

LABOR DEFENDER

I.L.D.

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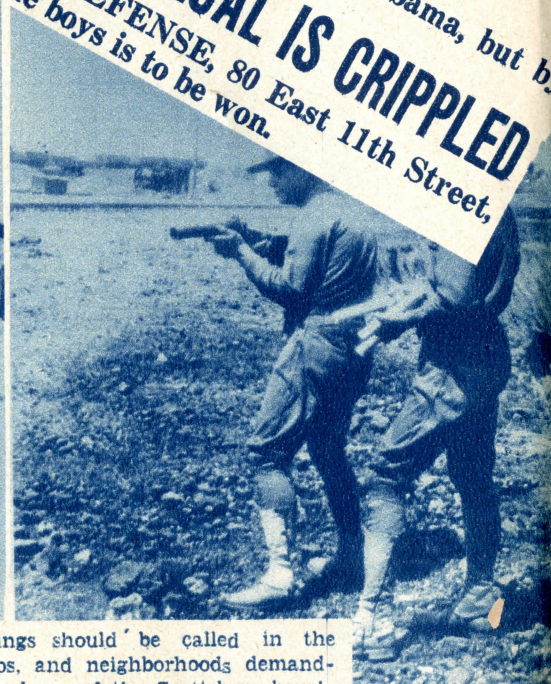
VIEWS OF THE MONTH



SCOTTSBORO DEATH THREAT

Lives of boys and their families endangered not only by new wave of murder in Alabama, but by lack of funds to continue defense.

THE WHOLE MACHINERY OF THE DEFENSE--M.A.S.S, LEGAL IS CRIPPLED
Immediate funds must be rushed to INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE, 80 East 11th Street, New York City if the 3 year fight for unconditional freedom for the boys is to be won.



Scottsboro meetings should be called in the unions, in the shops, and neighborhoods demanding the immediate release of the Scottsboro boys!

Rush funds for the defense to the I.L.D., 80 E. 11th St., Room 430, New York City.



LABOR DEFENDER

Editors: WM. L. PATTERSON, SASHA SMALL

Associate Editor: LOUIS COLMAN

WHAT IS THE I. L. D.

THE I.L.D. is a working class defense organization basing itself on the class struggle. It defends those workers who are taken prisoner in the firing lines of the class war, regardless of their nationality, race, creed, color, or political affiliation.

THE I.L.D. organizes for mass struggle against capitalist class justice in all forms. The I.L.D. has no illusions about the "fairness" of ruling class courts, judges, sheriffs, police. It exposes their role as agents of the ruling class and organizes the only effective defense against them—mass, protest, mass pressure, mass defense.

THE I.L.D. fights for the unconditional freedom of all class war prisoners. The I.L.D. does not consider the verdict of a ruling class court as final. It continues the fight to free the victims of ruling class injustice, to save them from framed-up penalties, until they are freed.

THE I.L.D. fights for the recognition of political prisoners as such and against the barbaric prison regime.

THE I.L.D. mobilizes the masses for material aid and comfort to class war prisoners and their dependents. All members of the I.L.D. regard themselves as personally responsible for this task. We cannot forget our comrades imprisoned for fighting for bread and a better life. Our pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, etc., each month say to them, "We on the outside will never forget the members of our class who are victims of the enemy." "Families of class war prisoners must have food, clothing, and a roof over their heads."

The ninth anniversary of the International Labor Defense is an important milestone in the history of the American labor movement. It is significant because it means that during the last nine years, the economic struggles of the American workers and farmers, native and foreign born, Negro and white, employed and unemployed, have had an added weapon in their fight for better living conditions, enforcement of long fought for rights—the weapon of mass defense.

In every section of the country at one time or another during these years, the I.L.D. has shown its power and its strength. Among textile workers, miners, Negro share croppers, Mexican fruit pickers, auto workers—on the bread lines on the picket lines—in thousand of court houses in thousands of jails.

During the nine years of its existence the I.L.D. has justified the hopes and the aims of those who struggled to bring it into life. It has offered a permanent, unified, nation wide defense shield of the working class, with a fighting arm crashing out from behind this shield—taking not only a defensive stand for the rights of the working class, but taking the offensive in breaking through the illusions that millions still retain in the fairness of bourgeois courts, in the impartiality of bourgeois justice.

In certain sections of the South the I.L.D. has become a symbol not only of protection but of freedom to the oppressed Negro people. Thousands of workers walk the streets to day, free because of the mass activity of the I.L.D.

The International Labor Defense draws its strength not only from its thousands of members and hundreds of branches throughout the land, but from the fact that it has become a section of the most powerful international defense organization in the world—the International Red Aid. Through the activity of the 70 sections of this world wide defense organization, thousands of victims were saved from the clutches of boss class terror, only recently the most outstanding example has been the freedom of Dimitroff and his comrades.

In these days of fascist threats upon the supposedly inalienable democratic rights of the American masses, in these days of increasingly vicious fascist terror against workers and farmers who are putting up a stiff fight in defense of their right to a decent life, a mass International Labor Defense is a vital necessity. Help us celebrate our ninth anniversary by joining the International Labor Defense.

Branches of the I.L.D. pledge monthly sums for this purpose and organize others to do the same. They adopt long term class war prisoners and their families.

THE I.L.D. fights against national oppression and lynchings of Negroes. It organizes the masses for protest against jim-crow violation of the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

THE I.L.D. fights for the defense of foreign born workers, against deportation and for the right of political asylum.

THE I.L.D. fights for the right of freedom of speech, press and assembly for workers and for their right to organize, strike, picket, to defend themselves.

THE I.L.D. defends the workers' rights to self-defense in courts and urges workers' to demand this right and turn the court room into a forum from which the class character of the court and the charges against them can be most effectively exposed.

THE I.L.D. fights against injunctions and all anti-labor laws.

THE I.L.D. organizes the international solidarity of the working class. It recognizes the international character of white terror and ruling class injustice. It participates in the international struggle against fascism and against war. It mobilizes the masses for material as well as moral mass support for the victims of the terror in all capitalist countries and colonies.

A full meeting of the National Committee of the International Labor Defense is called for July sixth in the city of Detroit. The leading forces in all of the Districts of the I.L.D. will come together for four days for an exhaustive review of the struggles of the organization, for an examination of its weaknesses and for an evaluation of its immediate tasks with a perspective of tremendous class battles against the heightening wave of fascist terror.

The I.L.D., as the only defense organization of the working class, is confronted with gigantic undertakings in the present period. A wave of militant strikes is sweeping the country against which the employers are directing a vicious campaign of terror calculated to suppress the movement of the working class. Since May 2nd eleven fighting workers have been murdered by armed gangs of the bosses. The right to organize is being abrogated on every front. The right to strike, to picket, to meet, to demonstrate is being denied by the armed forces of Roosevelt's reactionary government.

In such a period the tasks of the International Labor Defense are multiplied a hundred fold. The I.L.D. must remove every obstacle in the road to the full realization of its program: to organize and lead mass struggles against fascist terror and in defense of those working class heroes who fall victim to capitalist justice.

JOIN THE I.L.D.

Honor Card

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

Name *H. Marumak* \$3.50
 Organization *Upper Working Party*
 Address *153 Commonwealth Michigan*
 has donated one day's pay for the defense of the twenty men being prosecuted under the Michigan State Criminal-Syndicalism Law.

DAY'S PAY DEFENSE DRIVE

January 15, 1923, to February 15, 1923

Countersigned

.....Br. Secy.

(Seal)

LABOR DEFENSE COUNCIL,
 166 W. Washington St.
 Chicago, Ill.

*Defense work conducted by one of the organizations that came before the I.L.D.
 A valuable example to follow to-day.*

Before the Days of the I.L.D.

By Robert W. Dunn

"When it came to disposing of those who had been arrested in the most summary fashion, and whose homes had been searched without warrant, the usual railroading process was resorted to. Strikers undefended by counsel and permitted to present their own case briefly if at all through an interpreter, were given thirty day terms by the dozen."

This sentence appears in an account of the dramatic strike of 13,500 workers at the plants of the Republic Iron & Steel Co. at Youngstown, Ohio, in 1916.

Heroic strikes of workers in almost every industry in those days often ended with similar descriptions of the inadequacy of proper defense.

Before the days of the I. L. D. even large strikes would often end with the employers getting full vengeance against the workers in the courts. The workers had no national organization to focus attention on their strikes, and the inevitable arrest and persecutions that accompanied them.

Such defense work as there was in those pre-I. L. D. days was of a sporadic and temporary character. A strike would be called by a union, or workers would walk out more or less spontaneously; arrests, brutal beatings by police, sheriffs and company gunmen would follow. Frame-ups were used as they are today. Workers were railroaded to jail for long terms. Often there was little defense or even publicity machinery to back them up.

The picture was, of course, not all dark. If we look over the not too ancient labor history of the United States, we find that workers did throw up hasty organizations to represent them in such emergencies. But they were usually lacking in the national, and especially the international, aspects that the I. L. D. and the International Red Aid have given to such cases in more recent years.

If we review some of the major defense movements and organizations that functioned between 1900 and the birth of the I. L. D., we find that one

of the first nation-wide defense mobilizations was achieved in 1906 at the time of the attempt to frame-up and railroad to the gallows the militant leaders of the Western Federation of Miners, Bill Haywood, C. H. Moyer and George Pettibone. According to Anthony Bimba, in his *History of the American Working Class*, "The I.W.W. immediately issued an appeal to the workers all over the country to come to their rescue. . . . In a short time over \$11,000 was collected for defense purposes. The militant socialists were also very active in the efforts to save the three labor leaders." The trial lasted 84 days, the stool pigeon Harry Orchard, the star witness for the state, was discredited, and the three labor leaders were saved from the gallows largely due to the 'protests of the working class including a "labor jury" which sat during the trial and rendered a verdict of "not guilty."

Another great defense movement that involved the expenditure of several hundred thousand dollars was created when the MacNamara brothers, Schmidt and others faced death in California in 1911 for their activities in organizing the metal and structural iron workers of that state. This movement was betrayed by the compromising policies of Samuel Gompers and the California labor leaders.

Another important strike case created a considerable defense movement, in 1912, when the Lawrence woolen workers went on strike and when Ettor, Giovannitti and Caruso were charged with a murder that was committed by the police agents of the American Woolen Co. The three were finally freed as a result of the emergency movement of defense built up around the strike. In his pamphlet on *The Frame-Up System* (International Pamphlets No. 8), Vern Smith describes the broad defense movement: "Workers donated over \$60,000 to the defense committee which spent most of the money to expose the frame-up, and to rouse opposition to the execution of

Ettor, Caruso and Giovannitti. The defense toured many speakers, distributed tons of leaflets and pamphlets, and supplied news service to about 1,000 newspapers and magazines."

In 1916 with the framing of Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings, special committees sprang up to save these strike leaders.

Protest and demand for the freedom of Mooney reached a high point at the National Labor Congress on the Mooney Case called by the International Workers Defense in January, 1919. A four-day general strike, sabotaged by the A. F. of L. leaders, involved nearly a million workers. The Mooney Defense Committee and the Tom Mooney Molders' Defense Committee were among the special committees set up under Mooney's personal direction to conduct nation-wide publicity on the case, although many other organizations joined in the campaign. Bob Minor was one of the leading spirits in the first Mooney defense committee at the very time when the Socialist Party bureaucracy were charging Mooney with being too militant.

Meantime, during the war, came scores of strikes with the employers directing savage persecutions against workers both in the A. F. of L. and in the independent unions. In the strike on the Mesaba Iron Range in 1916, Carlo Tresca and six others were arrested without warrants and jailed in Duluth, charged with murder. Indictments against Tresca and two others were later dismissed and others received indeterminate sentence. Special defense committees were set up for this case.

Out in the lumber regions of Washington, the Industrial Workers of the World and other unions, trying to organize the workers, were met with the murderous guns of the capitalists. In 1917, after the Everett Massacre of October, 1916, nearly 300 workers were arrested, 74 of them charged with the murder of the gunmen who had assaulted them and who had killed at least five workers. Eleven men were finally charged with murdering undersheriff Jefferson Beard and went on trial, March 5, 1917, in Seattle. A campaign for their defense was headed by the I. W. W.

During the war years at least a thousand members of the I. W. W. were in prison at one time or another, some of them sentenced to long terms. In recent years the I. W. W. defense movement has, of course, declined along with the size and prestige of the organization it was created to help. The I. W. W. as a rule has refused to join any united front with the I. L. D. as in the Harlan, Ky., cases in 1932, and its lying attacks on the Communist Party and the left-wing movement have turned the "wobblies" into a reactionary, sectarian body.

In addition to the organizations above mentioned, the period before the formation of the I. L. D. saw the rise of the

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9 YEARS OF DEFENSE STRUGGLES

By Rose Baron

One of the Founders of the I. L. D.

On June 28, 1925 the International Labor Defense was set up at a national conference in Chicago composed of 78 delegates from trade unions and fraternal organizations and 23 delegates from the existing locals of the Labor Defense Council.

The conference was called by what remained of the Labor Defense Council which had come into being as a result of the Bridgman case and included in its central committee were I.W.W. syndicalists, Eugene Debs, many prominent liberals, clergymen, etc. The growing attacks upon the American workers, the mass arrests, the raids by government agents, the wholesale deportations of militant foreign born workers, the increased ferocity of the attacks upon the Negro people made it clear that the old way of working had outlived its usefulness. It was no longer possible to carry on defense work sporadically, to set up committees that dissolved as soon as the case from which they originated was settled one way or another. The need for a permanent organized mass organization for working class defense became vital.

By October 1926 there were 59 branches of the I.L.D., by November there were 106, by December, 118 and by January 1, 1926, 128. Today there are over 800 branches.

The first district to be established was the New York District. At a conference on July 14, 1925 the Labor Defense Council of New York decided to merge with the I.L.D. and issued the following statement:

"Complying with the principles and organizational ideas underlying the International Labor Defense, the New York section will seek to mobilize the workers of New York City in the trade unions, fraternal organizations, etc., regardless of political affiliation creed or color that all victims of the class struggle may be given the aid essential for carrying on the fight.

The New York Section of the Inter-

national Labor Defense calls on all friends and sympathizers to assist it in building up an organization worthy of the working class victims of the struggle against exploitation and oppression who are incarcerated in the capitalist prisons of the United States and other parts of the world."

The work of the International Labor Defense since June 1925 is a record of the major defense struggles of the American working class. Bill Haywood wrote to the I.L.D. in February 1926:

"Tom Mooney, Warren Billings, Jim McNamara, Matt Schmidt, Sacco and Vanzetti will realize that in the I.L.D. another force has been launched in their support . . . Many of the cases that confront you now could have been averted by the organized strength that you will develop . . . Voices from prison—the graves of living men—will come to thank you for your deeds. Money and lawyers are not the only requirements of legal or real defense. Publicity is your strongest agency, agitation and demonstrations. . . . Members. More members, Get them black, red, brown, yellow and white if they are good enough to work for men behind prison bars and their needy mothers, wives and children.

One who has been placed in jeopardy as I have been, most keenly feels the power of organization. It was to an expression of solidarity on the part of the workers that I owe my life. Their hearts responded to such thrilling messages as that of Eugene V. Debs, "Arouse ye slaves. Their only crime is loyalty to the working class." We, then in prison, imagined we could hear the measured tread of millions of workers; countless voices shouting: They shall not die. . .

There will be strikes of metal miners, lumberjacks, oil workers, coal miners,

agricultural workers, fishermen, textile workers, the men on the range, the packing house workers, the women and children in the cotton mills. Among these millions of heavy laden toilers there will be demands and strikes. The work of the I.L.D. will be to protect the victims of capitalist injustice in these coming struggles. . . .

Yours for a society where prisons will be no longer needed.

