, minimum program was adopted and accepted by the delegates among whom were 800 members of the Communist parties. It read in part: "Only the Proletarian masses can put an end to the deeds of capitalism. The European workers are no fools to trim the tiger's claws and set him free again. When they will capture the tiger, that is capitalism, they will kill him."

## A LETTER TO EDITH BERKMAN

By JOHANNA REED

"Dear Edith—I was out of work all week. Now I think I'll work a few days, and then I'll be out a week again. My dad and ma haven't been working for a long, long time. They have shut off our gas and now the landlord is trying to throw us out of the house."

This letter sent to Edith Berkman by a young textile worker describes not only an individual case, but the condition prevalent among the Lawrence workers. Beginning with the arrest of Devine, Murdoch, and Berkman, following the February, 1931, strike, the Lawrence textile workers have had forced upon them, along with a steady decline in their living standards, an increased terrorism. Because the February strike against the 9 comb, speed-up system had been victorious under the leadership of the National Textile Workers Union, the American Woolen Co. decided to get rid of the union organizers.

The American Woolen Co., through Secretary of Labor Doak and Anna Tillinghast, his Boston agent, has been persecuting Edith Berkman since February, 1931, and has finally ordered her deported to fascist Poland (of which country she is not a citizen) despite the fact that she is seriously ill with tuberculosis, contracted during her imprisonment in the East Boston Immigration Station. Since August 8, 1932, when Judge Brandeis exposed his "liberalism" by refusing to hear the case, police guards and immigration officials have been constantly guarding her—subjecting her to the cruelist torture, keeping her awake nights with their noise and their flashlights—and aggravating her condition to a dangerous degree. In the face of this, Doak and Tillinghast have the nerve to come out with the statement that Edith Berkman is getting the best care that money can buy. As part of the best care, they are preparing to ship Berkman off to Poland at a time when she is critically ill, and all doctors prescribe physical and mental rest.

While Edith is being persecuted the Lawrence workers have been handed another wage-cut—this time 25 to 30 per cent. The mill-owners of Lawrence embellish their wage-cuts with police clubs. But the letter from Lawrence—"You know the whole time you were held somehow I always felt you would be with us in Lawrence again.

And many, many times I would picture you speaking in Lawrence to thousands and thousands of workers and I know there would be plenty of thousands. The bosses know it too, that is why they do not want you to come back." The workers of Lawrence have a way of remembering their leaders (and misleaders). They remember Edith Berkman—and together with workers all over the

country, are demanding that the sanctified torture practised by the U. S. government be stopped. Through the International Labor Defense the workers are demanding the immediate removal of the police guard, a stay of deportation pending recovery, release on her own recognizance, and voluntary departure to the Soviet Union.

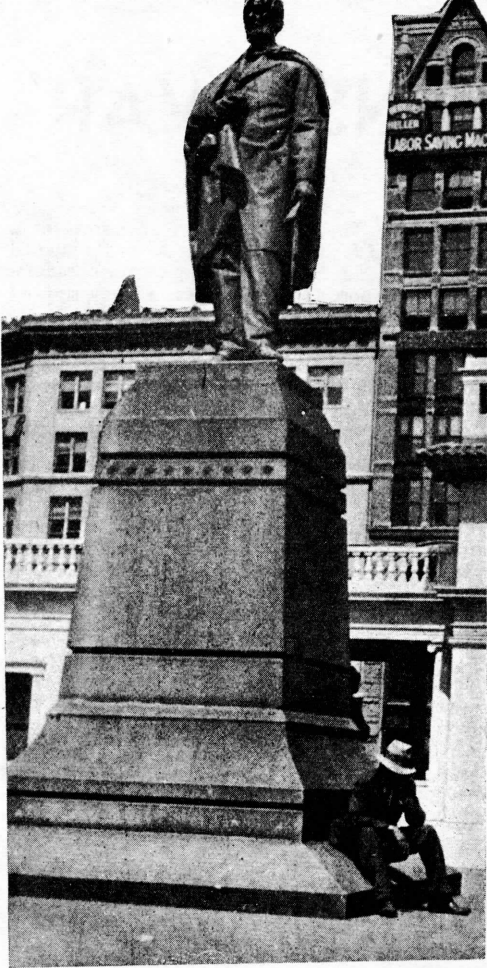


American Delegation at Anti-War Congress: Photo above includes Joseph Brodsky, Wm. Simons, Belle Keller, N. Buchwald.



# And Now—Logan Circle!

By WILLIAM L. PATTERSON



At the foot of Lincoln's statue—The New Slavery. Jobless Negro worker starving to death in New York.

## WHAT'S TO BE DONE!

(Continued from page 184)

advice on every case in our care. Through this committee we can likewise establish contact with lawyers who can be drawn into legal work without pay.

## FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE I.L.D.

The weakened state of our organizational structure has resulted in a paralyzing financial situation which endangers the continued conduct of our most important cases. The National Office and the districts are living a hand-to-mouth existence. A large portion of the paid functionaries' time is spent on pitiful efforts to raise a few dollars for immediate needs. The barest overhead expenses are not met and the cases requiring immediate and vigorous attention are being dangerously delayed, through our failure to meet the lawyers' demands for fees and costs. The badly functioning apparatus is responsible for extremely poor financial returns in a number of vital mass campaigns—Scottsboro, Kentucky, anti-deportation, etc.

The districts are in duty bound to fulfill the following immediately:

1. Undertake an immediate drive to push the sale of Scottsboro collection coupons.

2. Bring the sale of dues stamps and initiations to the highest number—as part of the proletarian competition for sending the I.L.D. activist delegation to the U.S.S.R.

3. Make amicable settlement of all outstanding accounts with the National Office. The financial relations between the districts and the National Office must be placed on the basis of full responsibility and definite realistic principles and rules.

