LABOR DEFENDER

Al Labor Pictorial

September 1928

MEXICO
The Obregon
Murder

LOOKING at the MONTH with HAY BALES



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ARMED MEXICAN PEASANTS OF "HATILLO" CILLA CARDELL GIVE SOCRATES SANDINO, BROTHER OF THE NICARAGUAN REBEL. A WELCOME. IN THE FOREGROUND, LEFT TO RIGHT, ARE GUSTAVO MACHADO, RECENTLY RETURNED FROM SANDINO'S CAMP; A PEASANT; EPIGMENIO GUZMAN, THE RED MAYOR OF THE TOWN AND SOCRATES SANDINO

THE Catholic church has just committed one of its greatest crimes. When they caused a poor, fanatical 23-year old boy to kill General Alvaro Obregon on July 17, the church intended not only to do

away with one of its most active antagonists of the years before the war but also to provoke a division among the petty-bourgeoisie now in power in order to light anew the flames of civil war for the profit of their political ends without considering the victims and the further impoverishment of the working masses.

The church has overlooked no possible step in its fight to regain political and economic power lost since the fall of Porfirio Diaz in 1910. It armed the assassin's hand of Victoriano Huerta against Madera in 1913, and in the very legation of the United States, it planned the crime with Mr. Wilson, the then minister to Mexico. During the eighteen years of civil war, at times with the British imperialism, at others with American and always with the help of, and aiding, the Spanish capitalists, it used the fanatacism of the peasants and raised the standard of Cristo Rey to incite the basest passions; to steep in blood and crush the struggle of the proletariat for its emancipation. In 1926, with the "Law on Cults" abrogated by Calles as a pretext, it mobilized all its forces to solicit the aid of Yankee imperialism at the Eucharistic Congress in Chicago. In the last elections it played with its two candidates Gomez

MEXICO TODAY

The Assassination of Obregon

By SALVADOR DE LA PLAZA

and Serrano; with their defeat, seeing in the rise of Obregon to power the consolidation of the petty-bourgeoisie (thanks to the compromises of the Calles-Obregon group with Yankee imperialism), it assassinated Obregon.

Yankee imperailism on its part already understands that its tactics must be different, in accord with the development of the social forces in the country they seek to dominate. The system of armed intervention is costly and unproductive. Support of the petty-bourgeoisie so that they remain in power, through reformist organizations and an economic policy of agrarian banks, cooperative, etc., has been the policy of Morrow and the triumph of Yankee imperialism in Mexico. Having already secured supremacy over the British in controlling Mexico, the Yankees are disposing of the yellow movement represented by Morones and his group of the Vaqueta, sure that the petty-bourgeoisie is convinced that it alone cannot build its own economy; and the U. S. logically concludes that they must make the best out of the situation by helping the petty-bourgeoisie build its own economy through the investment of capital on the basis of internal peace.

The assassination of Obregon has come

then to define the perspective of the chhurch and demonstrate to it that it must renounce its ambitions of political domination, and to indicate to it that it must join the ranks of the petty-bourgeoisie against the workers.

In the forefront of the clarification of the Mexican situation, the workingclass and peasantry through its vanguard, the Communist Party, have sounded the alarm and issued a call to struggle independently for their own demands. While the pettybourgeoisie fought against feudalism, the church and imperialism, the workers and peasants were at their side. Today, the petty-bourgeoisie is on the road towards building its own economy, thanks to the many compromises made with imperialism, and the working class and peasantry must go its own way and keep in the fore the struggle against reformism, against the development of the agrarian economy of the pettybourgeoisie, of the agrarian banks and cooperatives, against imperialism and for its own emancipation.

In its coming struggle, the Mexican proletariat, now more than ever, due to the change of front of the petty-bourgeoisie, must have the closest unity with the proletariat of the United States. The Mexican workers are not fighting against an internal enemy alone, but also against the capitalists of the United States who dispose of all the resources of Mexico. The triumph of this struggle depends upon the immediate action of the workers of North America.



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Will Mooney and Billings Get Out?

ERBERT HOOVER in his speech accepting the Republican nomination for the presidency of the United States said:

"The trade union movement in our country has maintained two departures from such movements in all other countries. They have been staunch supporters of American individualism and American institutions. They have steadfastly opposed subversive doctrines from abroad. Our freedom from foreign social and economic diseases is in large degree due to this resistance by our own labor. Our trade unions, with few exceptions, have welcomed all basic improvement in industrial methods...

"During these past years we have grown

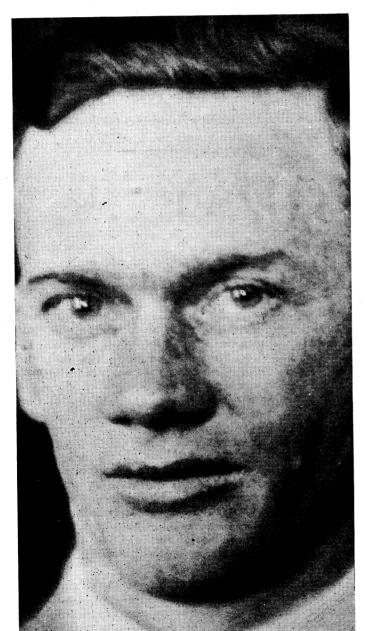


Photo Labor Defender

WARREN K. BILLINGS

By Robert Minor.

greatly in the mutual understanding between employer and employe..."

While the reader is under the effect of reading the above words, I wish to ask: "In what manner do you understand that Tom Mooney and Warren Billings are to get out of prison?"

I selected the quotation above because it expresses more clearly and more authoritatively than could anything else the concept of the labor movement that is "official" not only to the government but also to the high bureaucracy of the trade unions.

Hoover is in any event the most direct political heir of the present president. His voice more than any other can be taken as expressing the official attitude (making allowances for camouflage).

You have read, above, what Hoover says the trade union movement of the United States is.

You know, also, that it is upon the trade unions and upon the labor movement as a whole, that Mooney and Billings must depend for the mass demand for their release.

But if the labor movement is what Hoover says it is, how is such a movement to operate to get these class-war prisoners out?

Let us analyse Hoover's description remembering that he means the so-called official trade union movement, which is in reality first of all the high bureaucracy as represented by such men as William Green, and the trade unions themselves to the extent that their policies are dictated by such men.

First: The trade unions of the United States maintain "two departures" from the labor movement elsewhere, in that they support "American individualism," by which is meant the capitalist system of individualism as against the working class system

of communism; and that they oppose "subversive doctrines"—by which he means doctrines tending to "subvert" or overthrow the capitalist system.

Second: Hoover points out that "our trade unions, with few exceptions, have welcomed" all schemes for intensifying the exploitation of the workers by capitalists. Perhaps the best examples of the "basic improvement in industrial methods" which he says the trade union bureaucrats have welcomed are the action of which John L. Lewis recently boasted in sacrificing the existence of the United Mine Workers Union and the driving of a quarter of a million coal miners out of their employment in order to help "the mining industry": or the famous "B. & O." plan; or the present general policy of trade union officials in helping to increase the amount of labor required of workers in the speed-up and rationalization of industry.

Third: "We have grown greatly in the mutual understanding between employer and employe." We are irresistably reminded here of the "mutual understanding" disclosed some years ago as existing between the open-shop builders of San Francisco and Mr. P. H. McCarthy, president of the California Building Trades, when the latter received \$10,000 from the scab bosses during one of the labor disputes. But of course the matter of "understanding between employer and employe" is much broader than those local cases and includes the world wide policy of "class collaboration"—the policy under which official heads of economic and political organizations of the workers act as agents of the employing class for the control of the working class.

I have undertaken on a previous occasion to point out to the readers of the Labor Defender this contradiction, that only the labor movement can get Mooney and Billings out of prison, and that the official "labor movement" (as expressed by the "labor' leaders) is wallowing in allegiance to the very forces that are keeping Mooney and Billings in prison for life. Is it possible or even thinkable that a set of trade union leaders that supports capitalism with its every ounce of strength, that openly admits the wrecking of the greatest trade union that until recently existed in the United States, that boasts of opposing all efforts of the working class to substitute its own working class state in place of the capitalist state—a set of trade unions leaders now more than ever engaged in strengthening its ties with the financial oligarchy that rules the United States—is it possible to imagine that this trade union bureaucracy can be relied upon to take the initiative in fighting the capitalist class for the freedom of Mooney and Billings?

There is only one conceivable way in which the organ- (Continued on page 199)

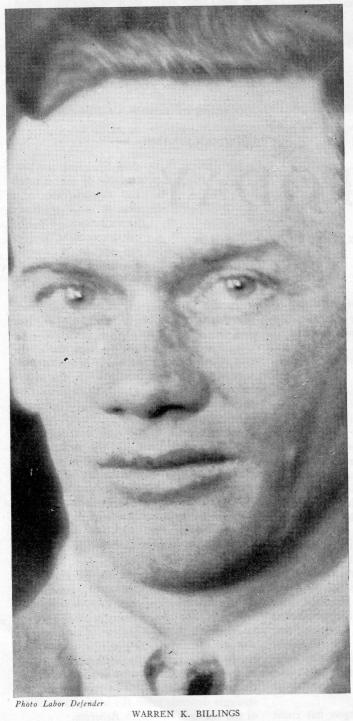




Photo Pacific and Atlantic
A GROUG OF WEST VIRGINIA MINERS ARRESTED AND SHACKLED DURING THE FIGHT TO ORGANIZE THE MEN INTO THE UNION.