BILL HAYWOOD.

The prophetic words of Bill Haywood form an outline of the activity and struggles of the I.L.D. since its birth—not only the cases that were inherited from the frame up justice of the past—Mooney, Billings, Sacco and Vanzetti, Jim McNamara—Centralia—the victims who fell in the relentless march of events—Ziegler, Illinois miners, Passaic silk weavers, Chicago clothing workers, Walter Trumbull and Paul Crouch, Pittsburgh sedition cases, Woodlawn steel workers, Mineola fur workers, Colorado miners, Grecco and Carillo, Pennsylvania coal miners, New Bedford textile workers 662 on trial, Gastonia textile workers, West Virginia and Ohio miners, Imperial Valley, Ralph Gray, Tampa, Fla. tobacco workers, Scottsboro, Herndon, Gallup, New Mexico, Helper Utah miners—defense battles fought by the International Labor Defense. It was possible to carry out these gigantic tasks only because the I.L.D. had the support of thousands upon thousands of workers and farmers outside of its own ranks.

Many of the battles resulted in victory for the working class against the forces of boss class terror and injustice. The list of these victories is long and imposing—Grecco and Carillo acquitted, Salvatore Accorsi, acquitted, the Imperial Valley prisoners free, the Gastonia victims saved from death, the Tampa prisoners free, Trumbull and Crouch liberated, Gallup New Mexico

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Wm. Z. Foster speaking at an I.L.D. picnic in Zeigler, Illinois, May, 1926.

Picket lines during 1931 Penn. Ohio mine strike. The I.L.D. defended arrested miners.



What I.L.D. Districts are doing today

FIGHT AGAINST JIM-CROWISM

By SAM STEIN

(A splendid example of effective mass protest.—Editor's note).

"Is this lady with you?" asked burly Leon Kuenning, pro-Nazi manager of Mills Restaurant, 315 Euclid Ave., pointing at Ada Wright, mother of Roy and Andy Wright, two of the innocent Scottsboro boys.

"Yes," said Leo Gallagher, I.L.D. attorney who is accompanying her on a National Scottsboro-Thaelman tour.

"I'm sorry, we can't serve her."

"You'll serve Mother Wright just as well as you will anyone else," retorted Gallagher, militant attorney, who was present during the Leipsiz trial of the Reichstag frame-up.

"Get the hell out of here," said the neatly dressed manager—thug as he pushed Gallagher and Mother Wright thru the doorway into the street. "Maybe this will keep you out of here," he declared as he showered a barrage of blows on Gallagher. Gallagher, a frail man, defended himself as best he could until Yetta Land and workers passing by dragged the Mills' ruffian away.

Three days later—"Down with Mills' Jim-crow policy! Down with Mills' discrimination against Negro people!" roared 700 Negro and white workers, answering the call of the I.L.D. Cleveland District to demonstrate on April 14, at noon before Mills Restaurant in protest against their vicious race hatred policy. 500 people gathered on Euclid Avenue, Cleveland's shopping center and busiest street and cheered the demonstrators.

A delegation was elected by the demonstrators to enter Mills Restaurant and demand the dismissal of the manager and the end of the Jim-crow policy against the Negro people. Headed by Mrs. Thomas, fiery Negro labor leader of Scovill and Sam Stein, district secretary of Cleveland I.L.D., the delegation presented its demands to the heads of the Mills Co. A lawyer was rushed to the aid of the owners of the restaurant. He attempted to maneuver around by talking about law. Stein cut him short by saying:

"The Ohio General Code No. 12940 makes it an offense to deny anyone service in a restaurant, theatre or public conveyance or any other public establishment because of race or color and the workers massed before the restaurant now are there to see that this law is enforced because the police and mayors are not enforcing the law and further we propose to initiate a campaign to make penalties for violation of the law more severe."

Mrs. Thomas demanded the immediate dismissal of manager Kuen-

ning. "The workers of Cleveland will see that this restaurant is shut tight if you do not end your Jim-crow policy," said Mrs. Thomas.

The bosses' attorney again engaged in much legal talk. The delegation interrupted him and said, "We are going to sit down to eat right now and we are going to have the Negro people get service just like anyone else. If not, we will come out on the street and tell the assembled workers outside that you persist in your Jim-crow policy. They will take such action that will put an end to Jim-crowism by you, once and for all. You will be responsible if they have to do this." The delegation then left the manager's office and went to the tables, sat down and forced the management to give the Negro people exactly the same service as the others received.

Lifted on the shoulders of the workers, Mr. Nalls of the Pauline Preston branch of the I.L.D., spoke to the thousands of workers who lined up both sides of the street, watching the demonstration. He exposed the Jim-crow policy of Mills as part of the boss system to weaken the ranks of the workers by dividing the Negro and white. Word was sent out to the demonstrators of the victory that had been gained by the delegation inside.

Frantic by this display of solidarity by the workers, manager Kuenning shrieked, "We need a Hitler here!" The workers replied, "The working class of this city will drive you out of Cleveland and the German workers under the leadership of the German Communist Party and the Rote Hilfe, our sister organization in Germany, will soon smash your friend Hitler."

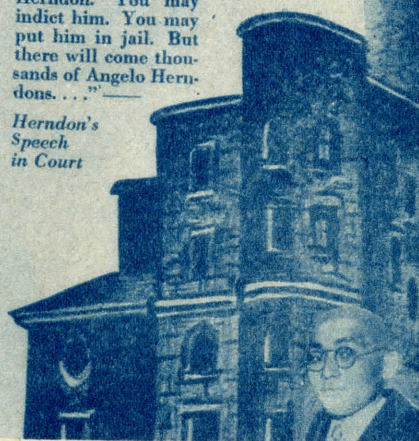
50 dicks and 35 police looked on helplessly as the demonstrators led by the I.L.D. scored this resounding triumph. The delegation left after telling the management that if Kuenning is not fired before the week is out and if Negro workers do not receive service in the future as they did today, a mighty demonstration of tens of thousands will march on Mills Restaurant and see that the owners put up a "VACANT STORE FOR RENT" sign on the establishment.

Following up the demonstration Councilman Leroy Bundy was visited by a delegation of the I.L.D. and he agreed to its demand to bring up in the City Council two resolutions, one calling for a vote of protest by the City Council to Congress demanding that no discrimination be practised in the House of Representatives' Restaurant, and the other calling for the enactment of a city ordinance making the denial of service in any public place, because of race or color, punishable by revocation of license to operate in Cleveland.

"The State of Georgia had me locked up because they know the workers are starving, need relief, and are organizing to get relief. . . ."

"You may do what you will with Angelo Herndon. You may indict him. You may put him in jail. But there will come thousands of Angelo Herndons. . . ."

Herndon's Speech in Court



150,000 of these postcards (with protest resolutions on reverse side) must reach President Roosevelt. Angelo Herndon must be freed. Order postcards from National Office I.L.D.

N. Y. Cops Get Stiff Battle

By JERRY PORPER
Steve Katovis Branch

The International Labor Defense, New York District, along with three other organizations participated in a demonstration demanding the release of Thaelmann and Torgler from Hitler prisons, protesting against the refusal on the part of the city authorities for a parade through Yorkville, which these authorities claimed was Nazi territory and some of the cops proved their alliance by shaking hands with Nazis after they had beaten up the workers.

The meeting of about 4,000 workers was shunted into a side street, where it went on in spite of a terrific down-pour. The police were drenched to the skin which got them even more sore than they might otherwise have been. The meeting was very militant. Slogans "Free Thaelmann and Torgler," filled the air of this so-called Nazi territory. After an hour the committee in charge decided to call the meeting off, telling the workers to proceed to their homes in an orderly fashion. They began to do so. This was too much for the police. And so they decided to break into the homeward bound workers. They began shoving them onto the side walks. The workers resisted this uncalled for interference. The police seeing that they could not break up the compact mass of workers, purposely rode into them on horseback wielding their black jacks and clubs. The workers started shouting, "Down with police brutality—Red Front." The call was taken up by workers who were watching from their windows.

After proceeding for two blocks to Second Avenue and 86th Street right into the stronghold of the New York Nazis, the police were met with reinforcements—about 200 additional police with riot guns. They made a determined effort to break up the crowd.

They were met by a stiff resistance from the demonstrators who were aided by the showers of food and vegetables from the windows. Five workers were arrested and severely beaten. An I.L.D. member then took up the shout "Everybody down to night court. Defend these innocent workers. Let's prevent this frame-up."

About 500 workers answered this call. In the driving rain they marched in solid ranks for three miles to the night court. When they arrived there was a cordon of police around the building. The workers demanded admittance to the court as witnesses. The officer in charge stated, "The judge is not in." "We know he's in," shouted the workers, "and we want to get in too!" More police arrived. The workers were driven to the corner where they organized a picket line. A committee of 10 was elected to see the judge and demand that he admit the witnesses.

The police did not admit them into the building. One policeman was sent in to ask whether the judge would see them or not. The answer was, "No, and besides the courtroom was crowded." Just then some people who came out of the building told the committee the courtroom was empty.

The committee thereupon demanded once more that they be admitted. The police fell upon them and chased them to the corner. They joined the picket

line. 500 voices shouted in unison, "We demand an open court."

After continuing this orderly militant picketing for about 40 minutes, the workers were stopped again by an inspector of police who shouted: "You have no right to picket." "We have a constitutional right to picket," the workers shouted back. "Let 'em have it boys," the cop snarled to his men and 17 workers, 5 of them women, were grabbed and thrown into the waiting patrol wagon.

The pickets were beaten and chased for 2 blocks where they reformed their lines. The workers marched back to the court more militant than ever. "Down with police brutality, we demand an open court." When they reached the court, they were attacked again and 10 more were arrested—8 men and 2 women. The arrested workers shouted from the patrol wagons, "Keep picketing, comrades, red front, solidarity for ever."

The picketing continued. Meanwhile word arrived that even I.L.D. lawyers were being refused admittance to the courtroom.

The judge was forced to adjourn the court for the night!

The picketing continued. Another patrol wagon was backed up against the curb and nine more of the demonstrators were thrown in, including 2 women—making a total of 36.

At 11:30 when the lights in the courthouse went out, the picket line dispersed. The 36 arrested were taken to the 47th street police station, where they were told by a member of the I.L.D. to give no information, answer no other question, but their name and

the address of the district office of the I.L.D.

The workers were herded into 6 by 8 cells, in groups of 3, denied an immediate arraignment in night court. When the girls and women were taken in to be registered, police crowded into the doorway raised their arms in a Nazi salute and sneered, "Heil Hitler." The next day 26 were released, and 10 held for further hearing the following day. The police made a gallant gesture after the I.L.D. lawyers, Shriftman and Fleisher informed the court that the workers hadn't eaten for 20 hours, and permitted the women to go out and eat in the custody of the lawyers. But the women refused—unless everybody went!

On Saturday afternoon when the remaining 10 workers came up for trial, 6 were given suspended sentences, but four got \$25 dollars fine or 3 days in jail. During the process of the trial, the I.L.D. attorney Shriftman was threatened with arrest for trying to bring witnesses into the court, the police lied for all they were worth, describing how gently they had escorted the workers to the patrol wagon, and the judge in magnificent "impartiality," forgot the law and decided that the three days these workers had already spent in the rat infested jail didn't count.

But all this will not stop the workers led by the International Labor Defense from continuing a militant fight against Nazi terror here in New York City and fighting in spite of all police brutality for the freedom of our comrades Thaelmann and Torgler—and winning freedom for them as we did for Dimitrifi, Popoff and Tanev.

GREETINGS

by CARL HACKER—Pgh. Dist.

The Pittsburgh District International Labor Defense sends Revolutionary greetings to the national organization and to the Labor Defender on our ninth anniversary. This, one of the concentration districts, in the heart of steel and coal production, pledges itself during the tenth year of the I.L.D. to firmly root itself in the mines and mills of this district, as well as in the organization as a working class defense or a small beginning toward which has already been made particularly among the miners.

The members of the I.L.D. in this district are beginning to realize more fully the fact that unless the I.L.D. becomes a part of the every-day life and struggles of the workers as a whole it will not be able to fulfill its functions as a working class defense organization. Not until the roots of the I.L.D. are sunk deeply into the trade unions, into the mines and mills will we be able to become a power in the every-day struggles of the workers in this district.

When this has been accomplished the I.L.D. will be able to rally the masses



Terror against workers who demand freedom of Thaelman and Torgler. Police brutality will not stop the fight for their release.

of workers by the tens of thousands in the fight to free Tom Mooney, Billings, McNamara, the Scottsboro boys, Angelo Herndon, Frankfeld, Egan and all class war prisoners. Then the I.L.D. will be able to rally the masses successfully, with other revolutionary organizations in a successful struggle to defeat fascism in the United States. Long live the I.L.D.

I. L. D Leads Defense of Unemployed

By S. K. DAVIS
District Sec'y, I. L. D.

With the end of the CWA program on March 31st, 19,000 former CWA workers in Minneapolis found themselves faced with a substitute known as the RWA, a forced labor scheme. Forced labor had been defeated in Minneapolis before by militant demonstrations. And so, when the Communist-led United Relief Workers Association called for a demonstration before the City Welfare Board, thousands turned out.

The demands were No RWA or any other forced labor schemes, but continuation of the CWA projects at 30 hours per week at a minimum rate of 55 cents an hour; an immediate increase of 40 per cent in relief; no discrimination against Negroes, foreign-born, single in giving work or relief; for passage of Unemployment Insurance Bill HR7598.

The City Welfare Board which met on April 3rd refused to admit an elected committee of 23 from the major CWA projects and locked the doors. One healthy heave of the thousands of workers that packed in front of the doors, and the doors caved in, hurtling a regiment of cops and the committee of 23 into the welfare board chambers. The members of the welfare board fled.

The U. R. W. A. then prepared for a march to the meeting of the City Council of Minneapolis that was to be held on Friday, April 6th, three days later. 8,000 were in the line of march despite screaming threats in the capitalist press that there would be "bloodshed" and warnings that the leaders were well-known Communists. The marchers were joined at the City Hall by 12,000 more workers. The most conservative estimates were that 20,000 massed on two sides of the City Hall Building, while other estimates were as high as 30,000, almost one-third of the adult population of the city.

This time, the committee of 23 that had been locked out of the welfare board rooms, were escorted by a detail of police to the City Council Chambers—only to be trapped. On leaving the Council Chambers where the committee had forced adoption of every one of the demands, they were placed under arrest and jailed, a plan approved by Mayor A. G. Brainbridge and Chief of Police Michael Johannes, the capitalist press reported, and the trial bore this out.

As soon as the committee entered the City Hall Building, the masses of

workers were attacked by tear gas bombs. Their anger expressed itself at this stage in shouts of contempt. Ranks were re-organized quickly and they continued to wait for their committee of 23, in the meantime listening to speakers.

The arrest of the committee of 23 was the signal for a second police attack. This time, in addition to tear gas bombs, tear guns were shot into every part of the crowd, and at the same time flying wedges of police hit right and left at the workers, blinded and choking from the tear gas.

As quick as the tear gas bombs hit the sidewalk, ex-service men and others hurled them back at the police; sidewalks were broken into missiles and a passing coal truck furnished handy defense weapons. At the end of 3 to 4 hours of fighting, 9 cops were in the hospital and others injured; and dozens of workers were rushed to private homes and hospitals for treatment.

Thirty-seven including the committee that went to the City Council were placed under arrest and 20 were sentenced on May 4th. But between 'Tear Gas Friday,' (April 6th) and May 4th, the capitalist class had learned that the workers of Minneapolis not only know how to defend themselves in the streets but also can hold their own in the capitalist-class courts.