Proper financial books and records should be kept by all districts with monthly financial statements and periodic audits.

Inner obligations and agreements must be strictly kept and fulfilled, guarding with special

(Continued on page 199)

Nine Negro boys have been indicted for murder in Washington, D. C. The longest indictment in the history of the District of Columbia has been drawn. The press of Washington, or rather that section of the press owned or dominated by bosses and the politicians, has already proclaimed them murderers. It is demanding their "rapid conviction."

On the 7th of August, a policeman, Milo F. Kennedy, was killed in Logan Circle, one of the most frequented circles in Washington. Logan has been for some time a boundary between an expanding Negro district and a receding white section. Negro and white workers were gathering there to listen to public band concerts and privately to discuss the deepening crisis.

The bonus marchers' struggle was a popular theme. Negro and white workers of Washington saw in the united front struggle for Negro and white ex-servicemen an event new to Washington. They were talking about its possibilities. The unity of the working class, in a relentless struggle against unemployment and mass starvation, against the terror of those responsible for hunger in the midst of plenty, seemed the only relief.

Kennedy had won his spurs as a smasher of unemployed workers' demonstrations against eviction, demanding relief, etc. He was a "hero" of the police in their murderous attack upon the unemployed ex-servicemen. He was a "nigger-baiter."

Kennedy soon became known as the most vicious police gangster around Logan Circle. His policy was terror and segregation. Negroes were ordered on one

side of the Circle during band concerts. Negro women were beaten and kicked if they failed to move fast enough. But against unorganized groups of boys who had no hesitancy to talk of necessity for a united front for Negroes and white workers, and some of whom were active in demonstrations, Kennedy was a raging lion.

On August 6th he arrested two of them because they refused to be jim-crowed. On the 7th he returned to "get" the rest of the "nigger crew" that had refused to accept his jim-crow edict.

They were in the circle. Others were also there. Kennedy "read the act of terror" that was going into effect. Someone laughed. Someone answered. Kennedy's gun and club came into action.

In the fight Kennedy's club was crushed against his own head. He died. The capitalist press attempted to provoke mob hysteria. Negro women and men were arrested. The two boys arrested by Kennedy the night before, and still in jail, were even accused of killing him. Then plans for mass legal murder got under way.

Thirty-eight pages of charges were filed against nine of the prisoners. The I.L.D. rallied at once to their defense. Everywhere around the Circle statements concerning Kennedy brutality were secured. A defense committee of Negroes and whites was formed.

The Logan Circle case came into being. Its background does not differ fundamentally from that of Scottsboro, Euel Lee, the Atlanta "6," etc. The crisis, starvation, terror and the workers' struggle against these—this is behind the picture. Only mass defense will destroy it. Legal aid has been secured but behind this must be organized the power of the masses.

(Continued from page 185)

The Supreme Court of the United States understands only its master's voice and the voice of the organized masses. If it sustains the decision of lynch courts of Alabama it will be because the voice of the working class is not yet loud enough.

Now we must go forward with redoubled and tripled efforts to raise the voice of the organized workers of Europe and America, joined in a cry of international working class solidarity that will force the Supreme Court to grant a new trial to these members of our class it now holds imprisoned.

But that new trial must mean their unconditional release. The work of organizing in the ranks of the I.L.D. masses whose weight shall determine the fate of the Scottsboro boys is before us. We must make clear the inseparable relation between the defense struggles of the working class generally and the defense struggles growing out of the increasing efforts of the Negro masses to free themselves. Both are against a common foe—America's rulers.

**October 10 must mark a new high level in our organizational development!**



Bob Jackson, one of the Logan Circle youths framed on murder charge.



# TORTURE IN THE LANDS OF THE CABALLEROS

By ALBERTO E. SANCHEZ

Castillo del Príncipe, Castillo de Atares, Isla de Pinos, Isla María Madre, San Pedro Atlixco—beautiful names, that sound like fairy tales and haunt the minds of those who read them. They are romantic about the “beautiful señorita” and the “gallant caballero”—dope for the mind of the reader. . . .

But . . . what are those places? Are they mansions and lovely islands? No! They are prisons. Inside their walls hundreds and thousands of political prisoners are tortured and left to rot in the most horrible way. These places are modern Bastilles, Devils Islands of American Imperialist puppet governments. The walls of those prisons are painted red with the blood of the Cuban and Mexican workers murdered by bloody Machado and the butcher Calles-Ortiz Rubio governments.

Cuba and Mexico are not lands of free people living under a blue sky playing guitars—they are filled with mass starvation, hunger and misery; five-year-old kids, ragged and dirty, wandering through the streets: “Mr., give me a penny” (this to every “foreigner”). The resentment of the oppressed masses is expressing itself in mass uprisings; workers are ambushed—shot down like dogs in the streets (as in Cuba and Mexico during August First and Matamoros). Yes, “not only whiskey and pulque flow in the streets of Cuba and Mexico,” but the blood of the working class leaders, the blood of the true fighters against Wall Street Rule.

Mella, Duménigo, López, Brouzon, Noske and Yalove; Primitivo García, the Massacre of Matamoros, etc., belong to the past. There is a new list of victims, workers that fell at the hands of these imperialist lackeys: Machado the Terrible is responsible for the life of Jacob Burstein, arrested in a preparatory demonstration August First. He was found dead in a gutter at Jaimanitas, José Chang, Chinese worker has disappeared. He was arrested by Machado’s gunmen. Manuel Rodríguez and the engineer López Rubio were tortured. Today they find themselves in a hospital. Comrade Delia Bellido de Luna, a woman worker was arrested, and morally tortured. She was tied up with ropes and made to believe that she would be thrown to the sharks. Later she was thrown into a cell at Guanabacoa Prison together with women suffering from venereal diseases. Unemployed workers who have no homes and are found sleeping in the park or at the entrance of any alley are assaulted by Machado’s special police and shot down in cold blood. Workers’ organizations have no place under Machado’s reign of terror. The crimes of this monster are the crimes of the Wall Street imperialists who own and control him.