Lewis Betrays His Trust • By John J. Watt

HAVE just recently finished a tour that has covered practically all the mining districts, (including the three anthracite districts), east of Kansas, and at this writing I am in Illinois, the district that claims the birthplace of the United Mine Workers of America, and which strangely enough has also been selected by the official family as the state to spell the death knell of that once militant, fighting organization; for it must be remembered that the latest sellout of the rank and file mine workers was staged and put into effect behind the backs of the Illinois mine workers.

The Illinois miners are in rebellion over this last traitorous act which has resulted in the destruction of their union, and rightfully may they be in rebellion, because the name of the Illinois Union of the United Mine Workers of America is a name that has stood forth as one of power, militancy and of victory, for no struggle in the mining fields of any importance has ever come to a successful conclusion without the willing help and cooperation of that fighting district, never have they hoisted the vellow flag of surrender, never has that rank and file known what "quit" meant, nor did they ever meet an enemy that could make them retreat. Never have they refused to help when help was needed. They have been foremost in the battle and it is indeed a blow to that fighting district, which they now feel keenly, that they were used in the sellout that has destroyed that union for which they gave so much blood and energy. The coal barons were an easy enemy for them to conquer, it remained for their trusted (?) lieutenants to finally betray them and destroy them. The coal operators could not do the job. So I say that the Illinois miners are in rebellion over the treason that was hatched in the brains of the coal operators and executed by their faithful miners' officials of the Lewis and Fishwick type. To prove that this was the work and understanding of the coal barons is an easy thing to do. All one has to do is to turn to the March, 1928 issue of Coal Age the coal barons' propaganda sheet, and you will find in that issue in part the following statement that has been followed out even to the dotting of an i and the crossing of the t. It reads:

"In the event of the failure of the Senatorial Investigation to benefit the union's position it is expected that the miners' officials will permit the next move to come from the rank and file of the Illinois membership. This is anticipated by the operators within a short time after the suspension. It is considered the only way out for the union leaders. If the miners demand employment a conference of the policy commmittee of the United Mine Workers can be called and informed that the miners of Illinois wish a reduction. Such a move would eliminate the stigma of the 'No backward step' of the union officials, it is declared."

Every line of the above statement was carried out, manufactured, engineered and completed by the officials of the miners' union. The mine workers of the entire country know that Lewis and Fishwick did not have the power, nor did the National policy committee have the power under any pretext to waive the demands of the

Jacksonville agreement for they well knew the instructions given to those officials and the policy committee at the last international convention, which although a packed convention, refused to give them any such right, power or authority.

The miners now know that such leaders as Tony Minerich, that fighting, striking rank and file miner from the heart of Pennsylvania, who has faced the pussyfooters. state Cossacks, injunctions and jailings, was right when he toured among them trying to open their eyes to the sellout that was apparent to him. They fully recognize that Pat Toohey, that fighting mate of Minerich's, the rank and file educated militant, was also correct when he predicted the ruining of the union by the wrecking crew under John L. Lewis, he also feeling the clubs of the Cossacks in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and the gunmen's blackjacks in southern Illinois when he went to face the rank and file miners. Toohey, like Minerich, had a keen insight for the treason as planned by the faithful labor lieutenants of capitalism.

These and other leaders will be assisted by hundreds of other rank and file miners who now are centering all their activities towards the building of the new miners' union which will be completed in the holding of the rank and file convention in Pittsburgh, September 9-16, 1928. The fighting spirit of the mine workers cannot be broken. Although betrayed, sold out, crucified, the miners will come out on top with a union that will be one of the bases of saving the working class of America.

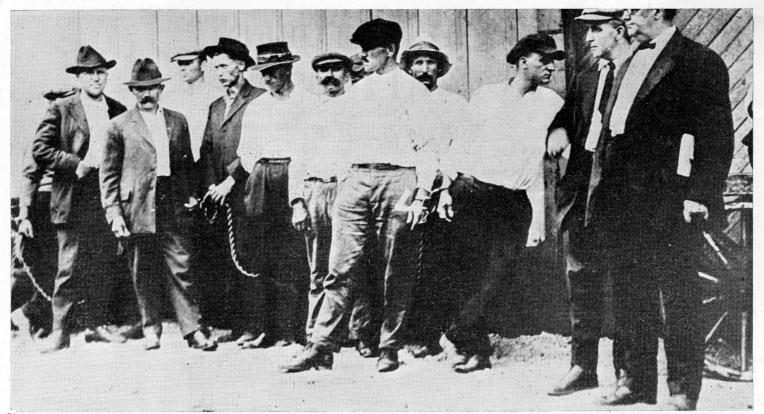


Photo Pacific and Atlantic
A GROUG OF WEST VIRGINIA MINERS ARRESTED AND SHACKLED DURING THE FIGHT TO ORGANIZE THE MEN INTO THE UNION.

Lewis Betrays His Trust · · By John J. Watt

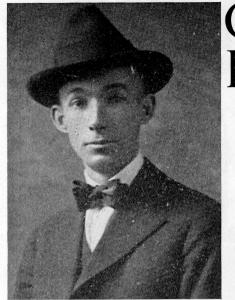


Photo Marlborough
Carl Brannin, Seattle I. L. D. chairman, working for the
release of the prisoners

HE following excerpts is taken from an editorial which appeared in the Pacific Legion (official organ of the American Legion of Oregon and Washington) of March, 1920, during the closing days of the trial of eleven men whose crime was the defending of their union hall at Centralia, Wash., on November 11th 1919: "Even assuming that the I. W. W. story of the affair had some semblance of truth—which, God knows, it has not—what justification would there be for the wanton slaying of unarmed ex service men who were incapable of more than a good-natured 'rough-house' if they had any design against the I. W. W. hall?"

The writer of the above gem evidently lacked or concealed his knowledge of the many "good-natured rough-housings" which members of the I. W. W. had been subjected to on his own Pacific slope and other places where they had challenged the interests on the industrial field. The men who defended their hall knew from experience how 'good-natured" the manequins of the owners of industry

could be when "roughhousing" defenseless workers.

In Centralia on October 20th, 1919, the loggers learned from the press that a secret committee of the business group had been formed to deal with the local I. W. W. situation. They saw clearly another visit from the "good-natured" ones; they pictured another wrecked hall with probably some more names added to the list of the martyrs of their organization; they resolved to do their utmost to stop the vigilantes and their secretary, Britt Smith, had

Good Natured Rough Housers

By Bill Sheehan

some thousands of circulars printed and distributed among the citizens. These circulars stated clearly the aims and objects of the I. W. W. hoping that the publicity would stop the interests from unleashing their bloodthirsty pack. Then followed a period of feverish speculation as to the result the publicity campaign must achieve in arousing the sober-minded portion of the populace to "head-off" the raid.

On November 7th, 1919, the Centralia Hub carried a notice that a parade would be held on Armistice Day-it gave the line of march, and as members of the I. W. W. who made their headquarters in Centralia read the item they saw that the parade was routed three blocks out of the usual parade course, and this change in route would cause the marchers to pass their hall. A year previous another parade had passed their hall—the Governor of the State held a place of honor in the marching lines—the rearguard was made up of the "goodnatured" ones and those "good-natured" ones wrecked the I. W. W. hall, destroying and stealing most of the furniture, and "roughhousing" the union men found on the premises. The "rough-housing" consisted of



Photo A. C. Girard

Elmer Smith, who is aiding in the Centralia campaign to liberate the imprisoned I. W. W.

union hall was broken open before the loggers resisted. Dale Hubbard, nephew of F. B. Hubbard, of union-hating fame, was killed by Wesley Everest. Everest was willing to surrender to a peace officer. He knew too well the sadistic tendency of the mob, but Hubbard who was leading a gang could not see things from Wesley's angle and calling on his followers for support, he rushed headlong to death. Then Everest's gun jammed. He was seized, bound and started on the road to his calvary. He was dragged into North Tower Avenue. A white-haired, benevolent old gentleman tore at his face and ripped open his lower left

eyelid. He was stabbed in the right buttock twice with a bayonet; he was spat upon and kicked. A worker's necktie was slipped around his neck the other end thrown over the projecting arm of a light pole and he was hauled up until his toes just touched the ground. He was then thrown into the jail, a bleeding, painwracked almost corpse. His fellow workers who occupied cells built in a manner that allowed them

a view of his tortured body, watched him as he lay there, and wondered who would be next. That night, he was taken to a bridge spanning the Shehalis River—one of the lynching party castrated him with a razor—a rope was placed around his neck, the knot was tied by a young sailor...

As I write this, Britt Smith, Eugene Barnett, Commodore Bland, O. C. Bland, James McInerney, Ray Becker, John Lamb, Loren Roberts and their families can testify to the after-effects of contact with the "good-natured" rough housers.

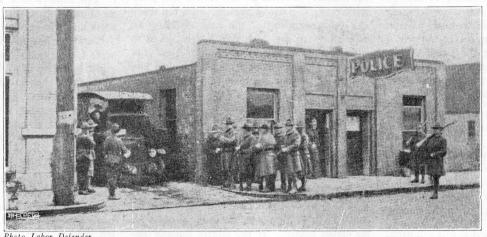


Photo Labor Defender
CARTING AWAY THE MUTILATED CORPSE OF WESLEY EVEREST

making them run the "gauntlet" and when their unfortunate workers were knocked to the ground the "goodnatured" ones put the "leather" to them. The loggers decided that it was time to call a show-down.