The International Labor Defense policy of giving no information to the police was explained and followed by the workers. Warned against stool-pigeons, committees were elected from among the arrested workers to keep the former out of the "bull-pen" where the workers were quartered. Committees were elected to distribute the food and smokes furnished by the I. L. D. and organizations mobilized by the I. L. D. Communications from the imprisoned workers were rushed by automobiles to their families, as no relatives were permitted to see the prisoners. Families of the prisoners were visited and the city welfare board forced to give relief to those in immediate need.

These measures taken by the I. L. D. to care for the immediate concerns of the arrested workers solidified their ranks, and all efforts of the capitalist class agents to get the workers to plead

guilty, to accept lawyers other than those supplied by the International Labor Defense, failed miserably. At one time during the trial, a lawyer was sent in to represent one of the defendants. "I'm sticking with the I.L.D.—I didn't ask for and don't want any other lawyer" the worker announced in court.

David Levinson of Philadelphia, sent to Minneapolis by the national office of the International Labor Defense, was specified by the workers as chief defense counsel.

"The police started a dirty, contemptible job and they want this court to finish it," Levinson fired at the judge, Clyde White. "These workers will march again. As long as there is hunger, there will be demonstrations. These workers should not be on trial, but the police and a system that allows hunger and starvation should be on trial here. These defendants embody the best traditions of this country—they are fighting for the right to live, they refuse to starve quietly."

As militant as was the defense of Levinson, was the defense of the workers themselves. On cross examination, Leo Tuuri, section organizer of the Young Communist League and a CWA worker, startled the prosecuting attorney by declaring in answer to one of the "catch" questions, "Sure I stayed there after the police attacked us. Yes, I spoke to the workers. Yes, I told them to stay. We had a right to stay there and we were fighting for that right."

The author of this article who had led the fight that resulted in the freeing by the International Labor Defense of two Negroes, Hardiman and Johnson, convicted for defending themselves against a lynch mob and who had been active in exposing the courts as tools of the capitalist class, was given 50 days in the work house. Tuuri received 35 days, Halberg 35 days. A worker, Arthur Hazelton was given 90 days because police accused him of throwing a rock, and George Payne who was accused of "Returning" a tear gas bomb defendants were given smaller sentences.

But these same workers led the May Day march despite a warning from the Judge that they are again liable to be arrested, and they will lead another march that is being organized while this article is going to press.



MINERS BUILD THE I. L. D.

"These 'Shines' are swell guys", remarked a grizzled miner. Without being admonished or corrected in the use of this term, he hesitates with a show of embarrassment and hastily adds "I mean these colored workers". "Yessir, he continues, "they scabbed on us once way back but I know the capitalists are the ones who set them agin us. We sure gotta get together to-day."

It is the first day of the convention. Pana, Illinois is in the heart of the coal fields. Like most towns it has been a jim-crow town where a Negro cannot let the sun set on his head overnight.

The arrival of delegates creates a wave of excitement, particularly the Negro delegates. Townspeople come and leave, drinking in this new sight. Even the most backward of them convince you that they instinctively sense this as an integral part, wrapped up with their conditions.

Having seriously discussed their political and economic problems, a local miner suggests that a dance be held in the evening, so every one can become better acquainted. At 8:30 local miners, their wives and young workers join in the square dances, two steps and waltzes,—Negro and white together. There is joy and amazement on the faces of all. They seem intoxicated with a strength embodied in this new found UNITY. The I.L.D. made this possible and they are strong for it. The mines have just announced a shut down for the entire summer. Miners refer to this announcement with a veiled but positive assurance, "We ain't gonna stand it. No work next fall under the same lousy conditions. Yessir' we'll be needin this I.L.D." A miner approaches, he stammers awkwardly, "Say, what do you have to do so you can get in this outfit with you boys?" Another, relieved at the opportunity to voice a similar request, interjects, "Will this I.L.D. help a guy if he's arrested for going on a march?" Assured that we defend all workers in any fight for their rights, he extracts a frayed card and with a horny hand pushes a stub of a pencil over it, noting the address and meeting place of the Pana branch, organized two months and already with a membership of over forty members.



Above: San Francisco dock strikers defy police and continue mass picketing. The I.L.D. calls for nation wide protest on the terror used against these strikers. Below: Mother Mooney and Lucy Parsons place a wreath on the tomb of the Hay-market martyrs.

All the delegates Negro and white, are housed without a hitch. The following morning established a precedent for many. Accustomed to church service as a weekly ritual and break in the monotone of small town drabness, many miss service to be at the meeting. The delegates arise spontaneously to sing the International. Visitors follow in with the tune although they do not know the words. Then to business the air is rent with self-criticism, denunciations, plans, proposals and how to achieve results. Into the shops and mines, the fight against war and fascism etc. etc. A three month plan of work, covering outstanding struggles is unanimously acclaimed. Resolutions on Thaelmann, Scottsboro, Herndon, Mooney, etc., draw such eager "Yeahs" as to make the formality of a vote seem ridiculous.

A resolution pledging our support in defense of arrested miners and addressed to the P.M.A. office is challenged by a P.M.A. delegate, a former president of a local union. He heatedly maintains that the top leaders have betrayed the rank and file, insisting with a determination approaching fierceness "I move that copies be sent to each local instead". Another amends that Womens Auxiliaries be included—unanimous vote.

A delegate representing an A. F. of L. union of over a thousand, hammers out point after point. He urges us

to come to the A. F. of L. locals, that we will find support. His time is up. A miner moves it be extended-unanimous vote. He continues "The American Fakeration of Labor", hearty laughs, "Does not want, it fears mass action they are afraid because that is the only way we workers can better our conditions and win our fights".

A new district committee is elected, composed of miners, steel workers, etc. The secretary of a P.M.A. local is nominated but declines pleading other work. An A.F. of L. delegate nominated gives the same excuse. The miner reconsiders and accepts—applause. The A. F. of L. delegate arises and pledges his support—Applause.

Two rank and file delegates are to be sent to the National Plenum. A Negro worker and the P.M.A. delegate are nominated. Motion to elect by acclamation—both arise. The Hall reverberates with applause, cheers. A lusty yell of appreciation is rendered the womens' auxiliary members who solicited and prepared the food. Another to the local for the contribution of the hall and dining room. A delegation is wanted to present demands to Gov. Horner. Volunteers are asked for. Seven respond, five are chosen, four are A. F. of L. workers.

The P.M.A. secretary asks for the last word with a touched tremulous voice. He extends the Pana workers' pleasure in being privileged to be hosts, and invites them back any time. His mother a grey haired militant woman of sixty and an auxiliary member, interrupts and assumes the right to the last word; because cooking and serving kept her from participating. She assure all, "We're a fine bunch", and adds with emotion, "All I can say is I'm glad I'm an I.L.D. member."

Jersey Courts Exposed

By SAM STRONG
District Secretary, I.L.D.

It took the boss court of Newark, New Jersey, 5 hours to convict 4 young workers on a loitering charge.

A Young Communist League indoor meeting on the CCC camps was banned by the police. The young Communists tried to speak to the workers outside, whereupon they were arrested and charged with loitering.

The I.L.D. immediately began a publicity campaign. A news release was sent out every day for a week on the case. We subpoenaed the Chief of Police McCrell, the Deputy Chief of police Seabold, the County clerk Reichenstein and the License Bureau Head Kelly. We then issued, 1,000 leaflets calling upon the workers to pack the court.

We demanded a jury trial, a constitutional right generally ignored in N. J. This was especially important since (Continued on next Page)



Barbarian prison regime in U.S.A. Short of mules, these Arkansas prisoners are hitched to ploughs. Protests forced an end to this practise.

that court has only had about 4 jury trials in the last twenty years, three of which were I.L.D. cases. The jury was picked. The first panel had a Negro worker on it. He was dismissed by the city. Another Negro was called and he too was dismissed before he even got to his seat. A number of Jewish jurors were also dismissed by the city.

The trial begins. The Chief of Police is called. Every question asked him is objected to by the city attorney and sustained by the judge. The chief left the stand without testifying.

It was obvious that the city was afraid to allow the Chief to answer whether he gave orders to break up Y.C.L. meetings. The Deputy Chief had the same experience. Then the police officers were called. They all testified that there was only a crowd of about 20 at the meeting. None of them could say that anyone was annoyed except for plainclothes officer Harris of the Red Squad. He said that he was annoyed. In the next breath he admitted that he got annoyed very quickly.

The defense proceeded. The first witness was from the City Clerks office. He admitted that there was no law that made it necessary to have a permit for indoor or outdoor meetings. Then came one of the defendants.

He gave a long speech on the purpose of the meeting, accusing the police of causing whatever disturbance there

was. Next came the district Organizer of the I.L.D. who pointed out that the police had broken the law. He made a 10 minute speech on what the I.L.D. was.

The defense then called one of the attorneys to the stand, who testified again that the police were working under orders which were revealed during a telephone conversation between the attorney and deputy chief Seabold. The other defendants were put on the stand and told of their experiences in the CCC camps, and also stated openly that the police were the guilty ones and not they.

The jury was out an hour and three quarters. They finally came in with a verdict of guilty. The defendants were sentenced to 44 days in jail each. The verdict was expected because this is a boss court. The thing about this trial was that every working class issue was brought out with the greatest clarity. It was obvious to everyone that these young workers were being tried and sentenced merely because they were fighting against war. This case although the police tried to make it seem trivial, was made into a burning example of boss class justice. These young workers went to jail, but they know that the workers under the leadership of the I.L.D. gave the courts the best fight possible. We must carry on the fight for workers rights, right in the court room. BUILD THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE!

Victory by Mass Defense

Fighting fascist tendencies in the U. S. A. —This Anti-Nazi demonstrator gives N. Y. police a taste of militant resistance.

By M. STERN
District Organizer, I.L.D.

Four thousand Knit Goods workers organized under the A. F. of L. went on strike. These workers went out after desperate efforts on the part of the bosses in collaboration with the NRA Labor Board and the national officials of the U.T.W. to split the ranks and behead the strike even before it started. Failing to keep the workers from struggle, the bosses organized a reign of terror.

Armed with strike defense experience and with determination to avoid all past mistakes, we told the strikers from the very start that we are not a legal aid society, neither are we a bailing bureau. We told them that we do not offer free legal services, that our attorneys will have to get remuneration. They were informed that they alone will have to stand legal costs, that we have no funds to offer them.

On the other hand we gave them our full cooperation, and placed at their disposal our 9 years of experience defending the victims of the battle between labor and capital, that we have no illusions about court justice and that we come to organize their mass defense and legal defense, the former being a thousand times more powerful

than the latter, that our legal staff is composed of attorneys trained in the defense of the workers and tried in the battles for the rights of the workers. We come to teach them self defense and the legal trickery that will be used against them, we come to organize their defense, but the main defense will have to be carried on in the same militant manner in which they carry on the strike. We were accepted.

We immediately set out to organize the defense. First a central defense committee was elected. A leaflet on what to do when arrested was issued. I.L.D. and defense members spoke on this subject at all mass meetings of the strikers. As the strike spread, we had defense captains elected in each shop. The central defense committee along with the shop captains composed the General Defense Committee.

Next we began to conduct classes in self defense. These classes were in the forms of lectures, questions and answers, and mock trials. In the mock trials we exposed the role of the courts and the police. We dramatized mass defense by means of the above. At the very first mass arrest, 300 strikers marched from the picket line to the police station under the leadership of a union defense captain (his first experience in defense work and in the class struggle). Over 100 crowded into the court. The rest picketed the station. The hearing is most dramatic. Police are jeered down by the workers. Our lawyer is greeted with cheers. Witnesses get encouragement from all sides. The magistrate shouts for order. He threatens to clear the Court. He does not dare.

A striker takes the stand in self-defense. She speaks courageously. She feels the strength of the masses in the Court. She tells why she is on strike; conditions before the strike; police attacks; clubbings; workers defend themselves. The crowd cheers. Hundreds of workers on the outside echo the cheering with slogans. They demand the release of their comrades. The strikers inside join in.

Solidarity vibrates in the air. What mass defense! What self defense! Complete victory inside the court. Four flat tires for the police car outside the court. Out of thirty seven arrested, all but two are completely freed and the two were placed under low bail and even they were permitted to sign their own bail. All walked out together.

This first demonstration of mass and self defense tremendously effected all the strikers. Every mass arrest after that was followed by mass defense. Workers just naturally marched upon the police stations—always with great effects.

Anyone who has doubts about the class character of the American courts, anyone who has no faith in the effectiveness of mass and self defense those who question the correctness of the I.L.D. defense policies just tell him about the Knit Goods Workers strike.

Steel, Marine, Aero Strikers Freed

By GEORGE HART
District Secretary of the I.L.D.

In the last few months, many strikes took place in Buffalo in the basic industries, such as steel, marine, etc. Naturally, as in any struggle, a number of arrests took place on the picket line and during demonstrations. The same situations prevailed here as most other places, namely, that the workers still in many instances, are under the illusion that the courts are not part and parcel of the ruling class, but that judges, officials, etc., are trying to be fair in their positions, and as a consequence of this, the I.L.D. was looked upon as merely a legal aid society which has fulfilled its function when it hired attorneys and collected a sufficient amount of money in order to pay them.

The first one of the recent strikes broke out at the North Buffalo Foundry Company under the leadership of the STEEL and METAL WORKERS INDUSTRIAL UNION. A representative of the I.L.D. spoke at one of the very first strike meetings explaining to the workers the role of the I.L.D., urging them to select a defense committee and to resist any attempt of the police to smash the picket line.

As this was the beginning of the strike, many workers still were under the impression that the police was merely on the strike scene to prevent "disorders," and to keep law and peace. One of the very first proposals made by the I.L.D. was to send a joint committee to the Police Commissioner demanding the withdrawal of the police from the strike zone on the grounds that their presence would only tend to create disorder. The proposal was carried through. A joint committee representing the union and the I.L.D. went to the Police Commissioner but received only half promises and the assurance that the police was a neutral body. A few days later, when the company tried to import scabs on a wholesale basis, the strikers naturally tried to prevent those scabs from entering the plant. The illusion of police neutrality was destroyed and the Police Commissioner's statement exposed for what it was worth when tear gas and clubs were used in the approved fashion of thugs. In a few days, six strikers were arrested and charged with various offenses such as assault, disorderly conduct, etc. A protest meeting, called at that time by the strikers defense committee and the I.L.D. in the strike zone, was attended by an overflow crowd which unanimously sent protests to the city officials demanding the withdrawal of the charges of those arrested. Those present at the meeting were also urged to come out onto the picket line

and lend their whole-hearted support in every feasible manner to the strike.

The trials of those six started after the strike had been successfully terminated. The first to face the court was one of the strikers' wives, charged with intimidating scabs, throwing of stones at the cab, etc. The I.L.D. attorney won the demand for a jury. A general leaflet was issued and also calls sent to the locals to attend en masse. The local press carried its usual lying propaganda of: "trouble can be expected and special police was detached to watch the court room." Nevertheless, the court room was packed with workers. The attorney, at the instructions of the I.L.D. did not take subterfuge to the usual legal loop-holes, but through a specially prepared questionnaire to the prospective jury men immediately brought out sharply that this was no ordinary criminal case, but one of class against class. Some of the questions follow:

1. Are you a strike breaker?
2. Are you related to a strike breaker?
3. Do you believe in a strike as a right in the hands of workers to force the payment of higher wages to better living conditions?
4. Do you believe the word of a policeman against the testimony of a striker?
5. Do you believe that only through strikes, owners of industries can be forced to pay a living wage, etc.

A motion was made by the defense, and of course denied by the court, for a dismissal of the charges on the grounds that, according to law no jury man could have property or other possessions exceeding the value of \$250. on the grounds that if he did, his interests would conflict with the interests of the defendant and the defendant would not be tried by a jury of his or her peers.