His friends in Mexico, the Calles-Ortiz Rubio puppet government, are not going to allow Machado to surpass them in their servile attitude to the imperialist masters. They want to show that they too know how to do their work, and so they started an attack against all foreign born workers. Eight were deported in a few hours, amongst them Isaac Edelson. Primitivo García, an agrarian worker organizer, was murdered by Col. Thomas Negrete, famous for his anti-working class activities. Carlos Rivera, Olga Maya and Rosa Benitez were kidnaped (Chicago Style) and deported to Islas Marias without any opportunity to defend themselves.

What about the poor peasants? Twenty were arrested and hanged on the spot by one of Calles’ lieutenants—General Limón, chief of the military garrison of Tlaquepaque. A monstrous attack was carried through during the National Hunger March, last August, which was to reach the Federal District by September 1st—the day of the opening of the Federal Legislature. All the divisions of the March were furiously attacked: Puebla, Jalapa, Vera Cruz, Tampico, Arizona. More than a hundred unemployed workers were imprisoned and hurried to Isla María Penal Colony. Even the bourgeois press was

forced to make the following statement: “After a strenuous march on foot during more than three weeks to demand a crust of bread, they landed in a pen. Citizens must be given better attention” (Gráfico, August 2).

What are the purposes of such an intensified campaign of terror and persecution in Cuba and Mexico? The conditions of the masses are getting worse every day. The workers are forced to fight in order to better their conditions. Machado and Calles-Ortiz Rubio, degenerate servants of Yankee exploiters want to show their Wall Street masters that they control the situation by letting loose a reign of terror against the workers’ militancy.

Frequent uprisings mark this period of oppression. The Cuban petit-bourgeoisie and bour-



*M. Jiminez, one of the many working-class leaders murdered in Mexico.*

geois are divided. In one camp the leaders of the Nationalists’ opposition—Menocal-Mendieta—who want to show that they can serve Wall Street better. They organize the A.B.C., a nationalist-terrorist, organization. They let loose a series of bombings and dynamitings (Calvo Diez) giving Machado the opportunity to raid workers’ headquarters in search of the “terrorists,” arresting workers right and left and sending them to “La Cabaña.” Hundreds of workers are murdered “mysteriously”; are found hanging from trees. Machado’s agents of the “Porra”—special men recruited from the ranks of the worst criminals and murderers—are active—doing their duty work in the dead of the night. Hundreds of innocent workers are killed by such methods.

But Machado does not feel himself safe and sure at the head of the government. He needs more protection. To “preserve public order and peace in the republic” \$25,000 more are voted, and not a single penny for the starving masses. It is time for the Cuban workers to demand this money for unemployment relief.

The workers of the United States should show their solidarity toward the oppressed Cuban and Mexican workers. In times like the “Defensa Obrera Internacional Cubana” (Cuban I.L.D.) and the International Red Aid of Mexico need the help of every international fighter. We must show in our program of struggle an international solidarity. Action is what counts. No more pity and platonic love toward the Latin-American masses oppressed under the heel of Yankee Imperialism. Look at the attack on the

Tampa workers, the majority of whom are Spanish Americans. An attack to the Spanish speaking workers of the United States is a DIRECT ATTACK UPON THE LATIN-AMERICAN MASSES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES. Mass demonstrations of the American workers in front of the Cuban and Mexican Consulates and Embassies should mark the turning point in our work into a real militant struggle against Yankee Imperialism and its lackeys.

## “TOM MOONEY IS NOT ON TRIAL”

By M. DORN

August 14, 1932, at the Olympic Stadium, Los Angeles, California. 110,000 spectators wait for the closing ceremonies and the granting of awards to the winners of the events. Gov. Rolph sits in a box, basking in reflected glory, all smiles. Tom Mooney sits in a cell in San Quentin—sixteen years he has sat there. Six young workers, Meyer Beylin, Ethel Dell, Ben “Boots” Schapiro, Ann Davis and Ernest Palmer, leap the railing, “Free Tom Mooney” in large red letters on front and back of their track suits; and shouting their slogans, run clear around the track. The arms of the police awaited them and pulled them into court.

On August 19th, the six were brought to trial, charged with disturbing the peace and disturbing a public meeting. The professional jurors sit in the box. Gov. Rolph’s appointee, Thurmond Clarke, sits at the bench. Behind the rail, the court spectators are all workers, here to see the brand of justice that a capitalist court has to offer.

A prosecution witness is in the chair for examination. Leo Gallagher, the defense lawyer, objects to a question. Almost automatically, Judge Clarke overrules the objection. Again and again, this is repeated. Obviously there is perfect teamwork between the bench and the prosecution.

On August 23rd, the fourth day of the trial, Meyer Beylin is absent. Gallagher rises to explain that he has a doctor’s statement that Beylin was too sick to appear in court. He requests the court to excuse the appearance of Beylin and go on with the trial. The judge sends the jury out of the court-room. He exonerates the bond on Beylin. “Bring the doctor into court; bring the notary who signed that affidavit.” He issues a bench warrant for Beylin’s arrest, and sends the Red Squad out for the criminal. “In Soviet Russia they do as they please, but here in the United States, we do things according to law.”