Noovember 11th—the day of the parade arrived. What happened is history. The hall was raided. Warren Grimm, Arthur McElfresh and Ben Casagrande, members of the raiding party were shot and killed as they battered down the door. Dr. Bickford, one of the marchers who had volunteered to lead the raid, testified that the door of the

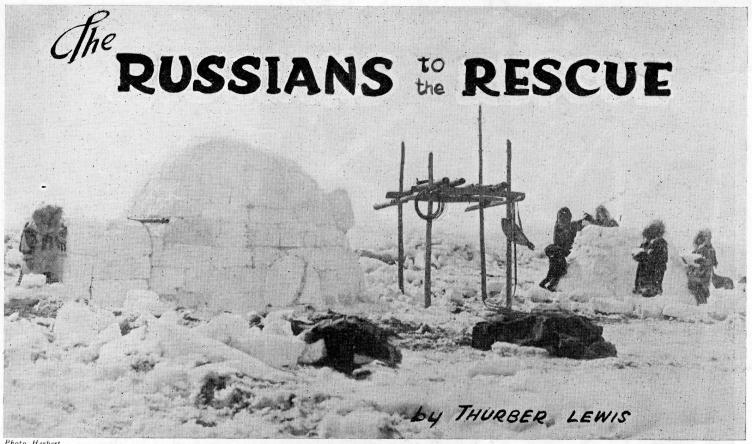


Photo Herbert

OR the greater Glory of Fascismo", was meant to be the outcome of the Nobile arctic expedition. Two dead and twelve missing; disgrace for General Nobile, Mussolini's press agent of the air; a black eye for Fascism—and real glory for the heroic Soviet rescuers—such was the unexpected result.

Let us begin by saying that General Nobile is an erratic Italian of aristocratic origin who has found it necessary to consult a nerve specialist of Rome for a number of years. He conceived the idea, two years ago, of flying a lighter-than-air craft from Spitzbergen, over the North Pole to Point Barrow, Alaska. Associated with him in the enterprise was Roald Amundsen, discoverer of the South Pole. Their ship, the Norge, succeeded in making the hazardous trip. Nobile's real interest in the project was later revealed when, in a slanderous attack on Amundsen, he attempted to take all the credit for himself and Italy. Amundsen, than whom no one is more versed in Arctic lore, ignored Nobile's ravings.

Nobile was after unshared glory. Mussolini made a hero of him because Italy has a particular interest in wanting to appear indomitable in the air-witness the Pinedo four-continent flight and the recent spanning of the South Atlantic by fascist

And to show that "scientific" aims were among the least considerations for Nobile: The original plan for the dirigible Italia was a non-stop flight from Rome to Rio de Janiero. Later it was decided to drop the Italian flag on the North pole, erect a six foot cross and let down a party of Alpinists to take soundings.

Setting out on May 11 with Leninland

as the first objective, Captain Wilkins' warning was found to be correct when the dirigible was forced to return after encountering heavy fog over Franz Joseph Land. On May 12, the *Italia* took the air again and got the break of the weather for an extended cruise that took it over Leninland and the North pole. She cruised over the pole for two hours and dropped her fascist insignia. The disaster came on the return journey.

Nobile's conflicting statements and the Italian censorship on the base ship, City of Milan, have left the real cause for the wreck shounded in mystery. The story that seems to sound the most creditable is that Nobile, over the protests of Finn Malmgren and other members of the crew, allowed the ship to drift with the wind to cover additional territory and that the delay caused ice gathering on the envelope to prove fa-The ship plunged down off North East Land; Nobile and six others in the gondolas crashed on an ice flow, one dying of injuries. Six more, inside the bag, were carried to the East and heard of no more.

Then followed frantic and uncorrelated efforts on the part of a number of nations to rescue the survivors. The first succor was brought by the Swedish Lieutenant Lundborg. When his tiny plane returned to the ice-breaker Quest, Lo and Behold, there sat beside him none other than the brave commander of the Italia, General Nobile. "The captain is the last to leave his ship", does not apply to fascists. Later Lundborg himself was stranded in Nobile's place on his second trip, to be rescued by another Swedish flyer.

But it remained for the Soviet ice breaker Krassin, and the aviator Chukhnovsky to do

the big job. Battling for weeks in treacherous flows where no other ice-breaker had dared to venture, hampered by lack of cooperation from the wireless on the Italian base ship, the Krassin forged ahead, receiving scant attention. As the craft approached Foyne Island Chukhnovsky took off. He sighted three men: two standing and one lying on the ice, said his report. When the Krassin reached the spot to which Chukhnovsky directed her by radio, after he was himself forced to land in a fog, there were found Zappi and Mariano, two Italians who had departed with Finn Malmgren, Swedish scientist as a walking party in search of land.

The man on the ground was no longer there. One of the two Italians had on three suits, Malmgren's included. He said he had not eaten in thriteen days. doctor who examined him said he had eaten within five days. Where was Malmgren? They said they left him on the ice, at his request, to die. There is reason to believe this may not be so-there is even a suggestion of cannibalism.

The Krassin pushed on. It picked up Chukhnovsky and his four companions and at great risk, proceeded to the scene of the wreck and took on the five survivors. The world had to give recognition to the intrepidity and persistence of the Russians. The workers' government of Russia was left to save what could be saved of the fascist

So ends a fascist publicity stunt. The bitter bread of its tragedy is leavened only by the bravery of the workers and sailors of the Soviet steamer Krassin and her aviator, Chukhnovsky who, rumor has it, may come to visit us soon.

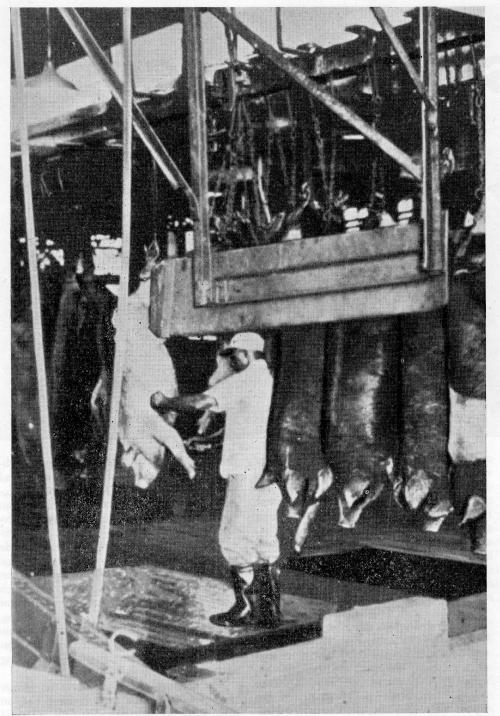


Photo Armour and Co.
A NEGRO PACKINGHOUSE WORKER AT HIS JOB SLITTING PORKERS

The Jungle in 1928

FIRST OF A SERIES ON AMERICAN INDUSTRIES

UPTON Sinclair turned a publicity search light on the Jungles of Chicago's packing town in 1906.

By Scott Nearing

Packing-Town Jungle like in 1928?

The same dirt about the yards, with their sprawling, squa-

lid, buildings, and their vast cattle, sheep and hog pens.

The same stench. On any ordinary day a visitor to Chicago smells the yards at least two miles down wind.

Perhaps conditions surrounding the slaughtering and dressing of the meat have improved somewhat. There are United

States inspectors here and there. The workers on the job may wear cleaner clothes, though many of them do not look it. The essential abuses of Packing-Town remain.

Wages are low and jobs uncertain. Many of the workers are on part time. A recent study of unskilled labor in Chicago showed three-quarters of the white workers and four-fifths of the Negro workers in receipt of less than a living wage.

Unions are banned. The last great struggle in the Chicago packing yards, fought out six years ago, resulted in the defeat of the strikers and the destruction of the union. The Chicago packing houses broke the strike largely with Negro labor.

Sinclair had a great deal to say in the Jungle regarding the houses in which Packing-Town workers were compelled to live. Housing conditions in and around Packing-Town are today unbelievably bad.

Sinclair was attacked for telling, in the Jungle, a story of a worker's child who was drowned in a puddle of water while playing along the street near his home. In the present year there was such a puddle near 31st and State Streets on the South Side of Chicago. It was large enough and deep enough to drown a small child.

Here is an alley in the center of Chicago's South Side. Passing vehicles have gouged deep ruts in the soft black mud. Your foot slips as you walk through the alley and you find yourself ankle deep in the bog. You secure a better foothold and go forward. The stench from a dead, decaying dog greets your nostrils. Ashes and tin cans are piled in overflowing boxes and barrels.

Through the broken patched wooden fences and half-open gates you glimpse back yards piled with rubbish. Behind another gate a savage dog leaps and barks. Wooden shanties used as living quarters front on this noisome alley. Two children prowl through the refuse.

During the rainy periods it is particularly impossible to approach these houses without wading through inches of mud. The whole neighborhood reflects the pressing necessity which compels the workers of Packing-Town to accept living quarters which under no possible stretch of the imagination can be considered decent.

Language is still pitted against language and race against race by the bosses of Packing-Town. They have the workers where they want them, unorganized, bargaining individually, fighting one another for jobs and glad to take any opportunity for a subsistence wage which the boss is inclined to offer.