During the course of the trial, time and time again, the judge was forced to align himself clearly with the police and with the company, such as when he denied the defense to call more witnesses on the stand, which of course, constituted a direct violation of his jurisdiction. The prosecutor, seeing the complete exposure of the frame-up nature of the trial, tried to bring in the Red Scare by referring to the I.L.D. leaflet, of which he had a copy, as Communistic propaganda, and pointing to the workers in the court room, characterized them as "individuals ready for violence at any time." The effect was exactly opposite of what the prosecutor hoped it to be. The jury, composed mainly of small businessmen, looking over the workers and seeing



Unemployed marine workers march on Washington protesting closing of their relief station. The I.L.D. defends their right to protest and to fight for adequate relief.



Ladies First seems to be the motto of U. S. police force, especially when the women are pickets.



Los Angeles CWA protest demonstration.

their determination, decided it best to acquit the defendant in record time.

The following trials were pretty well a repetition of the first one. The workers crowded the court room at the call of the I.L.D., and juries brought in verdicts of acquittal precisely on the basis of the sentiment behind those on trial. The resulting arrests in the Marine and the Aeronautical strikes had the same results. Of the 11 arrests, 11 were acquitted or dismissed.

The lessons of the trials in Buffalo should again emphasize the fact to all workers that mass defense is the only effective weapon when in the clutches of capitalist law, and the only organization which is following this policy is the INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE.

Facing the Future

By Wm. L. PATTERSON

The I.L.D. after nine years of struggle, during which it has become one of the best known and most popular of working class organizations, finds itself faced today with tremendous tasks placed upon it by the sharpening of the class struggle and the increasing ferocity with which the capitalist class seeks to defeat the struggles of the workers. Despite its mass influence the I.L.D. is today after nine years of growth still organizationally small and not fully equipped to cope with the growing terror and the developing fascist tendencies in the United States.

The anniversary of the day on which the I.L.D. came into being through the realization that the defense struggles of the workers are an inseparable part of their general struggles against capitalism,—June 28, 1934—must become a day of mass celebrations and struggles in which the entire revolutionary movement participates. The tasks and duties of the I.L.D. grow out of the daily activities of the entire working class, organized and unorganized, employed and unemployed—and this day should become a successful display of the strength of the defense arm of the working class.

The I.L.D. will celebrate its anniversary by making of June 28th a series of mass actions and demonstrations of solidarity with all class war prisoners and their families; a day of struggle against capitalist terror; a day of demonstrations before prisons and state officials demanding release of all class war prisoners and recognition of their status as political prisoners while they remain in prison; a day of struggle in defense of the rights of the Negro people; a day of solidarity with the oppressed and persecuted toilers throughout the world. Why is this the most fitting manner in which the International Labor Defense can celebrate its anniversary?

If we examine the defense struggles of the working class out of which the I.L.D. developed, if we examine the lengths to which the bosses go to behead the workers' struggles and the use to which they put their courts as instruments of the oppression of the masses, if we realize that no important struggle of the oppressed has ever taken place without calling forth the terror of the class enemy, we see at once the necessity for permanent, organized mass defense of the toiling masses such as the I.L.D. stands for.

Workers have always recognized the necessity for organized defense. Every major labor case in American history saw defense committees and organizations spring up all over the country. But they were all hampered by the same difficulties. No national defense organization capable of swiftly mobiliz-

ing mass support for the defendants. No unified clear cut program of action based on the conscious policy of organizing MASS PRESSURE UPON THE COURTS AS TOOLS OF THE CLASS ENEMY.

These committees confined their activities to raising defense funds, passing resolutions, and left the fighting of the case on purely legal grounds to the expensive lawyers in the courtroom. When the verdict was delivered, the committees disbanded. Other pages of this issue of the Labor Defender tell the stories of these committees in such cases as Moyer Heywood and Pettibone, McNamara Brothers and others.

The defense of Mooney and Billings marked the first departure of the narrow conception of defense struggles. But even though here, in a case where the issues were so vital and far reaching, where mass protest demonstrations were held on a national and international scale, demonstrations which saved Mooney and Billings from certain death, even though the basic conceptions concerning the courts and the struggles of workers against capitalist class justice began to be clarified for the first time, here again the defense suffered because it was in the hands of scattered, diverse and loosely built defense committees.

The Sacco Vanzetti case, however,

CONGRATULATIONS AND FRATERNAL GREETINGS
to the American Section of the International Labour Defence on its ninth Anniversary.

During these nine years the I.L.D. in the U.S.A. has proved itself an indispensable and invincible defender for the class war fighters of the whole world.

The magnificent campaigns for Sacco and Vanzetti, The Mooney Defence, The Gastonia actions, the defence of the Negro boys of Scottsboro, your part in the great and successful campaign for the release of Dimitrov and other comrades, for the defence of the valient working class fighters of Austria, your fight for freedom and humane rights for the dispossessed in U.S.A. colonies, and the development of the I.L.D. press, literature, legal and financial aid to class war prisoners, places the American section of the I.L.D. in the front of the fighting sections of the great world organization which guarantees that the fighters against capitalism in every land and clime shall be sustained and ever remembered.

Long Live the International Labour Defence (American section) as the shield and defender of the World's revolutionary fighters!

Yours fraternally,
HARRY POLLITT
Communist Party of Great Britain

crystallized the militant defense program adopted by the International Labor Defense. The two basic conceptions of defense clashed fiercely in this case: The conception that courts are impartial agencies, that mass pressure is likely to antagonize them and hamper all the supposed advantages of bourgeois legalism; and the other conception which holds that the courts are instruments in the hands of the ruling class the very bourgeois legalism concealing the class nature of the courts. Therefore militant mass activity, mass pressure is the determining factor in the outcome of cases involving militant workers or members of an oppressed nationality.

The I.L.D. realized the necessity of permanent organization, of a large individual membership organized into branches and territorial divisions which can be speedily mobilized into action on local, national and international issues.

The program of the I.L.D. today is a program of struggle for workers' and farmer's rights and for the rights of the Negro people, of mobilizing the masses for struggle in defense of rights they have won through the years of struggle—the right to organize, strike and picket—rights supposedly guaranteed them by the Constitution.

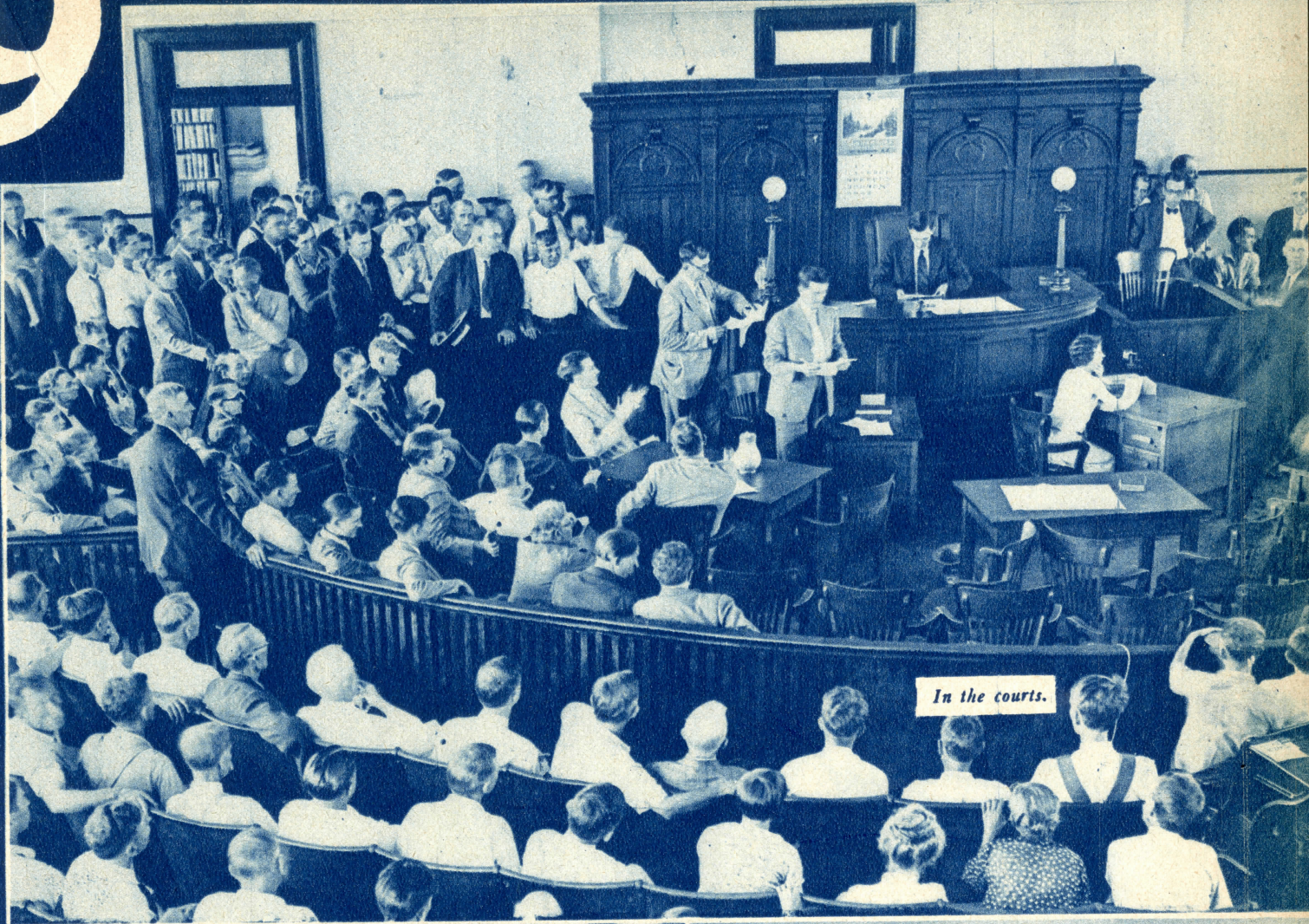
By virtue of this program the I.L.D. becomes one of the most important factors in the struggle against fascism and developing fascist tendencies. Fascism means throwing aside the veil of democracy, by further curtailing the supposedly guaranteed democratic and constitutional rights of the working class. By waging struggles in defense of these rights the I.L.D. helps prepare the masses for the most stubborn resistance to fascist encroachments upon these rights.

By its international solidarity program with the victims of fascism the world over, by organizing material and moral aid for these victims the I.L.D. furthers the international struggle against fascism. In the course of all its work the I.L.D. wages a sharp struggle against reformists and social fascists, exposing their splitting tactics, their refusal to enter into united front defense activities, their true role as assistants to the ruling class.

Because of this fundamental nature of its program and policies it is fitting that the International Labor Defense celebrate its ninth anniversary with a day of struggle, that will demonstrate its strength and power as the defense arm of the working class. This day will not only sum up its past, but will be a ringing promise of its future—a future pledged to more intensive activity in defense of all victims of the class struggle, for the freedom of all class war prisoners, for the defense of basic rights, for a relentless battle against every agency of ruling class justice for just so long as these agencies continue to rule by terror, force, and violence.

9 YEARS OF THE I.L.D.

YEARS IN PHOTOGRAPHS



In the courts.



In the jails.



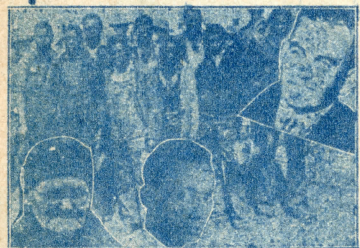
On the streets.



This historical picture shows Tom and Rena Mooney on a roof watching the July 22nd, preparedness parade, miles away from the scene of the bombing for which they were framed. It was barred as evidence at the trial.

Tom Mooney's mother and Richard B. Moore
 Speaker and Organizer
 of The International Labor Defense
WILL SPEAK AT

Public
 Mass
 Meeting



NEGRO ELKS' HALL
 24th and Lake St.
JUNE 26th 3 P. M.



Above is picture of the 9 Scottsboro Boys, Tom Mooney, Mooney's Mother and Richard B. Moore.

Tom Mooney has been rotting in jail almost 16 years on a framed up charge and perjured evidence which has since been repudiated. He is innocent and **MUST BE FREED.**



I hail you from the cell into which I was cast fifteen years ago the victim of a frame-up instigated by California corporations seeking to halt my activities as a militant labor organizer.

And through The Labor Defender I greet all my friends and comrades affiliated with the I. L. D.

Fraternally,

Tom Mooney
 TOM MOONEY
 31921
 3921

**Stop the Murder of Innocent Children!
 Save the Nine Scottsboro Negro Boys from the Electric Chair!
 They Appeal to You—What is Your Answer?**

Workers of New York!
 On Thursday, January 21st the appeal of the Nine Scottsboro Negro Boys will be heard before the Alabama Court.
 These boys were sentenced to die on framed-up charges of rape last April as the result of a campaign of terror among the Negro masses of this country, by the white ruling class.
 The mass protest under the leadership of the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights has prevented the bosses from carrying into effect their plans for a wholesale legal lynching. Hundreds of protests, demonstrations and thousands of telegrams of protest coming from all sections of the world have stopped the lynchers and will continue to stop them.
 The International Labor Defense, the leader of the defense struggles of the whole working class from the first day championed the cause of these nine boys. It has sent its lawyers to give them all the legal assistance possible, but **LEGAL DEFENSE ALONE WILL NOT SAVE THEM IT IS THE MASS PROTESTS THAT MUST ROUSE THE WHOLE PO-**

Scottsboro demonstration before the U. S. Supreme Court that won a second trial for the boys.

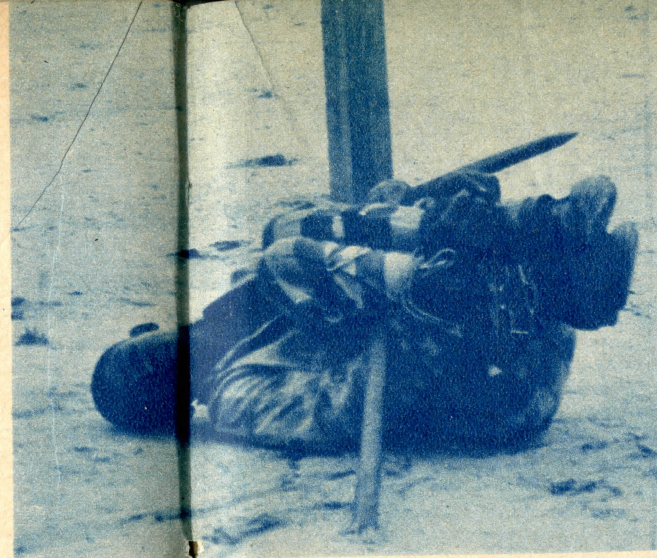


*I appreciate you who appreciate and approve the solidarity and have been so long with all.
 If I should so much is because I was in because to write to you on account of our different views on very delicate and important matters which I would, or rather, which I shall not do. But the last sitting of the Mass. State Supreme Court does not give me time enough, nor breath enough to discuss things. They are preparing the fire on which to burn us alive. Only the revolutionary work the people, can give us help and freedom. I need the advice and because I felt even the duty, much so that it only remain to me to say that I appreciate your solidarity to me and to the other 8, and that I am and will remain till to the death, for the emancipation of the workers, for the abolition of every oppression, exploitation and injustice.
 Fraternally yours, Barto your changed*

August 23, 1927
SACCO AND VANZETTI
 Have Been
MURDERED
 By The
CAPITALIST CLASS
THE WORKING CLASS
 Will Always
REMEMBER
 And Will
ORGANIZE
 And
FIGHT
 Till The
WORKING CLASS
RULES AMERICA
AND THE
WORLD
 International
 Labor
 Defense



**1100 STRIKING
COAL MINERS
JAILED
I.L.D. MUST
DEFEND THEM**

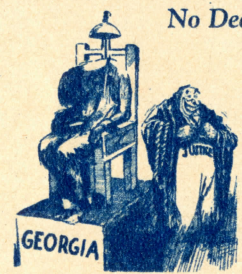


Negro Workers! White Workers!
Organize and Fight Against Lynching!