The doctor appears in court and testifies that he had examined Beylin, who had a temperature of 101, and that he had advised him not to go to court. Beylin, face flushed, weak and shaky, is dragged into court by Phelps and another Red Squad dick. He is forcefully pushed into a chair. The crowd in the court-room, protests loudly against this rough treatment. Two of the Red Squad, rise to take command of the situation. Gallagher protests this summary procedure of the court. The judge orders the trial to proceed, but Gallagher refuses. After a long argument, Judge Clarke consents to have Beylin examined by the doctor at the county hospital. The Red Squad begins to drag Beylin out of the court-room, but the obvious brutality arouses the crowd to loud and prolonged protestation. The police draw their weapons and threaten the crowd, but they still refuse to permit them to manhandle Beylin. When the tension eased, Beylin was taken to the County Hospital where, on examination, it was found that he had 104 temperature.

The trial resumes. Judge Clarke assumes a threatening attitude to the defense. Gallagher, asking a question regarding Tom Mooney, is told by the judge that “Tom Mooney is not on trial in this court.” Ethel Dell rises. “It is a

(Continued on page 197)



*M. Jiminez, one of the many working-class leaders murdered in Mexico.*



# RALLY THE YOUTH

This is a call by the National Youth Committee in the Name of the Class War Prisoners and the Youth Prisoners in particular to all Youth Branches of the I.L.D. and all other Youth Organizations. Our Comrades in jail are very lonesome and will continue to be so unless we immediately take steps to remedy it. We have made a beginning by writing to our prisoners. We must now go still further and arrange to have workers visit our comrades. Every Youth Branch should at its next meeting decide that it is going to carry on a systematic visiting of our comrades. At least once a month a committee should be chosen and these comrades should go to the jail in the name of the branch. If it is at all possible to bring something along, let us say candy, cigarettes, fruit, etc., we should by all means do so.

There are many difficulties in getting to see prisoners. However, we must always make the attempt to see our comrades. All the difficulties should be found out and all efforts to see the comrades made. In some cases it may be possible to force the authorities to admit us if we insist upon seeing them, as representatives of the organization that defended them and that is sending them relief. Many jails are more lenient in this respect and comrades should avail themselves of these rules.

The comrades sent as a committee should be asked to report at the next meeting of the branch, so that all the comrades can be made to feel that they are part of the committee that went to the jail to visit our comrades. The comrades should be asked to write a short article about their visit, for the wall board. This also will stimulate the interest of the comrades in the Class War Prisoners. It is our task to help make the prisoners as comfortable as possible.

**DON'T FORGET OUR COMRADES BEHIND THE BARS!**

Comrades, we must never for a minute forget our comrades behind bars. We must let them know that we haven't forgotten them. We must let them know that we are still behind them and that we are carrying on the fight for their freedom. The only way we can do this is by writing to them and visiting them. Below are the names and addresses of three more young workers in jail. Write to them and cheer them up in their cells away from comrades.

**Harry Roth, Delaware County Jail, Media, Pa. Arrested for speaking at an open air meeting. Charged with Flynn Sedition Law violation. Sentenced to one year.**

**Marko Lopez, Raiford State Penitentiary, Raiford, Fla. Arrested in a Nov. 7th Celebration in Tampa, Fla. Sentenced to 1 year.**

**Eugene Williams, Kilby Prison, Montgomery, Ala. Scottsboro defendant. Sentenced to Electric Chair. Appeal by I.L.D. won a new trial.**

The following extract from a letter from Irving Keith emphasizes the importance of writing to our comrades in jail: "That note in the August issue on writing to prisoners has gotten some results. I got letters from Pittsburgh and Wilmington, Del., and the Imperial Valley Branch of the I.L.D. in N. Y. C. I hope the other boys in jail are getting them, too, because that's the only contact we have with the outside."



"Free Tom Mooney"—the slogan on the backs of young workers who demonstrated at Olympic games before 100,000.



## LUDLOW MASSACRE

"Rat, tat, tat,"—round after round of machine gun bullets were fired into the tent colony of striking miners at Ludlow, Colorado. When Rockefeller's gun thugs were tired shooting they set the tents on fire. Thirty-four men, women and children were murdered on that bloody April 20, 1914. Not many of those thirty-four had to be buried, because their dead bodies were destroyed in the fire.

The miners of Ludlow were out on strike. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. refused their meager demands for a better living. Hundreds of the miners, their wives and children were forced out of their homes. They built a tent colony. The National Guard was called in, under the infamous Major Pat Hamrock. The company's mine guards and gun thugs were in the National Guard ranks. They were using machine guns.

On the day of the massacre Hamrock called Louis Tikas to his tent. Tikas was one of the leaders of the Greek miners out on strike. Tikas agreed to Hamrock's demand that one of his men be released from the tent colony.

Tikas started back to his tent waving a white handkerchief. While he was running to his comrades two bombs were hurled by the guards. Fortunately he escaped this time. All the strikers immediately gathered their guns and ammunition and fled to the hills, in the hopes that the National Guard would not shoot at their women in the tents if they themselves were not there. The Guards opened their murderous machine gun fire into the tents just the same. All day the

stream of bullets continued and then at night the tents were set on fire.

The women and children were forced to leave their burning tents. As they ran some were picked off by the machine gun fire. Tikas was captured. The guards could not decide on the best way to murder him. While they were deliberating Lieut. Linderfeldt hit him over the head with his rifle and broke the butt of his gun—then he remarked that he had spoiled a good gun on him. They stepped on his face and when he fell he was shot four times in the back

## NEWS FROM THE DISTRICTS

From a Letter from the Chicago Youth Director:

Let me tell you how the Hushka Youth Branch was organized—it is encouraging. The O'Neil, an adult branch, came into the office insisting that I come down to their next meeting. They ushered me into a private house, and told me to wait. In about ten minutes a group of eight boys and two girls came in. I asked what we were there for. One of them answered, "to organize a youth branch of the I.L.D." Then I asked what the I.L.D. was. They started to explain and convince me why I should join the branch. All of these were young white workers with very little contact with the movement, and it is important to note that they raised the Scottsboro question and raised it correctly. They convinced me that I should join the I.L.D., much as I argued against it. Before we finished the meeting about thirty were there, and eighteen joined.