Such is the Jungle of Chicago's Packing-Town in 1928. If Upton Sinclair were to revisit it, he would meet the old smells, see the broken wooden shacks and shanties and hear from the lips of workers their tragic story of an attempt to wrest a living from one of the most powerful and unscrupulous groups of business interests in the American empire.

That was 22 years ago. What is the

He told of dirt, neglect, poverty, over-

work. The public was aghast. So startling

were the revelations that the president of

the United States took a hand and helped

to force through Congress a legislation un-

der which Packing-Town was to be cleaned

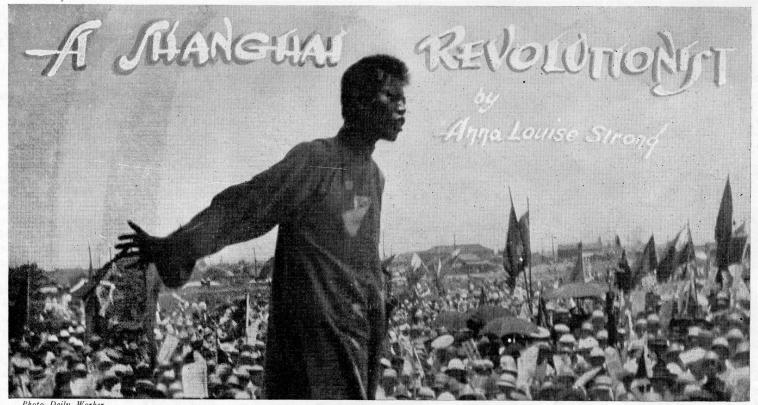


Photo Daily Worker
LI LI-SAN, MEMBER OF THE ALL-CHINA FEDERATION OF LABOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SPEAKING TO WORKERS IN HANKOW.

Y U MO-HWAI was a revolutionist from Shanghai. He looked more like a happ-go-lucky boy than an agitator who had just escaped Chiang Kai-Shek's secret police. Since he was a mechanic he could penetrate the railway shops as easily as the heavy industries or the textile mills, but wherever he might be the one idea in his mind was the organization of the working class as a basis for the revolution.

Yu Mo-Hwai became a member of a trade union after the fourth of May, 1919, when all China protested against Japan's 21 demands by means of strikes and boycotts.

"At the time we began to organize the League," he tells, "there were barely seven trade unions in the whole of Shanghai. I was chosen by them as chairman of their organization committee. I went to the Shanghai-Nanking railroad, and got a job as a railroad worker. Revolutionary feeling was pretty strong after May 30. At the end of August, after the military authorities had suppressed our labor organizations, we organized one hundred local unions with a membership of 300,000."

Later on the personal history of Yu Mo-Hwai becomes the history of the Shanghai workers and their most recent oppresison under Chiang Kai-Shek, those workers "on whose side he was and for whom he struggled." The workers' pickets surprised the police station and expropriated 800 rifles. "With these rifles and with tools from the railway and the Club, we supplied thousands of workers and armed the Feng-Tien watch at the arsenal. It cost us two and a half days of hard fighting but we finally won the arsenal for the nationalists. The whole power lay in the hands of the trade unions. Until the troops should arrive we elected a provisional city government, a committee of nineteen, of whom five were chosen by the unions. Workers' pickets distributed over five zones maintained order. We also sent the Wuhan government a telegram expressing our loyalty, which was formally acknowledged by them.

"But when Chiang Kai-Shek arrived he saw that he could not use this government since it was formed by the masses. There are bandits in Shanghai whom we call 'red and green bands' but who call themselves the 'Union for the Progress of China'. Chiang Kai-Shek thrust rifles in their hands, fastened bands marked 'Workers League' on their sleeves, and obtained permision for them to march across the French quarter to attack the worker-pickets. On the morning of the twelfth of April, the af-

Photo Labor Unity
A CHINESE CHILD WORKER

fair came off. Then Chiang sent his regular troops to disarm the 'mutineers'. Five or six thousand pickets were disarmed in this way. The next day the Shanghai Labor Federation declared a general strike and sent delegates to the military authorities for an explanation. A great crowd of workers gathered but only a few were admitted. While those outside were waiting in the street for their leaders, the troops placed machine guns and killed more than 100 workers. They fled into the shops and the houses but the troops pursued and killed them.

"Chiang formed a committee for the organization of fascist unions under government direction. But the 300,000 organized Shanghai workers remained true to one another, ready to come forward as soon as an occasion presented itself."

Then Yu Mo-Hwai tells of his flight as a delegate from Hankow. "The Federation of Labor decided that I should leave the city for my own safety," he says with a smile. His wife was arrested, his family destroyed. His comrades were hanged. Yu believes that his six brothers were murdered in prison. He himself was hounded from place to place, followed always by spies. He finally too refuge in the house of a friend who lived in foreign quarter. There he disguised himself and escaped.

The article by Scott Nearing in this issue is the first of a series that the Labor Defender intends to present month by month on important American industries. The October issue will contain an article on the automobile industry by Robert W. Dunn, noted labor writer who has made a study of conditions in numerous automobile plants.



Photo New Bedford Times
POLICE BRUTALITY ON THE PICKET LINE AGAINST A WOMAN STRIKER

Facing Naked Bayonets

ARRIVED in New Bedford when the town was buzzing with

MAXSHACHTMAN

to obey orders. And to each other they said: "Hell, this is a lousy job

the excitement of the day before, when the National Guard had broken up a meeting of the strikers with naked fixed bayonets, stabbing a few of the participants under the furious commands of their officers. It was amazing, and an inspiration, how the strikers stood their ground and retreated before the businesslike bayonets only with the greatest reluctance, arguing with the Guardsmen as they fell back; demanding that they join with them (most of them are local boys who went on strike with the rest and were then called to uniform to break it) and refuse to scab on themselves. Almost while they pushed back the jeering strikers, leaflets were shoved into their hands by members of the Young Workers League, appealing to them to refuse to obey the orders of their officers to do the dirty work of the mill

And it is a good sign that dozens of the Guardsmen grumbled openly against their assignments. Some of them practically apologized to the strikers by telling them that they had they gave us."

The use of the National Guard to break the strike is an earnest of the seriousness of the situation. Passing into the fifth month of the strike the ranks of the workers are firmer than on the first day, for they have absorbed many lessons of solidarity and have been hardened by the fight. They have the sympathy of the townspeople. They have their alliance with the thousands who are even now, as this is being written, walking out on strike in the neighboring city of Fall River. They have the support of growing numbers of workers in other cities throughout the country. The long, squat mills are quiet like abandoned houses; only a fingerful of scabs sneak in and out of them like thieves in the night.

Half of the people in the 'bus from Fall River to New Bedford were talking about the strike when I rode in to the center of the walkout of more than 27,000 textile workers; and not one of them but spoke in favor of the demands of the strikers. The passengers were

an accurate cross-section of the sentiment that exists throughout New Bedford. The people of this mill city are overwhelmingly on the side of the workers.

But that doesn't seem to count with the mill operators or

their police or their judges. The former are demanding even sharper measures of oppression against the strikers, more brutality against the picket lines, stronger sentences in the courts. They want the strikers beaten down with the club, cut by the bayonet, and imprisoned in the cell. After one of the big raids made by the police on the picket lines when scores were arrested, John Sullivan, the head of the New Bedford cotton manufacturers' association, issued a public statement expressing his dissatisfaction with the "tameness" of the police and their failure to take sterner measures! So the police and the judges are heeding the orders of their paymaster and beginning to make it warm for the strikers with a vengeance.

Now the strike that started as a "peaceful, pleasant vacation" has in a relatively short period been turned into a sharp hand-to-hand struggle between the strikers on one side and the operators and their legal forces on the other. Few strikes of similar proportions have vielded up such a large casualty list. Together with those arrested in Fall River the total now in prison or out on bail is more than 500 strikers. The bail now put up in court amounts to a quarter of a million dollars! The aggregate jail sentences involved run into doz-

ens upon dozens of years.

To be sure, none of the strikers arrested was charged with any overt act. There wasn't even any need for a statute on which to base the mass arrests. A black-gowned, 75 year-old buzzard who acts as the district court judge in New Bedford (with that disinterestedness that comes only with the appreciable investments that he has in local textile mills) simply ruled that a couple or more of strikers gathering in front of the mill to picket peacefully constituted a riot and had to be suppressed in the interests of law and order and the welfare of the great Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The fact that a supreme court decision to the contrary had been handed down some time ago weighed nothing in the balance with this small-time Judge Jefferies. The ox knoweth his master's stall, and the strike must be starved by a heavy financial strain and the regular draining from the picket line into prison cells of the most active leaders and picket captains of the strike.

The New Bedford kept press cheers such measures to the echo. There would never have been any trouble in New Bedford if it hadn't been for the "outsiders", organizers of the Textile Mill Committees who have built a movement there, who have infused it with a splendid spirit of solidarity and militancy. Things were sweet and idyllic when the old line "leaders" of the Textile Council, the A. F. of L. union were in control of the situation. They told the strikers that they were vacationing, that they should go home and rest until the bosses came to time. They were on

CLASS LINES SHARPENIN NEWBEDFORDanyth

> of the operators about "outsiders" v migrant Portugues their mills; or the looked to the Uni and comfort; or t Frenchman from Ca siders" because they conditions given the was the hue and cry when the operators River, Cambridge, I Massachusetts cities ers and help to bre thing the matter w. whom the press an that they came from help the local milit of all textile worke that will fight and unite and not divid be sold out.