A horrible and bloody wave of lynching terror is sweeping over the United States from Georgia to Texas, through Kentucky, North and South

Save Them from the Electric Chair!

No Death Sentence! No Prison Term!



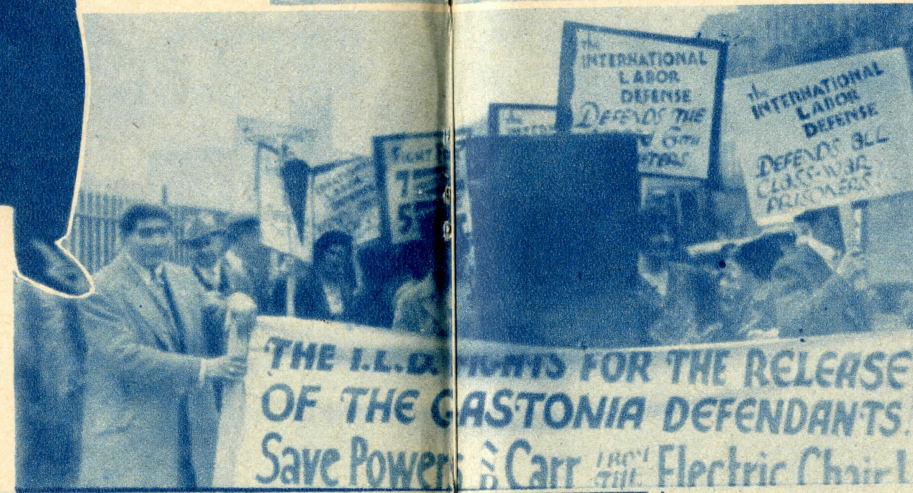
THE SIX ATLANTA VICTIMS of boss class persecution who are being railroaded to DEATH by the capitalist interests of the South because they were organizing Negro and white workers into industrial unions. THE RIGHT OF THE WORKERS TO ORGANIZE IS AT STAKE!

FIGHT FOR THE IMMEDIATE UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE

of FOSTER, MINOR, AMTER, RAYMOND who are in jail because they demanded "work or wages" for the millions of jobless,

and THE SIX IMPERIAL VALLEY ORGANIZERS serving sentences of 42 years for leading a strike of agricultural workers in the Imperial Valley. DEFEND THE RIGHT OF THE WORKERS TO STRIKE!

Again:
The Electric Chair!



Working for the union and I am also doing all I can for the I.L.D. and I will continue until it is through and if you are a worker we want you too for we are going to have a union inst. of what the boss says

The I.L.D. fights against lynch terror; defends the rights of Negro people to full political, social and economic equality, and demands the enforcement of the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

More militant demonstrations than ever before are needed to save the Scottsboro Boys from the Alabama lynchers.

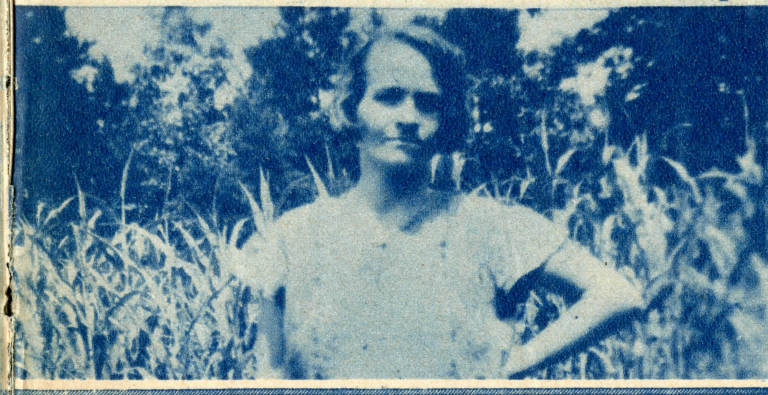
GASTONIA LABOR DEFENDER

Issued and Circulated by the Gastonia Workers Defense Committee—Section of the International Labor Defense)

Defend the Organizers & Members of the Nat'l Textile Workers Union

a striker Ella May.

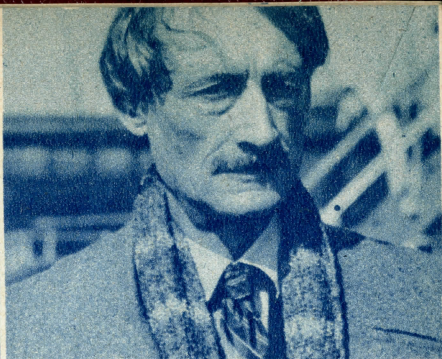
Bessemer city ne.



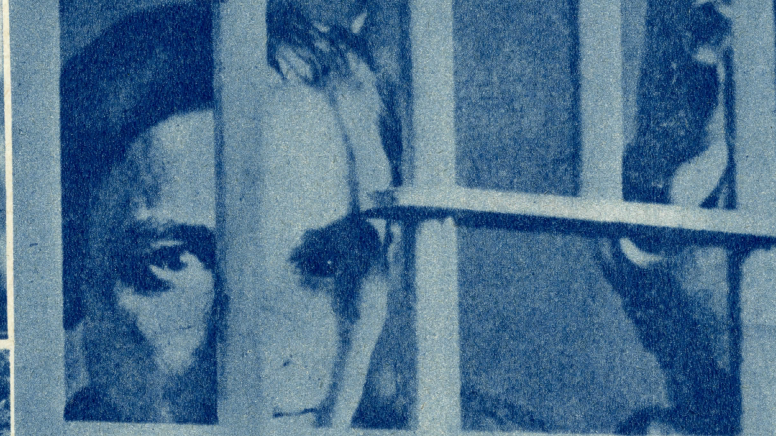
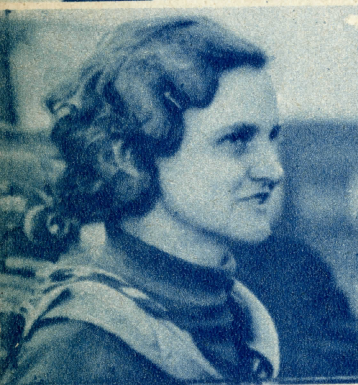
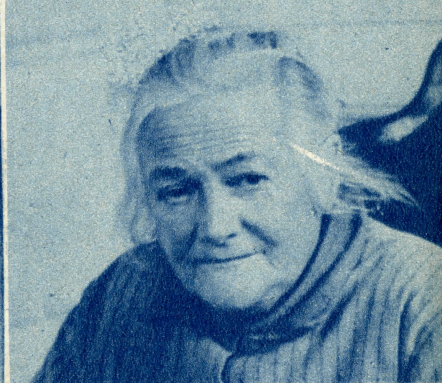
**THEY ASK FOR BREAD
THE COAL BARONS ANSWER WITH BULLETS**

84 KENTUCKY MINERS ARE FRAMED ON MURDER CHARGES
100 KENTUCKY MINERS ARE FRAMED ON CHARGES OF BANDING AND CONFEDERATING AND CRIMINAL SYNDICALISM
500 HARLAN, KENTUCKY PRISONERS' WIVES AND CHILDREN ARE STARVING TO DEATH.
YOU CAN SAVE THEM!

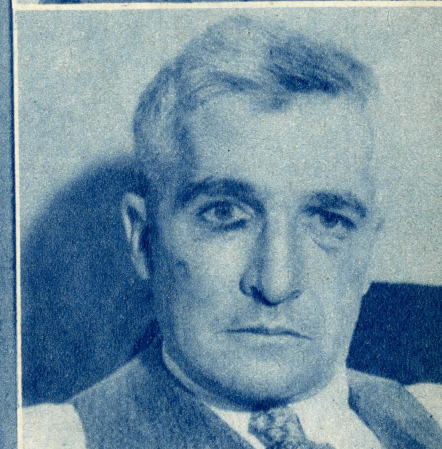




DO YOU KNOW

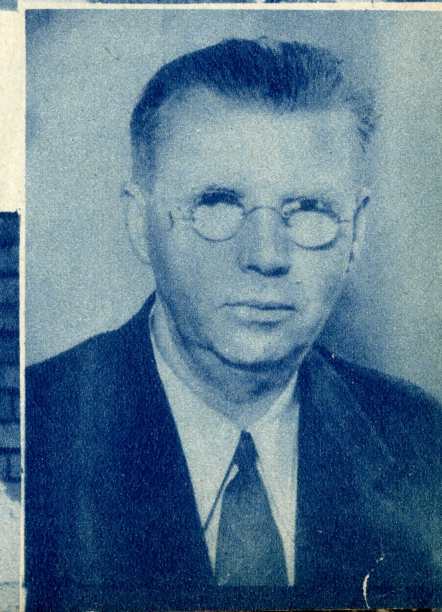
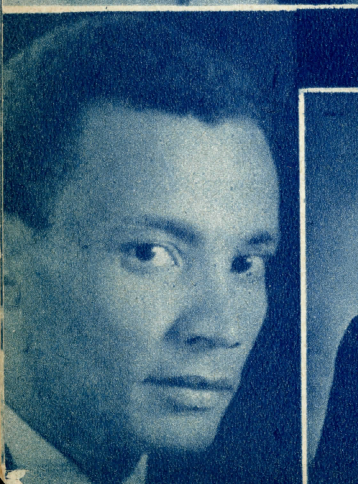


WHAT INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE MEANS to WORKERS?



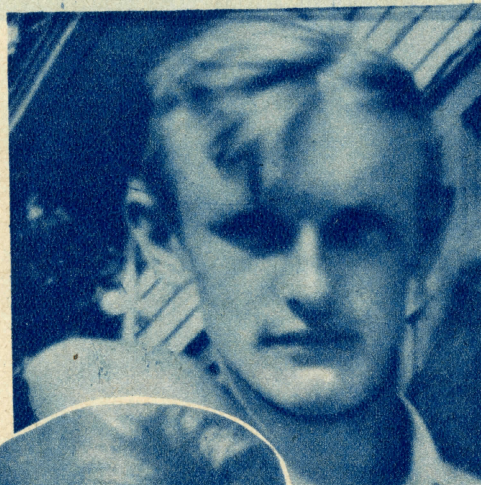
One of the first leaflets issued by the I.L.D.

Personalities involved in I.L.D. work during the last nine years: (reading from top left, down and around) Wm. L. Patterson, Ann Burlak, Robert Minor, Edith Berkman, Richard B. Moore, Mother Bloor, Rose Baron, Ada Wright, J. Louis Engdahl, Leo Gallagher (black eye by the Los Angeles Red Squad), Tom Mann, Clara Zetkin, Henri Barbusse, Wm. Z. Foster, Helena Stassova.



Heroes Who Lost Their Lives In the Class War

JOE YORK, murdered by Henry Ford together with 3 other workers who marched on the Ford plant demanding their rights.



EUGENE V. DEBS, who spent many years in jail for defending workers' rights and who was one of the pioneers in pre-ILD defense work.



The Labor Defender honors the memory of RALPH GRAY and the hundreds of innocent Negro toilers, lynched and murdered on the chain gangs by the Southern white ruling class.

BILL HAYWOOD, who died in the Soviet Union, a political exile from the United States.



WESLEY EVEREST, lynched by the American Legion and the lumber barons of the Northwest. He defended workers' headquarters against a provocative attack.



Remember Our Working Class Martyr

Steve Katovis

Only where the workers rule we find justice for the working class: In the Soviet Union workers are their own judges. Men and women from the factories and farms are elected by their fellow citizens to try those who have committed any offense.



Below: This letter was written in Siberia in March 1914, by Helena Stassova (now head of the IRA) to American workers who sent her 30 roubles as prisoners' relief for victims of Tsarist terror.



YEARS OF STRUGGLE



By MOTHER BLOOR

It would take volumes to contain the many important stories that must be written about the outstanding activities of the ILD, activities in which I participated for many years.

The Sacco Vanzetti case. The seven year fight for the lives of these two workers established the fact that the urgent demand of the ILD for many demonstrations, mass-pressure, and world-wide agitation is the only correct policy for workers defense.

The Boston local defense, fought this policy and continually sabotaged the ILD, which entered the case in 1926, in its determination to publicize the defense by mass demonstrations.

Finally, when we determined, during those last days, to picket the state capitol, to call upon workers all over the world to demonstrate, the response revealed the tremendous solidarity of the working class for these men.

But it was too late. Gov. Fuller and his gang were determined to go through with the murder. The day of the execution I represented the National Office of the ILD in Boston, and together with the Boston branch we organized constant streams of pickets before the State House. 160 were arrested.

In the evening we held two mass meetings in small halls, being denied the use of larger ones. The crowds outside were surrounded by armed thugs. The ILD lawyer came to me and urged that I address the crowds from the window. As I said the first words, "Comrades, we stand in the shadow of death tonight," there was solemn silence. "Let us try to think the thoughts they would have us think. Let us act as they would have us act. Let us all get together with out regard to nation, creed or color . . ." A thug in the crowd called out, "You'd better go back to Russia where you came from."

A woman answered back. "She can't go back anywhere. She's an American. Her ancestors were in the Boston Tea Party." Then 7 of the police thugs came up and arrested me, charging that I was inciting to riot. As I had been in the jail once before that day and we were all so emotionally wrought up about the impending death of our comrades, it was hard to face the last hour with Sacco and Vanzetti's country men and comrades. We tried, however, with all our strength to keep them brave.

The following winter seven of us were tried by a Boston jury and after a week in court a verdict was given of "not guilty," probably due to our propaganda.

In the long bitterly fought strikes of the Penn, Ohio and Colorado miners the I.L.D. had to defend hundreds of miners. To raise money for the defense we held conferences in many cities. We would move into a town, stay for two or three months, organize strong union groups together with other

organizations. Coal miners would go with us and tell the story of the strike, raising thousands of dollars. In the Colorado strike, Milka Sablich of Denver, "Flaming Milka," we called her, made a long trip through the country with me, half of our collections going for the defense and relief of Penn—Ohio strikers, and half for the Colorado miners. We spent the long 17 months of the Passaic Textile strike in the same way—building defense, united front conferences in many large cities.

The Gastonia defense is impressed on all our minds, but many do not know that after the trials were over I was sent to every large city of the South from N. Carolina to Texas, New Orleans, then back to Arizona and California not only to help the textile workers to get together again but also to publish everywhere the facts of their case. This was one of the longest trips I ever made for the I.L.D.

In writing these few memories I must mention some of the most faithful workers of those days. Rose Baron with hundreds of cases in New York, Edgar Owens in California (now living in the Soviet Union), J. Louis Engdahl who died in the struggle for the Scottsboro boys. Comrade Engdahl in his fight against race discrimination won many to our cause everywhere.

We shall never forget the 4th National Convention of the I.L.D. held in Pittsburgh, when, having had our colored delegates excluded from the Mononghela Hotel, Comrade Engdahl took the whole convention to the hotel and conducted a wonderful meeting in the lobby. Robert Minor and many others made ringing speeches. One of us pointed out that this hotel had been noted for the fact that Abraham Lincoln once slept in one of its rooms and that room at least should be reserved for colored guests. Then we took all the white guests and our delegates out and we marched back to the hall. The press gave much publicity making it hard for that historic hotel to live it down.

As I think back over the years and the thousands of miles covered in my work as an Organizer of the I.L.D., myriads of miners, textile workers, needle trades workers, strikers—thousands and thousands—come to my mind. I visualize New Bedford, Lawrence, Gastonia, Paterson, Passaic, Southern Illinois, Indiana, Ohio—unemployed fighters of Seattle and San Francisco—all kinds and conditions of workers and farmers—all depending upon us for Defense and Protection. We must not fail these fighters, our defenders, those who go to the front.