*"Free Tom Mooney"—the slogan on the backs of young workers who demonstrated at Olympic games before 100,000.*



# WHAT WORKERS ARE READING



Japan's assault against China, the seizure of Manchuria, and preparation for an attack on the Soviet Union. He analyzed the capitalist class nature of the American government and showed why it was willing, provided Japan attacked the U.S.S.R., to have Japan pay herself with part of China. He showed how American workers, because they are fellow workers of the Chinese proletariat, and because they wish to preserve the Soviet Union as a workers' state, and because they do not want to be cannon fodder in a world war, have an interest in protesting Japan's actions. The American government, by the same reasoning, has an interest in smashing such demonstrations.



## "CHARGE: RIOTING. VERDICT: NOT GUILTY"

A Review by VERN SMITH

In this little ten cent, 47-page pamphlet, is printed the speech of Albert Goldman, International Labor Defense attorney, who successfully defended the 13 workers charged with rioting after a police attack on the demonstration before the Chicago Consulate of Japan, March 12, 1932.

Defending himself against a police clubbing at this demonstration, a worker named Stephen Chuck, shot and wounded three policemen. The police wounded three of the crowd. Thirteen in the crowd, arrested after the affair by the cop second in command in the police "Red Squad," were placed on trial for rioting. They were, of course, workers' leaders recognized by the "Red Squad" as such.

The attorney might have pleaded simply on technicalities, saying the defendants were not in the fight, but, instead, he correctly drew, in addition, all the class inferences. He pointed out why American workers took an interest in

Goldman showed how the police attack on the demonstration was therefore perfectly understandable. The attack was made in defiance of the U. S. Constitution, a fundamental law of the capitalist class government, which, nevertheless, has a few provisions for freedom of speech and assemblage. He discussed the prosecution's claim that the crowd blocked traffic, proved it was not so, but even if so, would have been the substitution of a lesser right of free traffic movement, for a greater right of the workers to use the streets, of the right to meet.

Goldman brought out the whole Communist theory and knocked in the head the prosecution's theory that Communists came there to assassinate the police. Communists do not believe in individual violence. He proved, instead, that if Chuck shot the police, he was exercising his right of self-defense.

In a word, without sacrificing any of the defense's legal technicalities, Goldman was able, in a simple, direct, logical way, without bombast or any kind of raving, to show exactly why the

police attacked the crowd, and that if workers defended themselves, they did so in self-defense; furthermore, that they had every right, even under capitalist law, and every duty to their fellow workers, to come and demonstrate: "Against the Japanese War on China"; "For Withdrawal of American Troops from Chinese Soil and American Battleships from Chinese Waters"; and "For the Defense of the Soviet Union."

This is a useful pamphlet, to give the line to other defense attorneys and to workers defending themselves. It should be followed up with pamphlets now giving the defense speeches, correctly made, of workers defending themselves. There should also be some pamphlet material giving well-chosen cross-examination of prosecution witnesses by worker-defendants. Such pamphlets used along with the already printed, "Workers Self Defense," pamphlet of the I.L.D. (5c), should give any worker a pretty good idea of what he can do to win his own case, also, what he should demand of defense attorneys, many of whom, particularly when defending such cases for the first time, tend to rely entirely on legal quibbles, and lose the class significance of the case.

## IT'S YOUR LABOR DEFENDER

And here is one of the best ways you can prove that it is your *Labor Defender*. SEND A GREETING TO THE ENLARGED NOVEMBER ISSUE. You will not only be greeting the *LABOR DEFENDER*—you will also be expressing your solidarity with the American working class, victims of boss terror and you will be sending your greetings to the workers of the Soviet Union—celebrating with them the 15th anniversary of their victory over capitalism.

We have plenty of greetings lists here in the office waiting to be filled out by workers. Each greeting is a vote for the Second Five-Year Plan. Send in at once to Room 430, 80 East 11th Street, N. Y. C., for as many of these as you think you can fill with workers' names.

Single greetings—votes for the Second Five-Year Plan—cost only 25c. We know that you can get hundreds of them. It is only a question of asking people.

Larger greetings from organizations can be had at the following rates:

- One inch—\$5.
- 1/4 page—\$25.
- 1/2 page—\$50.
- Whole pages—\$100.

The time is growing short. All greetings must be in no later than October 15th—or we cannot put them into the November issue. Work hard, comrades, for the life of your magazine is in danger.

There is very little to be said about the sub



Jobless: Seated at foot of statue to Tammany.

drive. This announcement will speak for itself and explain the situation perfectly. We are once more forced to extend the final date of our drive. Not one person reached the minimum quota of 100 subs necessary to win the sub drive. It was to have ended October 1st so that the winner could get to the Soviet Union in time for the great November 7th, fifteenth anniversary celebration.

The new dead line is January 1, 1933. Remember, comrades, the winner must have at least 100 subs to his credit.

It's up to you.

(Continued from page 195)

good thing that Tom Mooney is not on trial in this court, when Gov. Rolph appoints a man like you to try a labor case." The jury is sent out, and Ethel Dell is sentenced to 50 days for "contempt of court." The packed court-room jeers and boos this action of the judge.

The professional jurors brought in a verdict of guilty, and Judge Clarke gave the six the maximum sentence of 270 days in jail. Bail pending appeal was raised \$100 to \$1,000. The judge threatened all and any who resented his brand of justice with arrest and sentence for contempt of court at the first sight of demonstration.

The International Labor Defense has appealed the case, and will continue the fight through the courts, and before the working class, to expose the legal terror against which the workers of California have to contend.