A half an hour the strike situation to convince one tha in that city, and in but intensify their ers. Aid must be fortify them in the cases are still to co and it is a tremend Labor Defense has Bedford by furnish difficult circumstan



CLASSLINES SHARPEN SINNEWto BEDFORD ar

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ES good terms with the bosses, with the mayor, with the police, with the newspapers. They never created any trouble for the very simple reason that they never did anything for the textile workers.

But the collective institutions of the operators were not so squeamish about "outsiders" when they hailed the immigrant Portuguese who came to slave in their mills; or the Polish peasants who looked to the United States for freedom and comfort; or the Englishman and the Frenchman from Canada. They weren't "outsiders" because they acquiesced in the vicious conditions given them by the operators. Nor was the hue and cry raised against "outsiders" when the operators imported police from Fall River, Cambridge, Boston, Brockton and other Massachusetts cities to club and beat the strikers and help to break the strike. The only thing the matter with the "outsiders" against whom the press and the authorities howl is that they came from other textile centers to help the local militants build a strong union of all textile workers of the country, a union that will fight and not capitulate, that will unite and not divide, that will win and not be sold out.

A half an hour of study or observation of the strike situation in New Bedford is enough to convince one that the police and the judges in that city, and in Fall River, will not cease but intensify their violence against the strikers. Aid must be rushed to these fighters to fortify them in their struggle. Hundreds of cases are still to come up in the higher court, and it is a tremendous job that International Labor Defense has been accomplishing in New Bedford by furnish legal aid under the most difficult circumstances.



Photo New Bedjord Evening Standard
AUGUSTO C. GONZALES PINTO ONE OF THE MOSTPOPULAR—AND MOST FREQUENTLY ARRESTED—OF
THE PORTUGUESE STRIKE LEADERS ADDRESSING A STRIKE MEETING

We may be certain, though, that whatever measures of violence are employed by the police and the National Guard, the strikers will meet them with courage and determination to resist any encroachments on their right to struggle. The textile workers in this country have a rich history of brilliant and exemplary struggles. It is necessary to mention only Lawrence, Paterson, and Passaic. They know how to fight.

New Bedford has already met the naked bayonet and come out of it with fearlessness and unbroken ranks. The murderous, shiny steel pointed a lesson of the class struggle to these strikers. Let the operators and their hirelings also learn a lesson from the unyielding courage and fierce determination of the workers. Let them beware against using steel and lead against the men and women of the masses. For the aroused and organized anger of the proletariat is a mighty force!



Photo New Bedford Evening Standard
MASS ARRESTS ARE THE ORDER OF THE DAY BOTH IN NEW BEDFORD AND FALL RIVER. MORE THAN 500 WORKERS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED THUS FAR

Arrests in Kenosha

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

 \mathbf{F}^{OR} over five months the hero- B_{y} SAMUELA. HERMAN ic knitters and

toppers of the Allen-

A Company, manufacturers of hosiery have been out on strike. The three hundred and thirty young workers have as their main demands: Recognition of their union, the American Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers, and Abolition of the two-machine system.

The firm resorted to all the familiar practises pursued by openshop "American Plan" concerns everywhere when a struggle between them and their workers occurs. They hired "Yellow-Dog" MacDonald, the "Lucas Brothers", "Hardboiled" Diehl and similar professional strike-breakers from out East. These men and their gunmen hirelings began a reign of terror against the strikers and workers of Kenosha.

On March 17th, the Allen-A secured an injunction from Judge Geiger of the Federal Court of Milwaukee and with the help of the local police, made serious attempts to break the strike. The entire police department of Kenosha and additional sheriff's deputies were put at the disposal of the firm to maintain the proverbial "Law and Order".

Mass arrests of workers who peacefully picketed have been a common occurrence until the present day. At one time forty-two were arrested, and another time thirty-six and similar numbers are arrested constantly. The local chamber of commerce composed of such arch-reactionary open-shoppers as Nash Motor Company, American Brass, and Simmons Co., have con-

stantly brought pressure on the police to stir these uniformed strike breakers into

even more energetic measures against the young strikers.

The city manager form of government in vogue in Kenosha lends itself completely to the desires of the open-shoppers, and leaves no stone unturned to break the strike. Today, the total arrests of strikers amounts to close to 500!

Besides arresting strikers, the police and city manager form of government have been instrumental in arresting members of the Young Workers League active in the strike. Again and again meetings of the League were broken up and speakers arrested. The fury of the police is especially directed against the Young Workers League for its energetic support of the striking young workers and the rest of the miserably underpaid exploited vouth of Kenosha's factories. Seargent Meissner, the notorious tool of the open shop on the police force has threatened to use violence against members of the League and has made good his promise on several occasions.

On the other hand, the police have been extremely cautious in the arrests of gunmen in the employ of Allen-A. Armed thugs of the firm caught with weapons in their possession were released after a few minutes of detention and allowed to continue after their guns were restored to them. Realizing that they have nothing to fear in Kenosha, the "better city of the open shoppers", from the local administration, the hired thugs have run amuck with the result that several strikers have been



Photo Kondratowiez
THE KENOSHA POLICE IN ACTION AGAINST THE
ALLEN-A STRIKERS

shot. Not long ago, Allan Steele, a striker, and Siami Helli were shot while riding home in a machine late at night. About two months ago, armed Allen-A thugs riding in several cars that were virtually moving arsenals full of sawed-off shotguns, pistols, sling-shots, lead pipe and black-jacks, fell upon strikers who were riding in a machine and engaged in a terrific attack against them. The police released the gunmen when they were later apprehended. The few retail arrests of gunmen that are made prove unavailing as they are permitted to go free when their trial comes up in court.

More and more the workers of Kenosha are awakening to the role of the government as a strike-breaker. The injunction against the strikers issued by the Federal Court, the wholesale arrests of strikers and the very small number of scabs arrested in spite of the terrorism these Allen-A hirelings carry on, are opening the eyes of all workers in the city to the class rule of the capitalists.

Sam Cohen, Attention! e International Class War Prisoner

The International Class War Prisoners' Aid of England is anxious to get in touch immediately with Sam Cohen, formerly of England and now in the United States. Cohen is about 42 years of age, and was born in Estapol (Ostropole), Russia, north near Rovno. He left Russia about 18 years ago, arriving in the United States, at New York City, in 1910, where he was employed as a tailor. He was a member of the I. W. W. The last address known was 653½ Mc Allister Street, San Francisco, California. Information as to his whereabouts should be immediately transmitted to International Labor Defense, 80 E. 11th Street, Room 402, New York City.

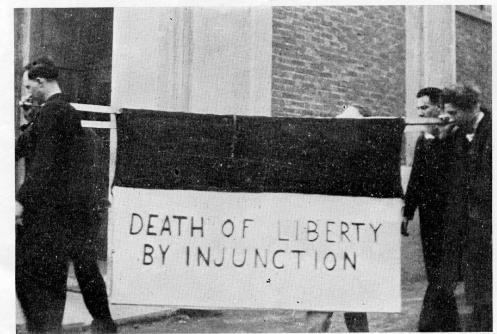


Photo Kondratowiez

THE STRIKERS CONDUCT A MOCK FUNERAL OF THE INJUNCTION



Photo Theresa Valente
JOHN PORTER IN ARMY UNIFORM

JOHN PORTER, one of the leaders of the New Beford textile strike has been sentenced by court martial to the military prison at Fort Adams, Rhode Island, to serve a term of two years, ostensibily on the charge of deserting from the U. S. Army, but actually for his active participation in the textile strike.

Had Porter been a Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, a millionaire coward, he might have continued to play hide and seek with the authorities for years, going on junketing trips through Europe while the police

John Porter

made formal feints to apprehend him. But Porter was only a worker in the mills

A SOLDIER IN PRISON

and their cause tho in uniform.

The monstrous sentences of Crouch and

Trumbull were shortened only because of the protest movement organized by International Labor Defense. A similar movement, where the voice of American labor will be heard in unmistakable tones, will insure the swift release of John Porter and enable him to rejoin the firing line of labor's battle.

who responded to the call of solidarity and went out with the others to be one of the most effective picket line leaders and directors of the struggle. Porter had joined the army when he did not as yet understand its class role, its use as a prop to capitalist system; and when he realized its anti-labor nature, he left it. Porter might have remained free, if he had become a scab, the hero of Americanism. But he became a militant; he joined the Young Workers League in his city. On one pretext or another he had got rid of, and the charge of desertion was as good as anything.

Porter's arrest and conviction is helping to enlarge and strengthen the tradition arising out of the last war of the revolutionary elements who are coming out of the armed forces of capitalism. He follows in logical sequence after the heroic American soldiers who mutinied in Siberia against being forced to serve as counter-revolutionary janissaries against the young Bolshevik revolution. He is a comrade in arms of Paul Crouch, Walter Trumbull, Roderick Nadeau and the other red soldiers who were arrested in Hawaii for organizing the Hawaiian Communist League among the U. S. troops stationed there. He is a harbinger of the many, many more workers in the army who will fight for the workers

RELEASED!

The last month has seen the release of two class war prisoners in the United States. The first was Frank Corish, a miner who was imprisoned in Moundsville, W. Va., for his activity in the labor movement. He has written the national office of the International Labor Defence thanking it for the aid it gave him while he was behind the bars.