In the days to come the memories of our struggles and those who led those struggles will help us, days when all our forces must be united to wage the coming battles of our class.

To this end we must build a stronger shield, a stronger Labor Defense.



Спиридонова Леонъ Троцкий Александра Колонтай
Луначарский Николай Ленинъ Каменевъ
Крыленко

This post card was sold many years ago to raise relief for the political prisoners pictured on it. They were exiled to Siberia by Tsarist courts. They are: Trotsky, Spiridonova, Kollontai, Lenin, Lunacharsky, Kamenev, Krylenko.



Class War Mother's Day

By MARGUERITE YOUNG

Every year on Mother's Day sabers flash in Arlington. The military cemetery is full of flags. Mothers silently wreath the marble tomb of the Unknown Soldier on the green hill sloping down to the Potomac, and while young men in uniform for another war stand by, statesmen venerate the mothers whose sons were slain in the "war to end war."

This year another kind of War Mother found a place in the scene. The Class-War Mothers.

The Scottsboro Mothers, five Negro mothers of the Scottsboro Boys, to see President Roosevelt. One was too ill to leave her bed in Washington, four proceeded with the accompanying delegation to the White House. There were no flags or fifes, but there were soldiers in uniform with them, and a Gold Star mother. Also a famous coloratura soprano, Madame Lillian Evanti, who but a short time ago sang in the White House at the invitation of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt; as well as Negro and white civic, social welfare, and religious leaders.

They walked to the gate at the head of the steps leading to the plaza fronting the White House executive offices. Uniformed White House police met them. The President was "not in."

The President was yachting. For two weeks the Scottsboro Mothers had been requesting this Mother's Day interview, by letter, telegram and telephone call. They had appealed to Mrs. Roosevelt as well as to the President. Only the day before this, they had received a terse telegram, declaring that the Scottsboro Case was under the jurisdiction of the state of Alabama. They came on, for they had traveled hundreds of miles, these five—

Josephine Powell, mother of Ozzie, Mamie Williams, mother of Eugene, Janie Patterson, mother of Heywood, Ida Norris, mother of Clarence, Viola Montgomery, mother of Olen. The sons of the first two are just sixteen now, the others are twenty; all were three years younger when they were jailed on the terrible charge.

Again the next day they returned to the White House. This time President Roosevelt sent word his secretary would receive them. But only the mothers and Richard Moore of the International Labor Defense! Not Ruby Bates, the white girl whose conscience compels her to work for the freedom of these boys because she knows that they are innocent. Not Mrs. Mary Craik Speed, Alabama Colonial Dame who is a political exile from Alabama because she spoke out against the oppression of the Scottsboro boys and the Negro people. Not the white Quaker and Negro Young Women's Christian Association club leaders. No one but the Negro mothers and their spokesman.

So the Committee waited outside. Marvin H. McIntyre, the Roosevelt secretary, is a tight-lipped man who can snarl as well as smile. He comes out to the mothers who are kept waiting in the lobby. He stands on the rich green carpet. They stand around him in their simple cotton dresses, and they speak:—

Mother Patterson: "I'm Heywood's mother. I'm sorry I can't see the President because I wanted to tell him, 'Give me Heywood so my mind won't go unbalanced.' I wanted to tell him—

Secretary CcIntyre: "That's all right, I sympathize with you."

Mother Williams: "I come over a thousand miles to see the President. I'm sorry he won't see us because our nine boys has been in jail three years—innocent. All of them is fatherless excepting one, that's Heywood. They went off to hunt for work and got framed up like that. The I. L. D. and we mothers and lots and lots of working people is doing all they can—won't the President do his part?"

Mother Montgomery: "My boy was going blind. He left home to go to a hospital in Memphis to try to get his eyes treated. He is innocent, too. I come to ask the President to do what he can to stop the torture of my boy and the other innocent boys."

Secretary McIntyre: "It isn't the President's business; it's the business of the state of Alabama."

Richard Moore speaks. He declares the hypocrisy of the White House dictum that the case is in the hands of

Alabama. If we must bide by that precious principle of precedent, did not Woodrow Wilson intervene on behalf of Tom Mooney following workers' demonstrations that caused the diplomatic telegraph wires to burn from Moscow to Washington? Has not President Roosevelt himself crossed state jurisdiction to recommend laws to protect the children of wealth from kidnapping? (Laws which incidentally hold a threat to all labor organizations.) Did not the President close state banks when bankers were confronted by depositors clamoring for their savings? But the Scottsboro Mothers ask him to speak and to do everything in his power! As their petition says, "Your word, Mr. President, would have great weight throughout the land. Millions of people in America and other countries have already raised their voices in protest. Will you not, as President of the United States, speak and do everything in your power to free our wronged and tortured boys?"

Fundamentally, Moore argues, "The President is supposed to look out for the welfare of the people. He is not only authorized, he is duty bound to take steps to enforce the constitutional rights of life and liberty when they are trampled in the states. And the Scottsboro case involves not only the lives of nine innocent boys, but the constitutional rights of 13,000,000 oppressed Negroes, the rights of all the down-trodden people of this country, white as well as black."

The President's Secretary cogitates; advises, "Send me some documents."

Mother Williams looks at him, her eyes importunate.

"You is some woman's son," she pleads. "You—" She was going to ask him if he could imagine how his mother would feel if it were he facing death and torture, innocent, three years—

"Oh," snapped the Secretary, "every man is some woman's son."

War instruments meet the eye out side. The Red-Squadders, armed, stand guard. The White House police are here to shout, as the photographers line up, "No pictures with the White House in the background!" Once Tom Mooney's Mother, refused an audience, was photographed there; apparently the picture was effective. The police have another duty also—as a girl starts to hand out statements to the press, they cry, "Stop! Don't try to distribute leaflets here!" It was superfluous. Only two of the dozen reporters moved from their bridge and chess games in the press room, although all newspapers had been notified what was happening.

The cops pushed the little delegation to the sidewalk. Mrs. Wilhana Burroughs, the New York teacher who was thrown out of the public schools for defending a fellow teacher in a wage fight, pushed back and exclaimed, "He won't see us, huh- Well, when enough of us get together he will see us—and act!"

Our Anti-Fascist Campaign

By LEO GALLAGHER

The heroic fight of the Austrian workers has not ended. 10,000 prisoners in the Dollfuss jails, 40,000 women and children without any means of support, terrific prison sentences totalling over 500 years, constant repression—but the spirit of the Austrian workers is not broken.

Relief for the victims of Austrian fascist terror is being organized right in the Austrian factories and working class neighborhoods. Incomplete reports state that 5,650 families have been given material aid through Austrian agencies which have raised over 13,590 schillings. 42 Austrian factory relief committees have already been established—broad committees where party affiliations plays no role. In addition there are similar committees on city blocks. The Austrian Red Aid issues an illegal newspaper—Tribunal—and thousands of leaflets and appeals.

Demonstrations before jails and relief societies are conducted by the wives of imprisoned workers. In lower Austria, 40 women were arrested and put into jail with their husbands as a result of such a demonstration while in Obersteiermark the women succeeded in capturing the keys of the jail from the guards and in holding the prison yard until they were dispersed by armed forces.

But the Austrian I.L.D. works under terrific difficulties. A Viennese police warden who writes, "I cannot bear to see this any longer, I therefore ask you to make all this public," describes how the prisoners are beaten, how their wives are told that they are not in the prison when they come looking for them, how the only food they get is something called soup, without any bread. "Thousands of people are forced in the police prison to sit on stones all through the night. Instead of food they get kicks and blows. 16 prisoners are thrown into holes big enough for two." The terror is one of the most powerful weapons in the hands of the Dollfuss fascist regime in forcing through their hunger program. All the activity described above must be carried on illegally.

In addition to material aid—moral aid is very necessary. Our Austrian comrades must be made to feel that we know of their hardships, that we support their heroic struggles which all the brutal efforts of the Dollfuss regime cannot crush.

Solidarity is a mighty weapon and we must show the Austrian workers that we are with

them. This can be done by raising funds to help them in their splendid work of relief to the victims of Dollfuss fascism, by demonstrating before Austrian consulates and embassies, by sending delegations and protests to these embassies, by exchanging correspondence with the Austrian I.L.D.

In Germany the same heroism is evident on all sides. The German Red Aid is growing in spite of the greatest terror and persecution. A letter recently received from the German Red Aid shows their fighting spirit: "But the flag of the German working class has never been held as high as it is today. Thousands upon thousands of Red Aiders are giving



Sacco-Vanzetti demonstration in Berlin in 1927.

Before Hitler: Food collected for political prisoners in Germany by the Red Aid. Its splendid work lives today despite terror.



1929: Prisoners' relief and publicity in one. A method we can still use in the U. S. A.

aid to the families of the victims of the terror and strengthening the fighting power of the proletariat. These Red Aiders stand fearlessly at their fighting posts, although the Hitler government persecutes the Red Aid of Germany with particular hatred because it recognizes and fears the meaning of proletarian solidarity in the fight of the revolutionary working class. . . . But the need is great and more help must be obtained. Therefore we are calling on you today to give more support. . . .

"We have the impression that in the United States there is a strong solidarity for the German workers, but we believe that the I.L.D. does not play the necessary leading role in the movement . . .

Our German comrades are right. The tour which I am engaged in has shown that the I.L.D. has not always taken the lead in organizing the German-Austrian anti-fascist campaign. The meetings have not always been sufficiently prepared and publicized. Suffi-

(Continued on Page 28)



Support Women's Anti-War Congress

In the April issue of the Labor Defender there was an editorial calling on all the women members of the I.L.D. to support the American section of the International Women's Congress Against War and Fascism, convening in Paris July 28, 29 and 30 of this year. The preparations for sending a large representative delegation of American women from every walk of life—workers from factories and mills, housewives, teachers, professionals—to Paris where they will meet together with similar delegations from all over the world to work out a powerful program of action for the struggle against war and fascism, are already under way.

The International Labor Defense is represented on the National Executive Committee of the American section and has not only endorsed the call, but has pledged the active support of its whole apparatus particularly its women members. The I.L.D. branches must give their most active support to the regional conferences in Pittsburgh, Detroit, New York, Chicago, Cleveland and on the west coast. For the program of the I.L.D. is inseparably a part of the struggle against war and fascism. Its defense of rights denied to workers and farmers by the imperialist U. S. government actively engaged in war preparations cannot be separated from the struggle against these war preparations. The daily fight of the I.L.D. against the rapidly developing fascist tendencies in the U.S., its solidarity activities in defense of the victims of German and Austrian fascism—make it essential that the I.L.D., especially its women members, become an active factor in this international movement against war and fascism.

I.L.D. branches and sections where there is no apparatus

Barricades scene from the stirring play of Negro life STEVEDORE, which exposes lynch tactics and paints a thrilling picture of fighting unity of Negro and white workers. Watch July Labor Defender for full review.



(Continued from Page 5)

miners and leaders freed, the Scottsboro boys alive to this day. The thousands of little known cases handled by the I. L. D. over the country, battles fought in outlying sections where victims have been saved from long jail terms by the activities of the International Labor Defense cannot even be estimated.

Not only has this permanent defense organization proved its might on the American class war front but it has done something none of its predecessors attempted. Realizing that ruling class terror and injustice is international, that there is international solidarity among the capitalist class of the whole world, the I.L.D. has carried on its fight in defense of workers rights in defense of victims of white terror all

of the American League Against War and Fascism should follow the example of other working class organizations who are supporting this movement and take the initiative in calling together the women in their neighborhoods, discussing the congress with them reading the call, which can be obtained from the National Office of the I.L.D., and in this way helping to spread the world wide movement against war and fascism.

One section of the call reads:

"American Women! Ten and a half million of you work in America's factories and mills. You weave the cloth, make the clothes, make the shoes that America wears. You work in the metal plants that turn out bullets and shells, in the chemical and dye plants that will at a moment's notice produce the deadly materials for chemical warfare. You teach the youth of the country. Millions of you are housewives and domestic workers. You have a great responsibility.

Will you use this power to aid in preparing another war? Will you let the industrial and financial magnates, the profiteers of the last war, throw the world into another war? Will you weave the cloth for uniforms, make shoes for the army, make bullets with which your men will be sent to kill sons, husbands and sweethearts of other women like yourselves?" Or will you join in this fight which is your fight?

Women of America! United we are an invincible barrier against war and fascism."

Women members of the I.L.D. are you ready to join in this struggle?



U. S. government takes millions from relief money to build more of these. Support the International Women's Congress in protest against war and fascism.

over the world—Nicaragua, China, Poland, Phillipine Islands, Hungary, Germany, Roumania, Cuba, Italy, Venezuela—wherever workers are persecuted for daring to demand their rights, for daring to question the justice meted out to them by ruling class courts, there the voice of the International Labor Defense, since 1929 a part of the International Red Aid, an organization with sections in 70 countries and over 12,000,000 members was heard in protest.

The lives of many foreign born workers have been saved when the I.L.D. through mass pressure either forced their release or forced the Labor Department to grant them voluntary departure to a country of their own choosing instead of deportation to fascist countries where death or long terms of imprisonment awaited them.

In the first issue of the Labor Defender the I.L.D. announced the fact that it was handling 106 cases. In 1928 the number grew to 1000. During the last year there were over 7,000 cases handled by the International Labor Defense.

As terror against the workers and poor farmers of the United States increases, the burden of the International Labor Defense grows heavier. Not only must its base grow wider and stronger to support this burden; not only must its size be expanded to meet the attack of the enemy in every section of the front, but today more than ever before the I.L.D. must develop workers' self defense in the courts, turning the courtroom into a forum from which the arrested worker exposes the ruling class injustice directed against him, the class character of the trial.

ISLAS MARIAS

The Terror of Mexico

By JACOBO HURWITZ

Greetings on the 9th anniversary of the International Labor Defense, which links up the struggle against the repression and white terror in the United States of America with the struggle against the repression and terror in Mexico, Cuba and the rest of the Carribean and South American countries.

Six months. Coffee without milk in the morning and at night. Beans and rice at noon. Meat, a microscopic ration—just twice a week. Drinking water, warmed by the sunrays, with millions of little red worms swimming around in it. Work—from dawn to dark under the scorching sun or a ferocious rain; the overseer—vigilant; punishments always menacing. Sleep? The hard ground.

This is Islas Marias. An island converted into a prison. There are no special jails for political prisoners in Mexico. They are thrown into the same jails with the common criminals.

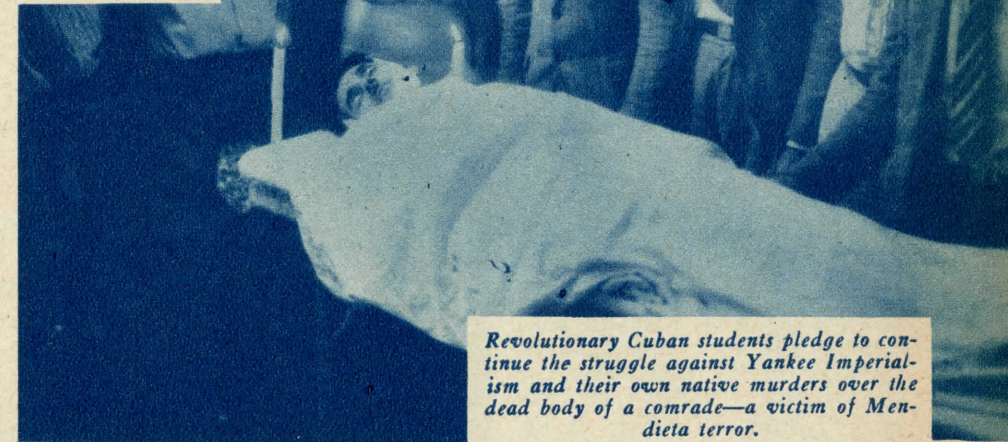
A man may be sent to the Islas Marias for various reasons: for "marihuano" (dope fiend who smokes the herb called marihuana), for trading in marihuana, for petty thievery, on "suspicion," for homosexuality, for communism or revolutionary activities.