*Jobless: Seated at foot of statue to Tammany.*





# Voices from Prison

## IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT

By E. CARROLL

The Eastern State Penitentiary located in Philadelphia, Pa., is known to be one of the worst jails in the country. Grim stone walls, long and high. Here and there is a little pigeon-hole, these are windows. Within these grim walls without air or sunshine, human bodies are rotting.

One of the prisoners rotting in this jail is comrade Israel Lazar, a young revolutionary worker. He committed his crime in 1928—active participation in the class struggle and speaking for the Communist Party during the election campaign. This was his crime.

Lazar himself a worker and suffering from the bosses' exploitation since early childhood, bred hatred for the entire capital system. His work and speeches were very effective among the workers of Philadelphia. So the bosses with the aid of their police and their courts decided to give him a sentence of two years and jail him. The case was appealed by the I.L.D. and he was taken out on bail.

The bosses in 1932 are even more shaky and more terror-stricken than in 1928, so they attempt to silence the voice of the party by putting her spokesmen in jail, and Lazar was put in the dark and gloomy walls of the Eastern Penitentiary. *From the very first day he was put in solitary confinement, without anything to read or anyone to see. He was confined in the fifth gallery, this gallery is kept exclusively for those prisoners who commit crimes in the jail! When the warden, former state trooper, was told that they have no right to keep him there, since he hasn't committed any crime in the institution, he answered that his crime is bigger than any prisoner ever committed and therefore it warrants solitary confinement. When on another occasion he was petitioned about taking Lazar out of the dark and solitary cell and allow him to mingle with other prisoners, the warden refused on the basis that Lazar cannot be trusted with other prisoners, that he will make speeches and turn the other prisoners revolutionary.*

A guard led us into a room where the prisoners and visitors meet. They are divided with thick double screens. After waiting for over an hour he was called. We rushed to the screens from where we could see comrade Lazar approaching in his stripped gray prisoner outfit. A jolly fellow by nature, he also appeared jolly in jail. However the many gray hairs on his half shaven head and the pale face revealed that in those two months he has gone through much suffering. He insisted that we spend the twenty minutes telling him about the work of the party. In the few minutes that we spoke about the jail he told us that the food is rotten, the loneliness unbearable and that the cockroaches keep on annoying day and night; they even find their way in all the food. He answered us that two years suffering in jail will not break his revolutionary spirit and convictions. However he hopes that the workers outside will put up a fight for his removal from solitary confinement to a cell outside with human beings where he will also be put to some work.

The revolutionary workers of Philadelphia and the U. S. A. should begin a determined fight for his immediate removal from solitary confinement and carry the struggle farther for his release from imprisonment.

Comrades can also make it easier for him by writing to him letters which he can receive but can not answer, address them to: Lazar, No. 6977, 2107 Fairmount Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

## IN THE WORKHOUSE—BLAWNOX, PENNSYLVANIA

By HY KRAVIF

Twenty-two miners were sentenced last year to the Allegheny County Workhouse at Blawnox, Pa. Victims of the heroic struggle of 40,000, led by the National Miners Union, 15 of them are still serving sentences up to six years in this hell-hole, one of the very worst prisons in the United States.

A newspaper man, writing about this jail, said: "Ordinarily persons sentenced to from two to five years are sent to the Western Penitentiary at Pittsburgh. However, this is considered too easy for striking miners, and they are sent to the workhouse where conditions are much harder and the food much worse."

Prisoners are allowed one visit a month of a half hour's duration only. A thick screen makes it almost impossible to see them. Many are taken ill, but are refused hospital treatment or any kind of medical care. Mail is carefully censored. They are refused any kind of books. Thus *Labor and*



*Sally and Fuerst, the two latest victims of the Hungarian White Terror, hanged little more than a month ago, were given a "trial," during which the hammer blows of the carpenters erecting the gallows were heard. The above worker Fuerst was charged with having taken part in the Hungarian Soviet.*

Coal by Anna Rochester (International Publishers) was twice returned, marked "Returned." Superintendent Braun charged that this was because it was a "radical book on Communism." This same Braun is extremely severe with the striker-inmates, losing no opportunity to persecute them.

Eighteen-year-old Stella Rasefske is serving two years and her mother, Anna, a year and a half. The father, a miner, and two other children were all active in the strike. The family is now destitute, deprived of its meager possessions. Another woman serving two years is Theresa Presilac who was a militant leader on the picket line at Wildwood. The matrons are no more than stool pigeons.

A year and a half is the lot of Harry Boswell, 28, who was recently denied a parole. Boswell was arrested in the Westland march where he was shot and wounded following a tear gas attack upon the miners by state police. The father Charles, and a brother Charles, Jr., were among the active leaders of the strike. The father, nearing 60, is now totally blind, without means of subsistence, his life spent for the enrichment of the coal barons.

Serving two years also, are Tom Myerscough, Leo Thompson, Bob Young and Adam Getto. Getto was murderously beaten during the strike and his head cracked open on the picket line at the Ella mine. Serving three to six years are Ed Sherwood and Mike Sklarski. Sherwood is very sick. Sklarski has five children and the family is poverty-stricken, without any means of income. The Negro miners Will MacQueen, Pete Jugrine and Freniando Pecirello are each serving a year; Tom Boich and Julius Hollis, each 20 months.

Boich is very ill with stomach trouble and piles. Though only 20, Leo Thompson has already been through many struggles of the workers. Now his sight is failing and he cannot purchase much-needed glasses for lack of money. Because of his militancy, Thompson gets the brunt of the persecution. He has already been sent to the "hole" and to solitary confinement several times. While in the former, he was taken out for only three hours every 10 days. His "privileges" were taken away from him, after undergoing this punishment, he was so weakened he could hardly walk. The others feared for his life. As late as July, he was still not permitted to receive visitors.