Another labor fighter released from Thomaston, Maine, where he served seven years of his sentence was Tom Harty, a seaman who was framed-up and railroaded to prison. Harty dropped in to the office of the I. L. D. when he was released and expressed his gratitude for the efforts on his behalf. The United States authorities have now taken possession of him and deported him to the land of his birth, Ireland.

The Class War Prisoners and the Elections

THE election campaign is in full swing. The candidates of the two capitalist parties are competing with each other in seeking the favor of Wall Street. Reactionary labor leaders at the head of the American Federation of Labor refuse as yet to take a stand for or against either of the two chief capitalist standard bearers—Al Smith and Herbert Hoover. They prefer to bargain for themselves individually. Each labor leader may now hunt for himself and if he brings home a kill it will be his own.

The two big parties of capitalism are interested in labor—to exploit it. In their platforms there is no plank, no promise that could satisfy even the most conservative worker. A sop on the injunction, a meaningless jumble of words.

There was not a word about the crushing of strikes by the armed forces of the state, wage cutting, company unionism and the jailing and framing of scores of class war fighters in the dungeons of the United States.

Herbert Hoover delivered his acceptance speech before a tremendous bourgeois audience in Palo Alto, California. Hoover's speech was a new pledge of loyalty to American imperialism and of his willingness to place his ability without reservation at the service of the American ruling class.

Hoover's speech contained no message for the workingclass, though the initiated could read between the lines that the function of the workBy TOM O'FLAHERTY

ers was to work, slave and make profits for their masters. Should they revolt and organize their fellow workers to fight for better working conditions they would find themselves with Tom Mooney or Warren K. Billings or with the scores of other class war prisoners in the pens of the land.

There was no word of hope for Tom Mooney in Hoover's speech, no hint that the great wrong that had been committed against an innocent worker would be admitted and Mooney set free. The standard bearer of the Republican Party proved that he is concerned only with the interests of the employers, and does not care if one hundred thousand workers were jailed for life if the interests of capitalism demand the sacrifice.

Al Smith, the leader of Tammany Hall and candidate for the presidency on the Democratic ticket, is allied with the most bitter enemies of the workingclass in the United States. He is the bearer of the tradition of the notorious Woodrow Wilson, under whose regime the Palmer Red Raids were organized and the nation turned into one gigantic spy agency. Al's southern allies make a specialty of lynching Negroes and the Tammany politician never raised his voice in protest against those outrages.

New York state troopers and policemen, un-

der control of the Democratic organization in New York State break strikes, arrest pickets and in every possible way to help the employers. Tammany judges are always ready to send working class fighters to jail. Al Smith is endorsed by the General Motors Company, the largest corporation in the world and by the Du Pont munitions trust. Both are strongly anti-

Unlike the two other parties claiming to represent labor, the Socialist and Socialist Labor Parties, which carry on no concrete or militant struggle for the release of class war prisoners, the Workers (Communist) Party has raised the slogan of "Release the Class War Prisoners" and endorsed a vigorous campaign in behalf of the men behind the bars; against the bourbon savagery of lynchings; against injunctions and the use of troops in strikes; and a well rounded-out program of class struggle.

Every militant worker who is conscious of his interests is prepared to organize around the banner of the class struggle, in and out of elections, and mobilize his forces to smash the oppressors of labor and to build on the ruins of the present robber system a social order that will give the worker his due social share of the product of his toil and will force the parasite to work or starve.

When that day comes there will be no class war prisoners.

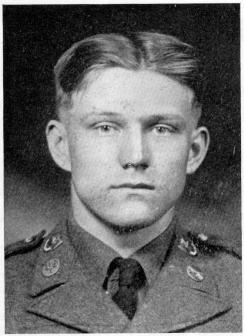


Photo Theresa Valente
JOHN PORTER IN ARMY UNIFORM

A Visit to Henry Corbishley By Joseph Giganti

rinally, after what seemed an age, the aged decrepit Missouri Pacific one coach train pulled into Chester, Ill. The engine was panting as if overcome by the intensity of the heat. Unloading its baggage and practically all of its remaining passengers except myself and another, it started on its short but laborious run to Menard, the Penitentiary of Southern Illinois.

At this point the mighty Mississippi widens into thousands of feet and the opposite shore appears as a scraggly line which fades into the winding distance. The wildness and freshness of the panorama which presents itself to the eye is enchanting. The river appears as far as eye can see, to break up into the myriad patches of the most startling colors.

The train came to a dead stop with a sudden jerk. The walk to the prison was a short one. At first glance it did not seem as if this immense building could be a prison, nestling as it does between the Mississippi and a precipitous hill rising in the background. As one approached, it took on more and more the shape of a penal institution. The windows were tall and solidly barred and and set into gray, green walls covered with ivy.

At the prison's office I was asked a number of questions concerning my relationship to the prisoner, Henry Corbishley. Being satisfied as to the regularity of my visit, I was made to wait several hours. At last the booming voice of a

guard was heard from the other end of the corridor, "Henry Corbishley here!"

I arose and walked down the corridor, at the invitation of a guard. There was Henry, standing next to the guard that brought him in. His face and arms were blackened by the sun, his cheeks were hollow and his hair somewhat thinner than when I had seen him last on the outside. He was dressed in blue denim trousers and blue striped shirt. Our hands shot out into a strong comradely grip.

We were led to the long table that stood in the center of the hall and instructed to seat ourselves on opposite sides. And so we began our talk in this manner, across the five foot width under surveillance of a guard seated on a platform several feet away.

The first thing he wanted to know was of the progress being made by the progressives in the labor movement. He eagerly questioned me about the situation in the miners' union. He showed great satisfaction on learning of the tremendous headway that the progressives were making in the miners' union nationally, and in Illinois particularly. One can understand his feelings about the Illinois movement when it is realized that he himself had helped to cre-

ate it, and even now, though behind prison doors, was one its guiding spirits.

He bitterly assailed Lewis, Fishwick, Cobb, Fox and other leeches and betrayers of the miners, responsible for the imprisonment of his comrades, Meanovich, Moleski, Simich and himself. He also expressed hope that the conference to be held in Pittsburgh in September by the new militant miners' union might be successful.

His family came in for discussion and it was apparent that they were quite a source of worry to him, and the thought of their welfare weighed heavily on his mind. I assured him that the I. L. D. would see to it that the family would not suffer for lack of the necessaries of life. They are receiving a \$20 check each month from the I. L. D. and I promised to try to send them additional sums from time to time on the account of Local Chicago.

Then we spoke of plans for a campaign to secure the release of himself and the three other miners in prison with him, sent up on the same frame-up charges. He agreed that a state wide campaign be waged by the I. L. D. to save them

from further imprisonment.

He expressed hope to be out soon so that he may again enter the struggles of the workingclass. He said, "Tell the workers on the outside that I am heart and soul in the fight. I wish that I were out so that I could actually participate. But if it were necessary for me to stay here for the next twenty years in order to serve my class better would have no hesitation about

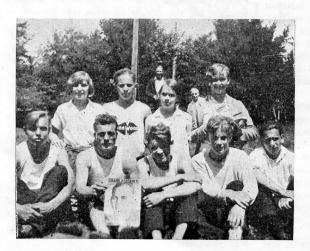
Henry Corbishley is a fearless leader of the working class. The sacrifices that he has been called upon to make find him still defiant and unflinching.



Photo Labor Defender

WILLIAM Z. FOSTER ADDRESSING AN INTERNA-TIONAL LABOR DEFENSE PICNIC IN ZEIGLER ILL., DURING THE FRAME-UP OF CORBISHLEY AND HIS COMRADES

Eyes of the Labor Movement



This month we print an amateur photograph snapped by Lillian Mount, of Burlington, Vermont, who attended the Young Workers League training school at Holmes Park, Massachusetts, a number of the students of which are to be seen here. The comrade holding the Mooney-Billings number of the Labor Defender in his hands is Richard Vanger, one of the students who is the New England amateur champion of paced bicycle racing.

If you are at all handy with your camera, be on the alert for scenes to be photographed that are fitting for reproduction in the Labor Defender. A strike, a labor meeting, a demonstration, a picket line, unemployed workers, or any similar photo is of interest to the readers of this magazine.

we want you to send it in. The Labor Defender cameramen, of whom there is a growing group throughout the country, are becoming the eyes of the labor movement. Every month we print one of the numbers of photos sent in to us.

How about sending in your snapshot?

NEW LITERATURE

Among the literature recently issued by the International Labor Defense is a leaflet on the Mooney -Billings case, the first of a series on this frame-up that the I. L. D. intends to publish in its campaign to free the two California victims of the frame-up system. The leaflet can be bought at the national office at \$2.25 per thousand.

In addition leaflets are in preparation dealing with the struggle and lessons of the textile and miners' strike.

The 'Glory' That Is Greece

TE tobacco strike and the struggles which accompanied it gave the Greek bourgeoisie the opportunity of going on the streets whip in hand. Collissions were deliberately provoked, the police shot down unarmed working men and women on the open streets, still more, the bourgeois papers completed the picture by accusing the workers of killing each each other in order to discredit democracy! There is the case of the police officer of Pravi who ordered his men: "Kill him, kill him on my responsibility!" And the police killed him, the worker Katsoni.