In one word, Islas Marias is the terror of Mexico. The terror consists not only in being sent to the island, but the very mention of the name Islas Marias horrifies one and all. In either case, Islas Marias is an instrument of terror.

Long before I was sent to the Islas Marias, I saw four young Communists coming back from there, broker by long months of forced labor in the salt mines. One of them, as a consequence of this work, has almost lost his sight. They came back, sick, ruined, human bags of flesh, beaten by malaria, exhausted by dysentery, with long furrows of raw flesh on arms and legs, bleeding hand and foot.

We were many. The police assaulted the Camara del Trabajo of Mexico City, (local federation of revolutionary trade unions), in June 1932 and arrested us. We were transported to the War Department of the Federal Government and from there to the military jail—a procedure which had all the characteristics of a "secuestro" (kidnaping). Thanks to the fact that our noisy collective protests and demands were heard by the soldiers on guard and that we were not frightened by their intimidations, after eight days we were allowed to wash ourselves and take a bath.

Finally, we declared a collective



Revolutionary Cuban students pledge to continue the struggle against Yankee imperialism and their own native murders over the dead body of a comrade—a victim of Mendieta terror.

hunger strike. The answer to this was the expulsion of six of us—foreigners—from the country, release for a few and deportation of the rest—thirty one, in number—to the Islas Marias. We were sent in a wagon, ordinarily used for the transportation of animals—caged in as such. The travel from the continent to the island was still worse, crowded together with about two hundred other prisoners in the very small hold of the ship.

The authorities of the island tried to divide us giving office work to those wearing jackets and the hardest labor to the comrades wearing overalls, lodging the first of them in a house and the rest in one of the barracks of the ordinary prisoners.

Our energetic protest and decisive attitude made them equalize their treatment. But all of us carried on a painful existence. I worked fourteen hours a day, and even on Sundays I was given work. When, on a holiday, I was free at two or four o'clock in the afternoon, I had to spend the time washing my clothes. Malaria and dysentery weakened us. Medical attention? Yes. For nearly a thousand prisoners there is a single physician on the island. His assistants are prisoners who, in order to escape from harder work, take their training here as orderlies at the expense of the rest of the prisoners.

I became so sick that they finally had the grace to send me to the hospital. Beds covered with boards instead of mattresses. In deference to political prisoners, they offered to lodge me in the surgical ward where the beds had mattresses. I refused. I preferred the hard boards. I had already become accustomed to sleeping on the bumpy, uneven ground, which was worse than the boards.

The next day, very early, we were ordered to get up to clean the hospital; sweep, wash. . . . The tuberculars, who were in the majority, and were not permitted to enter our rooms, in order to avoid contagion, did the hardest labor, cleaning the garden, weeding brambles

and briars. Flies, in the rooms, in the operating room, everywhere; cockroaches, scorpions, and even more dangerous insects. The hospital is a small, repugnant and horrible zoo.

And it is not possible to mitigate the hunger—that daily and constant torment of the Islas Marias. The prisoners pass months and years without seeing a penny. And the "robbery" of a piece of bread, of a single piece of bread, means six months or one year more of imprisonment.

Corporal punishment and torture are forbidden. But they are practised in the secrecy of the woods which cover the whole island. But there is torture which is not classified as such. The sick who don't "deserve" to be sent to the hospital and the convalescents who come back from the crew destined for easy work: decayed, yellow, exhausted, dragging along, they are obliged by the overseer to do hard farm labor. Some of them die with their tools in their hands, under the raised whip of the overseer.

Even we, the Communists, have felt the heavy hand of corporal punishment. That valiant boy of the Young Communist League of Mexico, Jose Revueltas, who was recently again kidnapped and sent back to Islas Marias this time by the authorities of the State of Nuevo Leon because of his leading participation in the strike of the agricultural workers of Camaron, was furiously beaten when we welcomed with the cry "Long live the Communist Party!" a new contingent of fifty-one comrades.

We, the political prisoners, could feel there a brotherly hand warmly extended to us which was giving us help, which was fighting for us, which day to day, minute to minute, by protest campaigns, and mass actions was pulling us out of this hell; the hand of the Mexican section of the Red Aid, hand of the exploited and oppressed masses of Mexico, hand of the toiling masses of the world, which extends fraternally and in solidarity to those who fall in the class struggle.

STOP NRA MURDER

In the first half of May the following were mowed down by the NRA and its proteges, Company gangsters and police:

Murphy Humphrey, Negro longshoreman, 21, murdered on the New Orleans waterfront, May 8.

Rich Foster, Negro picket, shot to death by thugs in Birmingham, Ala., May 9.

Henry Witt, Negro picket, shot to death by thugs in Birmingham, Ala., May 9.

George Bell, striker of the Sloss Ore Mine, Alabama, murdered on the picket line by agents of the mine owners on May 10.

W. H. Ford, striker of the Muscoda Ore mine, Alabama, shot down in cold blood while picketing on May 10.

Charles Sharlo, Negro longshoreman, murdered by Special guards of the Mallory Steamship Company in Galveston, Texas.

John Elmore, Negro longshoreman, killed by company guards at Galveston, Texas.

Dick Parker, 20 year old longshoreman, shot to death by San Pedro, Cal., police.

Ed. Higgins, Negro secretary of U.M.W.U. Empire Local, Walker Co., Ala., murdered.

These are the **KNOWN DEAD** in the murderous attack by the industrialists and their state machinery against workers fighting for their constitutional rights.

They must be avenged.

Hundreds have been arrested, in every part of the country.

They must be freed.

The bosses are preparing a more violent, more intensive, attack.

This must be met with the most vigorous defense.

The I.L.D. and the Trade Union Unity League are coordinating their forces to meet this attack, to answer it with a greater, more powerful, more swiftly moving, organization of defense.

What must every member of the I.L.D. do? What must every sympathizer with the struggles of the working-class do, in this emergency?

Thousands of workers must be roused to action. They must be organized into the I.L.D., to strengthen the defense arm of the working class. The I.L.D. itself must be made more mobile, more alert, quicker to respond.

The powers of the state, which are conducting these murders must know the might of the working-class fighting against every move to rob the toilers

of their rights, fighting for the freedom of the toilers, for complete working-class democracy.

Demand the withdrawal of gun-thugs from every strike area, the withdrawal of militia, the punishment of the murderers—the death penalty for the hired murderers of the state, indemnity to the families of the murdered men.

Let your congressman know of this determination. Let the president know.

Demand the freedom of all class-war prisoners. Expose every frame-up.

National guardsmen waiting for the signal to shoot on Alabama strikers.

(Continued from Page 4)

Workers Defense Union with headquarters in New York City. Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, later National Chairman of the I. L. D., was secretary, while Fr. Biedenkapp was one of its active officers. This union, for example, in the year 1921, was active in the Centralia case, in the Chicago and Witchita I. W. W. appeals, in the Winnipeg general strike case and especially in the Sacco-Vanzetti case in which Comrade Flynn played an important part.

The extent of the work carried on by the Workers Defense Union organization may be measured in part by the fact that during some 22 months, from December, 1918, to October, 1920, it expended for general defense purposes over \$5,000, for deportations cases (this was at the height of the "deportations delirium" of 1919), over \$8,500, and for relief to prisoners over \$1,200. It carried on extensive campaigns, along with the Civil Liberties Union and the Joint Amnesty Committee, for the release of all war-time political prisoners, and called a May Day strike for political prisoners in 1920. It had a few local groups in certain industrial centers, for example in Youngstown, Ohio.

During the same period a committee known as the National Defense Committee, of which Edgar Owens was national secretary, was handling most Communists arrested and framed-up. It was organized in 1920 after the wholesale raids by Attorney General Palmer on Communist organizations throughout the country.

It may be asked what was the A. F. of L. doing to defend its members arrested and framed up during the strikes of this later post-war period. The answer is "almost nothing." Of course individual unions, such as the United Mine Workers of America with its more militant locals in West Virginia in 1921, occasionally did something for a "brother" who was prosecuted for his part in a strike. In the Steel Strike of 1919, defense activities were in charge of the national committee of the strike, assisted by such bodies as the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor and temporary defense committees thrown up in various steel towns.

This state of real apathy toward defense work on the part of the A. F. of L. bureaucracy was reflected in a statement in the official report of the American Civil Liberties union for the period 1921 to 1923, which read: "We have hoped that the labor movement might develop its own central defense machinery, and its own program for handling the issue of the right to organize, strike and picket. It is evident that such a hope is considerably in advance of the fact. . . ."

It was to help fill this demand for a national defense machinery that the I. L. D. was set up in 1925. It is to carry on such work that it still continues to lead in the labor defense movement in the United States.

The IRA Front

CANADA—William L. Patterson, national secretary of the American I.L.D. was the chief speaker at the May Day meeting of the CLDL in spite of the determination of the Canadian government to keep him out and in this way prevent one of the most concrete expressions of international solidarity between sister sections of the International Red Aid.

CZECHO SLOVAKIA—13 escaped Austrian Shutzbund fighters were arrested and placed in a concentration camp that equals those of Austria and Germany. There are 7 social democratic ministers in the Czech government, who, true to type as betrayers of the working class, did nothing to prevent this arrest. Their fellow social democrats, Austrian and German who are operating from Czecho Slovakia today, have been collecting money through the infamous Matteotti fund supposedly for the aid of the victims of Austrian fascism. Very little of these funds reached the victims. In answer to attacks on the Matteotti fund which demanded an accounting of how the money was being spent since it was not reaching the needy victims, the Sozialdemokrat (official organ of the German Social Democratic Labor Party) stated:

"The funds are assigned for the struggle against the Dollfuss regime. The social democrats are not obliged to make any accounts to the Communist scoundrels about the Matteotti fund which has been drawn into the support of the emigrants."

Not wishing to give an account of money obtained for a certain purpose, is one way of proving that the money is not spent for that purpose. On another page of this issue it is shown how the I.R.A. does and is proud to account for every penny collected for the aid of victims of Austrian and German fascism.

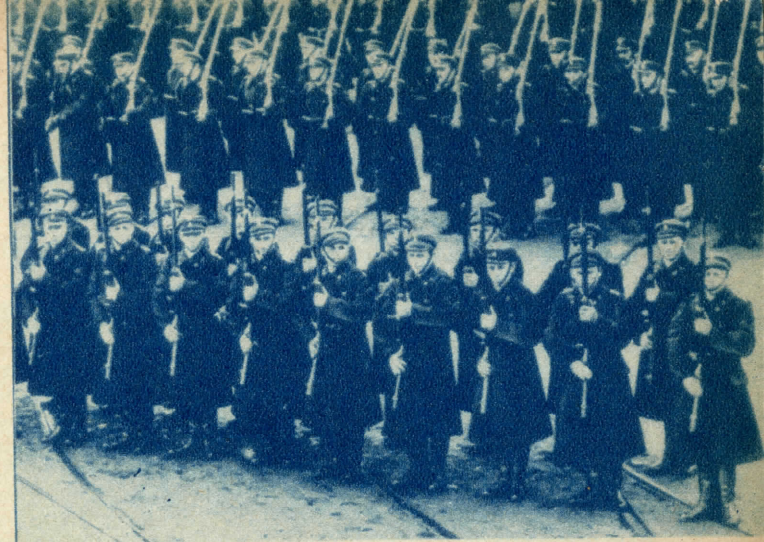
POLAND—160 political prisoners in Poland have written to the Red Aid in Paris stating that they wish half of the relief money sent them every month sent to the Austrian Red Aid and the other half remain in the Red Aid of France. "We cannot do more for our persecuted comrades," they write.

INTERNATIONAL WHITE TERROR statistics for the year 1933 compiled by the I.R.A. show that 429,722 workers were murdered, 404,496 wounded, 56,116 slightly wounded, 580,488 arrested, 5579 deported, and 880,361 homes of workers were raided.

ITALY—Leaflets, factory newspapers and protest resolutions were issued by Italian Red Aid members in support of the victims of German Fascism. Collections amounting to 1,000 lire were made. Factory walls were covered with slogans demanding the release of Gramsci, Italian working class leader, and the application of section 173 of the law for sick prisoners. The International Red Aid organizes solidarity within the barbaric walls of fascism.

SPAIN—While fighting the vicious white terror directed against them by their own ruling class, great mass demonstrations were organized by the Spanish Red Aid in support of the Austrian workers. Solidarity strikes were conducted in Asturias, Seville, Zamora, Elche, Guardo, Orense, Salamanca and other towns. During one demonstration, in Labiana, the masses stormed the local prison and liberated the prisoners.

LUTZSK, POLAND—45 of the 56 Ukrainian toilers on trial here for their activities in the liberation struggles of their people have already received vicious sentences totalling 300 years. One of the defendants, Baranowitz, during his speech to the court stated the aims and tasks of the I.R.A. "The I.R.A. came forth as a historical necessity as an organization of the international movement in support of the victims of white terror." This worker told the fascist court that was trying him, "we need help from the outside . . . This assistance is given us by the I. R. A."



Polish trolley car conductors receiving military drill.



Victims of Austrian fascism.



Ears of the Coast Guard. The U.S. Government spends billions on death machines like these. It can locate "enemy" planes long before they come into sight.



French workers arrested on May Day. They fought behind barricades in defense of their right to demonstrate.

How Political Prisoners Are Treated in the U.S.A.

By IRVIN GOODMAN

Ben Boloff was convicted for criminal syndicalism in Portland and sentenced to ten years in Oregon prison solely because he was a Communist Party member. He had always worked in factories, mines, sewers and had never previously been ill. But after fourteen months imprisonment in both jail and prison pending appeal of his case, he made an affidavit in support of moves for his release stating that he was in ill health, a sore throat preventing him from eating solid food, intense pains making it impossible to sleep in his cell at night and that it was difficult for him to breathe, to walk. "For more than two months," he added, "I requested the county doctor, who visits the jail every week day, to give me medical treatment and for the past forty days he has refused to give me medical treatment, has refused to either speak or look at me."

Denial of medical aid in jail does not tell the whole story. While in prison he was forced to do the dirty work out in the rain, cold, with insufficient clothes to keep his body warm. Then, too, there was mental as well as physical enslavement. Literature of his own choice was denied him. For Boloff was a class-conscious worker, he was a political prisoner.

While Boloff was dying in jail, the prosecuting attorney protested his release. He presented affidavits to the court from two jail doctors stating "his complaint more recently has been a throat trouble; the examination develops the fact that his throat complaint is nothing more than the ordinary common sore throat. He is in reasonably good health for a man of his years." But these doctors lied for, a few days later, the once husky Russian worker, only thirty-seven years old, slowly walked from his jail cell, a human shell, ghost-like complexion, coughing, spitting, to be confined in a sanatorium for advanced stage of tuberculosis contracted in jail and prison. On October 13th, 1932, a few months after his release, Boloff died and another indictment was laid up against a barbaric prison regime and its treatment of political prisoners.

Picture briefly this barbaric prison regime in the United States wherein our political prisoners are confined. It comprises more than three thousand federal and state prisons, reformatories, workhouses, farms, chain gangs, county and city jails.

Its buildings are medieval. Over one-third of all prisons were built more than seventy years ago, many one hundred.

Air space is insufficient. In 1928, seventeen per cent of the inside cells

had less than 132 cubic feet of air space per man or less than one-third of the necessary four hundred cubic feet minimum and forty-three per cent of the other cells had less than one-half the minimum.