And this is only one group of the class war prisoners in the jails of the United States. They are cut off from the outside, not even permitted books or newspapers. To help make the lives of these prisoners bearable, the Prisoners Relief Fund was organized; to help these victims—and their dependents—of the struggle against capitalism. *They must be given every possible assistance.*

Help carry on this work! *The need for funds is continuous and urgent!*

Individual readers of LABOR DEFENDER should send funds directly to the Prisoners Relief Fund—Room 338—799 Broadway, New York City.

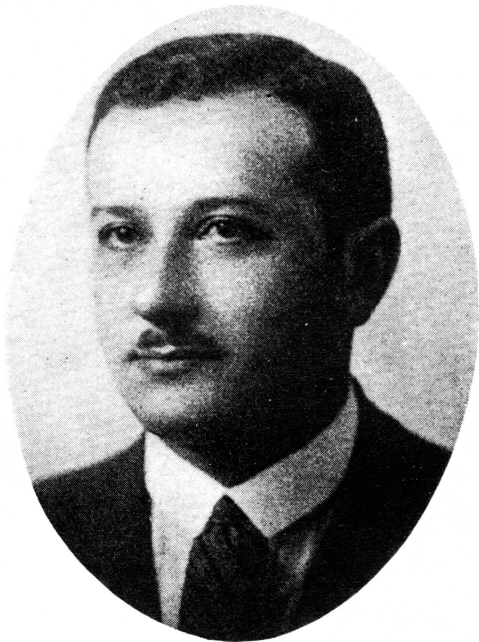
Each I.L.D. branch should elect a special Prisoners Relief Committee to raise funds for class war prisoners and their dependents. Definite pledges of so-much-a-month should be made by every branch. Funds from I.L.D. branches for prisoners should be sent directly to the National office of the I.L.D.

## I.L.D. PIONEER TROOP IN OSSINING

The Sacco and Vanzetti Branch of the I.L.D. organized an I.L.D. Pioneer Group. This group immediately got down to the job of organizing more children and explaining the real meaning of justice. When they explained that workers cannot get any justice in the bosses' court unless they had the backing of the mass pressure of thousands of workers, *The Citizen Register*, an Ossining paper came out with streaming headlines calling for the smashing of this group. All the fascist leaders of the town gave out statements on this new menace an I.L.D. Pioneer Troop. Amongst these leaders were Boy Scout Leaders, Girl Scout Leaders, American Legion Officials, etc.

But the Troop has not been frightened. Instead the members have pledged themselves to build their organization. They plan such activities as visiting the Ossining jail, correspondence with class war prisoners, etc.





*Sallay and Fuerst, the two latest victims of the Hungarian White Terror, hanged little more than a month ago, were given a "trial," during which the hammer blows of the carpenters erecting the gallows were heard. The above worker Fuerst was charged with having taken part in the Hungarian Soviet.*

# November Labor Defender

The Five Year Plan Was Completed  
in Four Years!

*Forward*

## To the Second Five Year Plan!

The November issue of the LABOR DEFENDER greets the 15th year of the Russian workers' destruction of the system of profits and starvation. It calls on you to join in hailing the Russian workers' land—where there is no police terror—no shooting down of jobless workers—no Scottsboro, Mooney, Tampa cases. It calls on you to greet the 5th World Congress of the International Red Aid (I.L.D.), in Moscow this November. There the fight against capitalist terror will be the order of the day.

**I vote for the Second Five Year Plan and for the Defense of the Soviet Union.**

**I greet the Fifth World Congress of the I.R.A.**

**Give your vote! Send greetings from your organization! Support the Labor Defender! Send what you can!**

NAME	ADDRESS	AMOUNT
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**All greetings will be sent to the Soviet Union!  
Show the Soviet workers you support them!**

(Continued from page 194)

care against the use for district purposes of funds received for transmission and belonging to the National Office.

Reports and full remittances on dues and initiations must be made to the National Office every two weeks (preferably on the 10th and 25th day of each month), for whatever dues and initiation stamps sold by the district during the preceding two weeks including affiliation dues).

Payments for LABOR DEFENDER must be made in full for each issue before the next is delivered.

There shall be no percentage division of funds raised specifically for a certain defense case; 100 per cent of net receipts shall remain in the district of funds raised for district case, or a group of cases, and 100 per cent of the net receipts shall be remitted to the N. O. if raised on a national case or group of national cases. On special drives combining national and district cases, the division shall be 50 per cent—unless special agreement is made with the national office.

On general affairs (bazaars, concerts, picnics, Paris Commune Celebrations, etc.) which are based on the general I.L.D. work and program, a certain percentage of net proceeds shall be given to the National Office, either according to general decisions applying to all districts (as on Paris Commune Celebrations) or according to special agreements between the National Office and special districts, based on concrete situations

(for instance, on annual bazaars, picnics, etc.)

Prisoners' relief pledges must be transmitted to the national office 100 per cent.

In preparation for the National Convention in October and the World M.O.P.R. Congress in November, the whole organization from the N.E.C. down to the branches must take a complete inventory of its existing weaknesses and find the most effective remedies by which to overcome them, using this organizational resolution and I.R.A. criticism as guides.

The I.L.D. membership deeply realizes its responsibilities. Given proper guidance and correct leadership it will tackle collectively the existing difficulties and strive to overcome them.

Down with passivity!

Fight against looseness!

For proletarian responsibility in our work!

Forward to a Mass I.L.D.!

### What It Means to Be a "Georgia Nigger."

The photo on the back cover of the Labor Defender is one of the pieces of amazing photographic documentation contained in the novel "Georgia Nigger," by John L. Spivak, recently published by Brewer, Warren and Putnam.

The picture on page 183, of a Negro boy behind bars and other documentary evidences of Negro oppression in the South presented in the book bear out the I.L.D.'s contentions that such conditions exist in the South.