The murders took place everywhere, in Xanthi, Drama, Kavalla. In Xanthi, the workers were murdered as they left their houses. Fifteen killed and 150 wounded workers, not one single policemen even wounded: that was the balance of this great police victory. In a number of cases, the police refused permission for the wounded to be removed either to their homes or to hospitals but themselves transported the injured workers into a gloomy cellar where they were beaten with rifle butts and left without medical attention. These workers died in the night and were hurriedly buried by the police without their families knowing anything about it.

The tobacco worker Dintsos was arrested on the 16 of the June in Salonika. Taken to the police station, he was systematically tortured. In order to stifle his shrieks of pain he was gagged. One of the leaders in this torture was the officer Kondylakis. A doctor sent by the Workers Aid to Dintsos was refused permission to attend him. Later he was loaded with chains and deported without trial to the island of Yos. The carman Dukas was also arrested in Salonika and brutally beaten in the police station. He was then placed in chains and deported. A man named Auxentios was arrested in Verria without rhyme or reason. During the whole of his arrest he

was held incommunicado and then deported in chains to Folengandros. On the 12th of June the shoemaker Tassos Georgiadis was arrested in Kavalla. He was also beaten in the police station. Similar arrests are taking place everywhere. Arrests, brutal maltreatment and deportation without trial, murder and violence against unarmed workers are the order of the day in Greece now. In the last few weeks the workers of Greece have learned the meaning of the democratic constitution when applied to workers, and something else they have also learned: the great work of the Red Aid which sprang in immediately to assist all the victims of the Greek white terror.

At the end of last week another great trial of 21 anti-fascists and Communists commenced before the special tribunal in Milan. The chief accused, Luigi Scramignan, is charged with having attempted to reorganize the Communist Party. The following are also on trial with him: Ardiccio Donegani, Cristina Rossini, Alcide Bertelli, Umberto Tangetti, Pietro Tosani,

Carlo Tofarelli, Italo Nicoletti, Marcelle Verdina, Luigi Bardelloni, Luigi Vivaldini, Luigi Gatta, Dante Mozz, Allesandro Valzelli, Giuseppe Mazzanini, Tommaso Imperadori, Antonio Gheno, Cesare Bagni and Primo Ghidinelli. Terrible sentences have been announced approximately twice a week in the last few weeks and severe sentences are also to be expected in this trial.

Approximately 300 proletarian political prisoners have been released under the new am-

the police raid took place was also arrested. Bascynski is to be charged with high treason on the basis of paragraph 102 of the Polish (formerly the imperial czarist) Penal Code which provides punishment of 10 years at hard labor for that offense.

At the order of the Chilean dictator, Ibanez, 40 proletarian revolutionaries have been deported to the islands of Masa Fuera where there are already 300 Communists and Anarchists held. These latter were deported after the

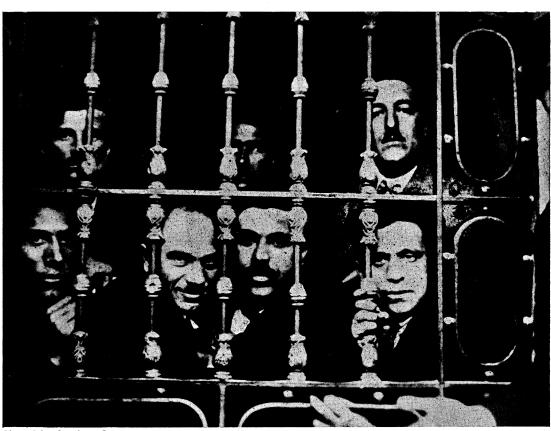


Photo John Graudenz, Betur SOME OF THE IMPRISONED GREEK REVOLUTIONARY LEADERS. Top, left to right: K. VASARAS, K. SCHIDIS, PH. CAMMONAS. Bottom, left to right: CH. PAPADOPOULOS, A. GEORGAKIS, B. PAPANICALAON, J. ARVANITAKIS.

nesty in Germany. Tremendous mass demonstrations have taken place in all parts of Germany to welcome the proletarian fighters back to the ranks. Tax Hoelz was not among the amnestied prisoners, but he was released the next day at the order of the supreme court while the proceedings for a new trial are being conducted. A tremendous demonstration in Berlin greeted the released prisoners who arrived at the railway stations there, and the demonstration was repeated the next day when Max Hoelz arrived. All newspapers, from the extreme right to the left, were unanimous that such scenes of enthusiasm had seldom been seen in Berlin in recent years. Not all the prisoners have been released, however. Rudolph Margies and many others are still in prison.

It is reported from Warsaw that the Community deputy Baszynski has been arrested by the police in the home of a worker named Ignacz Vrzynvicki. A working woman named Pascynska who was also present in the house when

coup d'Etat which gave Ibanez power. News came from Chile some time ago that these men had been released; in reality, however, only a few of them had been freed upon promising to support the regime of Ibanez.

An amnesty law in connection with the tenth anniversary of the Polish republic has now been adopted. The amnesty is a worthy end to the ten years and a beginning to the next ten years of white terror. Cunningly drawn up, only a tiny number of the proletarian political prisoners benefit by the "amnesty" and then only to the extent of one third of their sentences. The other side of the amnesty is the generosity to the fascists. Koverda, the murderer of the Soviet Ambassador to Poland, Voikov, whose life long sentence was reduced to one of ten years' hard labor, has now been released under the amnesty! This is the answer to the hard struggle of the masses to secure an unconditional amnesty for their comrades. The struggle will go on!

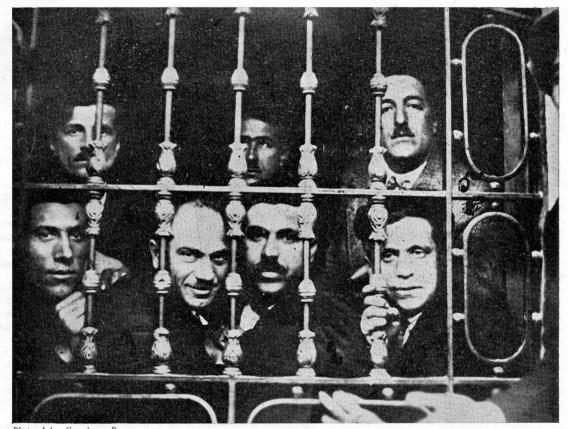


Photo John Graudenz, Berlin
SOME OF THE IMPRISONED GREEK REVOLUTIONARY LEADERS. Top, left to right: K. VASARAS, K. SCHIDIS, PH. CAMMONAS. Bottom, left to right: CH. PAPADOPOULOS, A. GEORGAKIS, B. PAPANICALAON, J. ARVANITAKIS. .

BUILDING THE ILLD.

SINCE the last report on new branches organized the following have been formed: San Diego, Calif., English, 18 members; Br. No. 109, Ind. Workmen's Circle, Malden, Mass., 40 members; Santa Cruz, Cal., English 20 members; Wm. D. Haywood Br., Lynn, Mass., 14 members.

Hungarian Branches: Scranton, Pa.; South Bethlehem, Pa.; Woodbridge, N. J.; Riversville, W. Va.; Newark, N. J.; Carteret, N. J.; Los Angeles, Calif.; Bohemian Br., Allentown Br., Allentown, Pa., 15 members; New Bedford, Mass., English, Wm. D. Haywood.

Mooney-Billings Leaflet Issued

The first of a series of Mooney-Billings leaflets has been issued by the national office of International Labor Defense. The price is \$2.25 per thousand and orders should be placed immediately.

Resolutions on behalf of Mooney and Billings have been sent out by the National Office to the various organizations for adoption.

Centralia Conference

In the developement of the campaign to free the Centralia I. W. W. prisoners a state-wide conference in Washington has been called for early in September. The International Labor Defense and the Centralia Liberation Committee are developing this state conference. An I. L. D. tour in the state has been organized.

Miners and Textile Campaigns

The joint I. L. D. and National Miners Relief week is concluded, but many cases still remain and demand support.

International Labor Defense is concentrating now on support of hundreds of striking textile workers who have been arrested in New Bedford, as well as developing a campaign for the release of John Porter, New Bedford striker-soldier, imprisoned for his activities in the strike. I. L. D. locals shall participate, together with the Y. W. L. and other organizations, in meetings on behalf of Porter.

Sacco-Vanzetti Memorial Meetings

Sacco-Vanzetti memorial meetings, according to reports received by the national office will be held in approximately 75 cities in the United States. The campaign for the release of Mooney and Billings has been made a major part of the Sacco-Vanzetti meetings in drawing the lessons of the Sacco-Vanzetti case.

Get New Members

The miners and textile campaigns, Mooney and Billings and Centralia campaigns should be utilized by the I. L. D. locals to get new members. When the I. L. D. is in action is the most opportune time to draw new, virile blood into our ranks.

Get after the old members to pay up dues! Get new members! Hold regular meetings!

Locals should already arrange for dances, bazaars, entertainments and other affairs for the fall and winter to raise funds for the general defense work.

Local Activities

Local Chicago is initiating and devolping a campaign for the release of the four Zeigler miners now imprisoned. Resolutions are being adopted in many organizations. Local Chicago has organized a group of Minute Men, staunch I. L. D. workers, who are ready at a moments

notice to do whatever I. L. D. work is asked of them.

Local Detroit is again conducting a Labor Defender subscription drive.

All the locals participated in the miners relief and defense drive.

The New England district is concerning itself mainly with the defense of the textile strikers.