It lacks sanitation. Twenty-one per cent of the men's prisons, including Folsom, Cal.; Oregon State prison; old prison in Joliet, Ill.; Charlestown, Mass.; Auburn and Clinton, N. Y.; used the bucket exclusively until 1931, probably today.

It is overcrowded. In 1930 federal prisons were overcrowded 65.9 per cent more than their capacity while similar conditions existed in state prisons.

Idleness prevails. More than one-third of the inmates in Columbus, Ohio, prison have been idle for years while similar conditions exist in prisons at Eastern and Western, Pa.; Auburn and Clinton, N. Y.; Walla Walla, Wash.; Colorado, Maryland, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, Utah, Wisconsin.

There is mass treatment. Normal inmates are confined with tubercular, insane, venereally diseased, feeble-minded, drug addict, sex-pervert, aged, feeble.

There is little educational activity. Some prisons, including Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Carolina, Mountain prison in Tennessee, Michigan prison at Marquette have no educational program whatsoever.

There is little medical attention. Out of one hundred prisons where records were available sixty had part-time physicians only and forty full-time physicians conducted private practice outside.

There is rule by brutality. Columbus, Ohio, prison places inmates in a semi-circular cage in which they cannot move about. Nevada prison confines inmates in solitary on restricted diet and handcuffs to door. Oregon prison locks inmates in dark and damp solitary cells for more than two years. Rhode Island prison uses the straitjacket. Stillwater, Minn. prison uses the silent system. Virginia prison handcuffs inmates to a bar about the height of the chest, shackles the legs and straps them.

Boloff is dead. The victim of ruthless jail and prison discrimination. Of a barbaric prison regime with its medieval buildings, insufficient air, lack of sanitation, overcrowding, idleness, mass treatment, denial of education, of medical attention, brutalities.

Within the Oregon prison where Boloff was once confined is Theodore Jordan, innocent young Negro worker, sentenced to hang. Within the Georgia prison is Angelo Herndon, innocent young Negro worker sentenced to

twenty years on the chain gang. Between the 4,000 miles of space separating Jordan and Herndon there stands this barbaric prison regime as a tombstone over a dying social system. Confined within are increasing numbers of militant white, Negro, Foreign-born workers. Living evidence of the increasing intensity of the class struggle. Mooney, McNamara, in San Quentin. Becker in Walla Walla. Scottsboro boys in Alabama, not to mention hundreds more. How are they treated, these political prisoners? Let the case of Ben Boloff serve as a partial answer to the question.

Protest to State Prison Commissioners and Prison Wardens Against Such Conditions As These Must Become Part of Our Campaign for the Recognition of Political Prisoners and Special Privileges for Them As Such.

(Continued from Page 23)
cient masses have not been mobilized for this vital work, and as a result the meetings along the tour have not always been the militant, powerful expressions of international solidarity they should have been.

Thaelmann and Torgler, leaders of the German working class are still in jail. It is our duty, our debt to the heroic German working class to aid them in their struggles as they have so many times aided us—in the Scottsboro, Mooney and other campaigns.

Our German Red Aid comrades send valuable suggestions for work: that we adopt 3 of one most vicious concentration camps—Dachau, Erzebirge and Duerrheim; that we utilize the special collection lists they sent us from Germany, that we correspond with them. They pledge themselves to get these letters behind Hitler's prison walls to the anti-fascist fighters and to send us letters from the victims whom our aid reaches. The heroism of the members of our organization in Germany and Austria fellow members of the International Red Aid, should certainly spur us on to more intensive activity.

It is our duty to fulfill the pledge we set ourselves to raise at least \$3000 for the victims of Austrian fascism. The collections lists that come from Germany include a plea for the Austrian victims. The German Red Aid understands the meaning of international solidarity. We must show them that we do too.

Every worker who is reached with the message of the valiant struggles of the Austrian and German Red Aid, every worker who contributes to their relief is another voice raised against fascism another arm raised in international solidarity.

YOUNG DEFENDERS CORNER

Birthday Party

The ILD is having a birthday on the 28th of June. It is nine years old. That doesn't sound very old. It's younger than a good many of you who read this page—but it stands for many mighty battles—some ending in victory and freedom for the persecuted workers involved others in long jail sentences that are still being fought. We think that the Young Defenders ought to celebrate this birthday. Every Young Defender group is named after some class war prisoner. The group ought to give a show in honor of the birthday and part of it should be a short play about their prisoner. How do you like that idea? If you want more information for your play write to the Young Defender Corner, Labor Defender, 80 East 11th Street, N. Y. C. We'll do all we can to help you. And then—and this is very important—write a letter to the corner telling us what you did and how it went over and we'll publish it in the July issue. O. K.?

Puzzle Department

How many three letter words can you make out of the name Angelo Herndon.

Every one who sends in a list of 25 words or more gets a prize—a special Scottsboro pin.

Write your name and address and age very clearly on your answer—so that we'll be sure and get your pin to you.

French Pioneers marching in the Paris May Day parade in spite of a whole army sent against them and their parents.



News from Frisco

The Young Defenders of San Francisco have broken into print. A newspaper clipping they sent us tells how. They almost had their heads broken too, when they demonstrated before a barber shop in the heart of the Negro neighborhood of San Francisco which carried a sign announcing that no Negroes or Filipinos would be admitted. Their protest meeting was broken up by police with drawn clubs and tear gas. One of the Young Defenders carrying a banner which demanded an end to all discrimination was seized by the police, but the crowd of 2,000 which had gathered to listen to the meeting freed him from the policeman's grasp.

Swell work, San Francisco. What about the other Young Defender groups—write and tell us about your work—don't let us wait until we read about it in the papers.

Young Defenders marching in New York United Front May Day parade. The front banner reads: Brown and yellow, black and white—join the Young Defenders fight.

Contest

Who can write the best story about Tom Mooney?

There are 35 Young Defender groups all over the country and many many readers of this corner. The three best stories about Tom Mooney will be printed in this corner along with the picture of the writer. The winners will also receive a very beautiful pin from the German ILD. It's a swell pin.

Get after your fathers and mothers and older ILD members to tell you all about Tom Mooney—ask your teacher too. Then sit down and write the story. It must get here no later than July 1, 1934 in order to be eligible for the contest. And send your picture along.

CHALLENGE * CHALLENGE CHALLENGE

The New Pioneer, you know that magazine—it belongs to all the workers and farmers kids of this country—has started a prisoners page. Pioneer groups and members have been writing to prisoners and getting letters from them and these letters are printed in the New Pioneer. The Young Defenders Corner challenges the New Pioneer. We challenge them to write more letters than we will and to see who will get more answers. How about it, Young Defenders? Get your pencils out and let's shower the Scottsboro Boys, Herndon, Tom Mooney, J. B. McNamara and all our class war prisoners with letters. They will be very glad to hear from us and we are sure that when you tell them about the challenge and that we are out to beat the New Pioneer—they'll do all they can to help us.

WANTED VOICES FROM PRISON

Comrades! Workers! Friends!

This year on June 28th will be a day of historical significance to all of those useful humans who toil, black as well as white; to those who are dying and rotting away behind the torturous walls of a decaying system of depraved maniacs, etc. On this day will be the celebration of the 9th year of the existence of the International Labor Defense, that indomitable fighting organization for the defense of all workers who were framed up by the murderous capitalist system. Because of the inevitable decay of the capitalist system, which means the "cracking down" on the right of workers to live, as well as its increased proportions of terror, etc., the International Labor Defense emerged from the militant ranks of the American workers nine years ago. It is the American Section of the International Red Aid. Since its inception it has grown in strength as well as influence because and insofar as it has been in the front ranks as organizer and leader of the struggles against the hideous frame ups of workers.

It has always been victorious in smashing to pieces many such frame ups. But we cannot say that the I.L.D. in all cases will be victorious, especially if the workers are unconvinced, or in other words hesitant to its policy of mass defense for those inhumanly and unjustly framed up. But we can however say, that in the last three of four years, the workers have been rallying to the militant program of the I.L.D. because they realize that, in order to fight back the attacks of the capitalists, they must have tactics as well as policy for defense work. And this we can gladly say the I.L.D. has been the champion of. But still this is entirely inadequate for the present situation demands even more of us than ever. With the Scottsboro case, Mooney, Herndon, and numerous others, etc., we must prepare to make June 28 a day that the capitalist oppressors will never forget. The militant voices of all workers throughout the land, must make them fear with agonizing pain, the growing fight for the defeat of their tyrannical system of oppression. Since Roosevelt dragged out of the archives of capitalism, the fascist NRA, conditions for the workers have been made even more unbearable. More workers have been hauled off to the infamous dungeons of capitalism, because they have dared to raise their voices against the vicious measures meted out to them by the oppressors. So this means, in spite of the many victories and achievements made by the I.L.D. of late that, we must develop our struggles of defense on a much more higher and political plane. The forces of black reaction are growing. Fascism is being forced upon us daily. The double oppression and fascist lynch terror against the Negro people is on the increase. The very means for

the maintenance of our lives is being drastically taken away from us.

Workers! We must show them by determined struggle that we will not tolerate such savage and destructive measures.

Rally to the defense of all class war prisoners! And frame up victims! Long live the militant revolutionary defense policy of the International Labor Defense!

Yours comrade at arms,
(signed) ANGELO HERNDON

I.L.D. Does More Than Promised

You can tell all comrades that everything they donate for the relief cause is highly appreciated and is given for a good cause and all laboring comrades that want to belong to a good worthy cause should belong to the I.L.D. and they will never be sorry as they sure have stuck with us before we got and after we got behind bars and stone walls and still shows no signs of weakening.

I can truthfully say that they have done more for us than they ever promised to do and this is more than you can say for lots of others.

If anyone wants information as to their help ask them to write me.

Again thanking you for all past favors you have done me and my family and assuring you it is greatly appreciated,

I am,
Your Friend
GRANVILLE VAUGHN
No. 21217 - Box 332
Frankfort, Ky.

I.L.D. Help Whole Hearted

Since the arrest of my husband, Fahle Burman with Unto Immonen at Eben Junction, Michigan, I have been forced to live alone with my son, with little hopes of getting along. Even though my husband was arrested by the county officials, sheriffs and legionaries they have not been willing to give help only after continuous demanding and after that have given about two dollars a week. From this we can see that it would have been hard to get along, but I have been fortunate to get living quarters, upstairs of the cooperative store of which my husband was manager before his arrest. Also the International Labor Defense has mailed me some money which shows that the I.L.D. is willing to help all it can. In addition to the help received from the main office, the local Defense Committee has worked hard to get finances for the legal and other expenses.

With the personal experiences as I have in this case, I am assured that the International Labor Defense wants to help all of the class war prisoners with it's wholeheart. In reading the papers about different cases all over the world and in the United States as the Scottsboro case, it makes me more assured. The Scottsboro boys would have been long ago burned if it was not for the I.L.D. Dimitroff and his three comrades would have been killed in Germany if it was not for the world wide protest campaign arranged by the International Labor Defense.

The case of my husband, Fahle Burman and Unto Immonen will be taken up in the Michigan Supreme Court in the June term. I urge every individual and organization to sent protest to the Michigan Governor and to the Attorney General. In addition I urge everyone to demand the release of Thaelmann and other class war prisoners of Germany, the release of Scottsboro boys, Tom Mooney and other class war prisoners. Long live the energetic work and the International Labor Defense.

MARY BURMAN

A Splendid Example

The McNamara Branch of the International Labor Defense of San Francisco greets the decision of the National Office to start a nation wide campaign to free the oldest political prisoner in the United States, J. B. McNamara. Workers of San Francisco are taking up the struggle for the liberation of McNamara, organized a branch in his name and adopted him for protection, send him \$5.00 monthly and visit McNamara regularly.

The last visit being April 29th found him in good spirit and unbroken. The branch passed a resolution calling on the workers of the United States at large that the liberation of McNamara will be accomplished only when the workers will come and open the gates of the prison. (Branch Secretary, J. Ginsburd).

I received your most solidarity letter and the two dollars enclosed was most welcome. I am sure the International Labor Defense will never forget the political prisoners and will continue to struggle to free them. I heard your victorious voice on May 1st, and was sorry I could not be with your ranks, but I am sure there were thousands to take my place. I have no doubt the International Labor Defense is doing its best about my case and I will close knowing the International Labor Defense will lead the struggle until class prisoners are free.

With my comradely regards,
M. HAGOPA

LABOR DEFENDER GREETINGS

From I. L. D. Branches

LOS ANGELES, CAL.
Section No. 1.

Sacco Vanzetti Branch, Louis Engdahl, Pat Chambers, Armenian, Hernandez-Subia, So. Slav, John Reed, Eugene V. Debs.

Section No. 2

Fred Douglas Branch, Ronald Edwards, Heywood Patterson, Dell, Carl Sklar, Clara Zetkin, Ella May Wiggins, Oscar Erickson, Ben Boots.

Section No. 3

Mooney-Billings, Peter Pan, Hollywood, Katayama, Karl Liebknecht, Scottsboro, S. Slavic Br.

NEW YORK CITY

Joe Hill Branch, Karl Marx Branch, Steve Katovis Branch, Ella Reeve Bloor Branch, Dressmakers Branch, Beyers Shop I. L. D. Branch, Steve Katovis Branch, Angelo Herndon Branch, West End.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

Scottsboro Branch, Central Br., Jewish Scottsboro Branch.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Branch of the I. L. D.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Russian National Mutual Aid Society Branch No. 25, Russian National Mutual Aid Society Children's Branch, No. 30; Russian I. L. D. Branch No. 1, Tom Mooney Branch, Detroit Workman Cooperative, Bill Haywood Branch (Russian), Russian Workers Club.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

I.W.O. Hungarian Section Br., 1013; Valo, Inc.; Syracuse Branch.

SAN DIEGO, CAL.
McNamara Branch, I.L.D.

HARTFORD, CONN.
Bill Haywood Branch.

ROXBURY, MASS.
John Reed Branch.

WORCESTER, MASS.
Worcester End Branch.

PITTSBURGH, PA.
South Slavic Branch.

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA
Harry Simms I.W.O. Branch.

CHICAGO, ILL.
Sacco-Vanzetti Branch, Barnet Branch, Haymarket Branch, Joe Hill Branch.

WEST ALLIS, WISC.

"Revolutionary greetings from German Karl Liebknecht Branch, So. Slav Branch—Group 2, So. Slav Branch—Group 4.

NEWARK, N. J.

Imperial Valley Branch, United Council of Working Class Women.

CLEVELAND, OHIO
South Slav Branch No. 55.

HARRISON, N. J.
Lettish Branch, I.L.D.

AKRON, OHIO
Harry Simms Branch, I.L.D.

MILWAUKEE, WISC.
Russian Ukrainian Br. Slav. Educational Club.

SUPERIOR, WISC.
Tom Mooney Branch.

L'ANSE, MICH.

J. Aulilla, H. Motan, F. Plisasos, L. Norden, P. Gustakon, A. Larthea, J. Hakkanen, A. Laitela, E. Saari, A. Backman.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Wbanak, J. Barach, J. Krivich, N. Furlan, R. Naramick, G. R. 1999 Ferri, G. Thoma, Louis Yerkovich, Ivan Halid, John Garcia, Harry V. Cariglia, Leginold Muraire, M. R. Miralles, W. Wayda, John Velch, P. 1415 Cass Ave., J. Kershey, F. Nimesheim, A. Boetchat, F. Esia, C. Felix, A. Lane, L. Powend, E. J. Duso, Mm. Sclelland, S. Brown, T. Dabo, Strucil, Straykar, A. Jozovac, M. Kostiel, M. Smith.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

E. Boy, E. Boy, G. Toro, R. Dessy, J. Golt.

BARBERTON, OHIO

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