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## • • • SCOTTSBORO • • •

**B**ECAUSE the International Labor Defense has exposed the colossal frame-up against the nine Negro boys, showing it to be another Sacco and Vanzetti case on a larger scale,

Because millions of workers, black and white, throughout the United States have demanded the unconditional and immediate release of these nine innocent Negro boys,

Because more millions of workers throughout the European countries have raised their voices of protest against the legal lynching of these Scottsboro Negro boys,

**THE HAND OF DEATH HAS BEEN STAYED!**

The electric chair has thus far been denied its victims.

The United States Supreme Court will review and pass upon the I.L.D. demand for a new trial of the nine Scottsboro Negro boys.

**On October 10th, next, in Washington, D. C., the last legal move against the sentence of these boys rendered by the State of Alabama, will be enacted.**

The murderous capitalist class has the stage all set—their actors are well paid, their henchmen and perjurers have received their price.

**With the prosecution money is no object.**

**BUT the International Labor Defense** upon whose shoulders rests the responsibility to raise the enormous legal cost of the defense, stands with its back against the wall—with its sleeves rolled up, working day and night to raise the necessary sum of over \$5,000 which must be paid before the date set for the hearing, October 10th, next.

**WORKERS AND FRIENDS:**

Without your help this task cannot be performed. The I.L.D. is your machinery of defense. It is upon you, the victims depend. Only mass pressure, only your financial aid, will bring freedom to the nine Scottsboro Negro victims.

**Remember October 10th. Act now — today! Give all you can. Get every friend to do the same. Collect everywhere.**

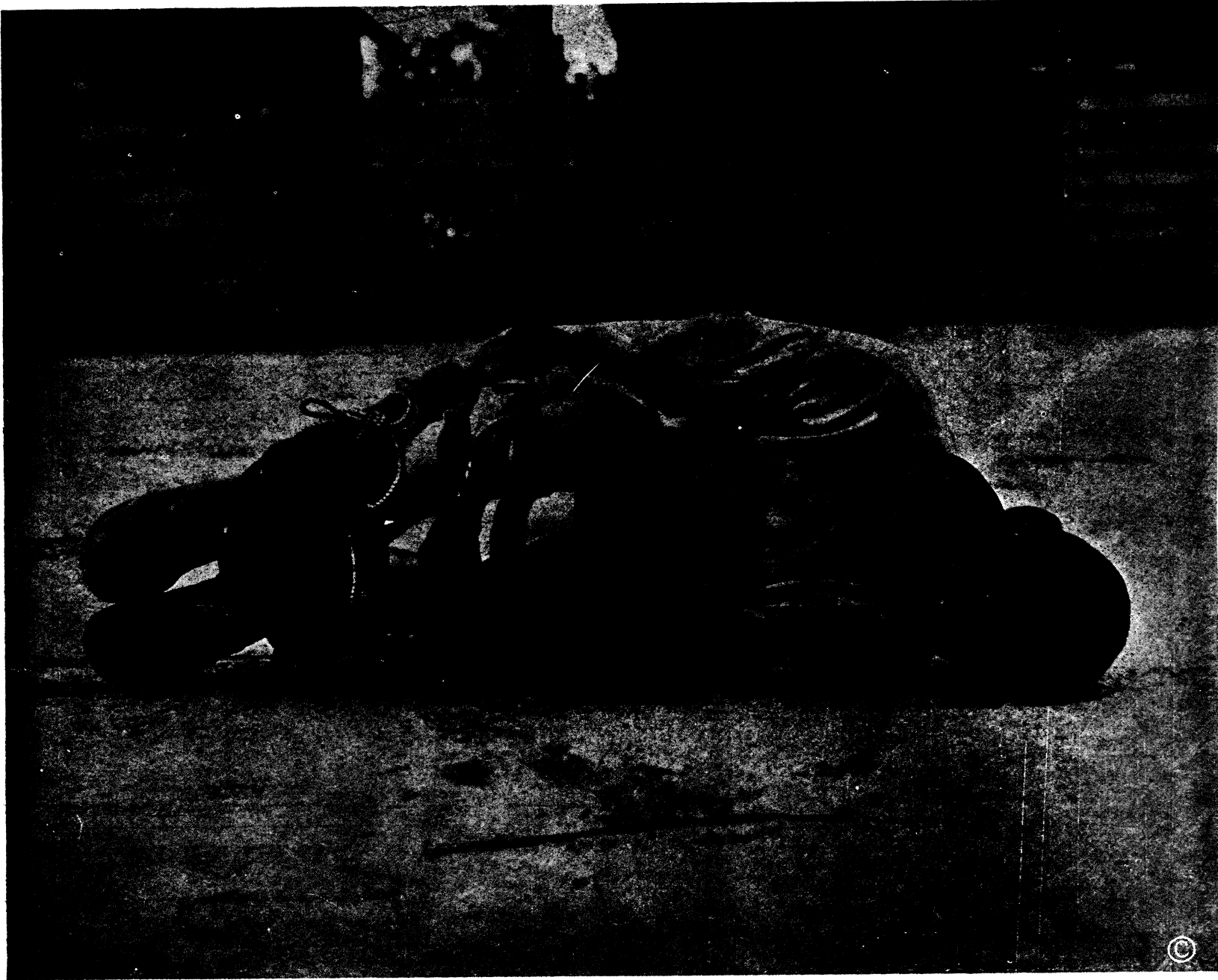
**TO THE I.L.D. SCOTTSBORO DEFENSE**  
80 East 11th Street, New York, N. Y.

Comrades:

Enclosed please find (my) (our) donation of.....  
for the defense of the nine innocent Scottsboro Negro boys.

.....(Signed)

.....(Address)



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