Locals Oakland, Cleveland, and New York are issuing their bulletins regularly.

Ten workers were arrested in Los Angeles during the miners relief and defense week drive.

International White Terror Campaigns

The locals should especially concern themselves in the campaign against the White Terror in Japan, Greece and China.

The I. L. D. has many important campaigns before it. Because of the many activities, every member is expected to do his duty and carry on the work.



Cora Meyers, who has been directing the activities of the Milwaukee, Wis., local of the I. L. D. as secretary, ...as for years been one of the leading figures in defense activities in the country.

activities in the country.

Among the recent accomplishments of the local led by her, has been an increase in dues payments, a distribution of thousands of copies of I. L. D. literature; an increase of 100 new subscribers for the Labor Defender and 150 more copies in the monthly bundle. The campaign for Mooney-Billings and the Centralia victims of frame-up, have especially been effective in this city where the Central Labor Council of the city has passed resolutions in favor of both. Milwaukee reports decided progress and in all this activity, Cora Meyer, enterprising secretary, has been a leading spirit.

LABOR DEFENDER DRIVE

DETROIT MODEL 1928

The Detroit Local of the I. L. D. is not content to lead all cities in the country in subscriptions to the Labor Defender by a narrow margin. To maintain leadership, the most active members have been chosen as a committee to conduct a drive for "2,000 subscribers by 1929".

Louise Morrison has been appointed special Labor Defender agent for Detroit. The campaign is laid out in such an efficient manner it can well serve as a model for other cities. The program taken from the minutes of a recent meeting of the Detroit local is as follows:

1. That quotas be apportioned to the various

branches according to their numerical strength.

- 2. That the winning branch be given a trophy—a silver loving cup—with name and date engraved, to be held until next contest.
- 3. That every branch elect a Labor Defender Agent who has no other function in the branch, if possible.
- 4. That during the campaign the Labor Defender Agents hold regular meetings together for the purpose of developing the campaign.
- 5. That every branch be instructed to turn in list of meetings, picnics, affairs, etc., held by various organizations of their knowledge.
- 6. That the City Executive be held responsible for seeing that all affairs are covered with the Labor Defender.
- 7. That a speaker be sent to all Branches on the I. L. D. Campaign.
- 8. Visit all political, fraternal and sympathetic organizations in the city on the drive.
- 9. That we hold a Labor Defender Rally in the form of an outdoor affair.
- 9. That we print some attractive Labor Defender Campaign posters and put them up in each hall and meeting place of I. L. D. branches and sympathetic organizations.
- 11. That a bulletin board be established in all I. L. D. meeting halls, etc., to report the developments during the contest.
- 12. That the Labor Defender Sub Campaign be linked up with a membership campaign. "Every member a reader—every reader a member."
- 13. That a joint application and sub card be printed in the local during the campaign with permission from the national office.
- 14. That every branch have a speccial little social at one of their regular meetings at which a speaker should be present on the Sub Campaign.
- 15. That a Grand Windup for the campaign be arranged which is to be combined with a send-off for the delegates to the National Conference.
- 16. That every one securing 10 subs or more be given a prize: Bars and Shadows; My Heresy; Communism and Christianism; Sacco-Vanzetti by Lyons; and original copies of drawings of I. L. D. significance by Fred Ellis.

To stimulate the campaign further measures have been taken. The local has been advised that the October issue of the Labor Defender will carry a two-page feature by Robt. W. Dunn on the automobile industry. Since this is of special interest to Detroit workers a large order of this issue is being made to be handled by picked individuals and committees for sale at the auto factory gates especially. To further localize interest, the local is now securing Detroit advertising for the October issue. Fred Ellis and Jacob Burck, two New York labor artists, have on the request of the Labor Defender, volunteered to make original cartoons suitable for framing to serve as premiums for the drive.

The Detroit campaign is sure to prove of great value in stimulating the campaign for Mooney and Billings and defense work as a whole. We offer it here as a model for every city in the country. Begin now—help to make good our national slogan: "The Labor Defender—30,000 paid circulation by 1929".



Cora Meyers, who has been directing the activities of the Milwaukee, Wis., local of the I. L. D. as secretary, as for years been one of the leading figures in defense activities in the country.

Among the recent accomplishments of the local led by her, has been an increase in dues payments, a distribution of thousands of copies of I. L. D. literature; an increase of 100 new subscribers for the Labor Defender and 150 more copies in the monthly bundle. The campaign for Mooney-Billings and the Centralia victims of frame-up, have especially been effective in this city where the Central Labor Council of the city has passed resolutions in favor of both. Milwaukee reports decided progress and in all this activity, Cora Meyer, enterprising secretary, has been a leading spirit.



VOICES FROM PRISON

LETTERS FROM JOHN LAMB, LEO ELLIS, J. B. McNAMARA

AND ALEX CHESSMAN

Walla Walla, Wash.

International Labor Defense New York City.

Dear Friends and Comrades:

Please find enclosed with this letter two signed receipts for last months prison relief. One receipt for myself, and one for Fellow Worker James McInerney.

We are both sending you our sincere thanks for prison relief checks.

Our wives and some of our children made us boys a visit last week. They were here during the meeting of the Parole Board and we all had a real visit with them. They were all looking fine.

We sure appreciate the good work that the I. L. D. is carrying on in our behalf. We all know that the I. L. D. has always been our true friend, and they have always given our case plenty of publicity and worked hard for our release.

Our kiddies said that they more than enjoyed reading the *Labor Defender* as it is always full of good articles, cartoons and pictures.

Our little daughters Bessie and Ruby Lamb said that they had saved very near every issue of the *Labor Defender* and said that they had a fine selection of said magazines.

We are all hoping to gain our release in the very near future so we can return to our outside world and be with our loved ones and friends once more.

With the best wishes to all of you, we remain as ever, yours for Industrial Freedom,

JOHN LAMB.

Represa, Calif.

Martin Abern,

Dear Comrade:

Enclosed please find receipt for five dollars in acknowledgement of receiving the usual monthly prison relief.

I wish to compliment the I. L. D. for the excellent publicity work you are doing in behalf of the Mooney-Billings case. I have just read a splendid article in the New York Sunday World.

Hoping you will meet with success in your undertakings, I remain,

LEO ELLIS

San Quentin Prison, Calif.

F. E. Spector,

Los Angeles, Calif.

My dear Spector:

It should be needless for me to say that I enjoyed your visit and I sincerely hope your group, consisting of your wife, Mr. and Mrs. Hittelman and Mr. Reichenthal, did likewise. Like the flood in the South, your group ran into a storm up North. In all probability it was the storm that prevented Cannon from coming over on the same day. Again, I say, I enjoyed your visit

because you seemed to grasp the situation as it really is; and I hope your group left with better understanding—not of the struggle; that they have already—but of the situation.

I was surprised and pleased to learn of the large number at the state conference of the I. L. D. I hope a great deal of light will come of the said conference. Light is all that is needed and the people will follow. One is privileged to lose faith in one leader or all leaders but one should never lose faith in the people. Give them the facts and they will respond, slowly but surely.

We have met members of the I. L. D. from the Bay District. Your group was the first we system, my fondest dreams that I have cherished all these years are coming true.

These are not my words but this is a good place to say them: "Things don't happen; they are brought about."

Detained,

J. B. McNAMARA

Moundsville, W. Va.

International Labor Defense,

Dearest Comrades and Brothers:

In answer to your letter of recent date, and thanking you sincerely for the contribution check in the sum of five dollars which indeed

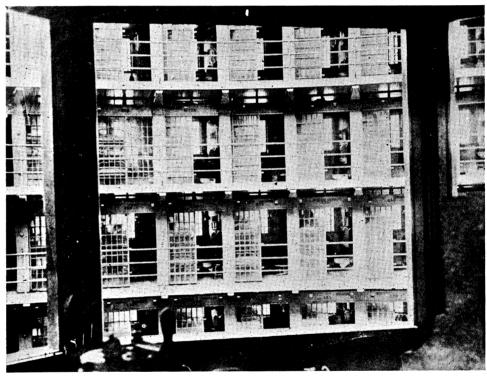


Photo Labor Defender

A VIEW OF THE CELLS IN THE JOLIET, ILL., PRISON

have met from the South. That being the case, we wish to convey, through you, our warmest wishes to all the members of the I. L. D. in the South. Your group that visited San Quentin and spoke with five of the eight here will, no doubt, inform all the members of the I. L. D. of the situation as your group found it here.

We appreciate, more than words can express, what the members of the I. L. D. are doing for prisoners in prisons all over the country over labor troubles. The I. L. D. had a hard time to scratch through the surface but now it is on the surface and there to remain for the good it is doing for all militants on the industrial field. Our leaders have betrayed those on the industrial field and went over to those on the commercial field who have nothing to offer us.

Through Theodore Dreiser, on the Soviet

will be a great help to me in securing the necessities I need and for other things of benefit.

I am sorry for my delay in answering your letter sooner but I am not a very good scribe and sometimes under the circumstances it is hard to secure someone to write for me, so I am most sure you will make allowances for me being uncultured.

It is indeed a pleasure to me to know of all the good work the I. L. D. is doing for the comrades who are in penal institutions serving time, that grow out of labor struggles, and I am one who will always remember your kindness to me.

Thanking you again for all that you are doing for me and wishing you much luck for greater success, with kind regards I remain

ALEX CHESSMAN.

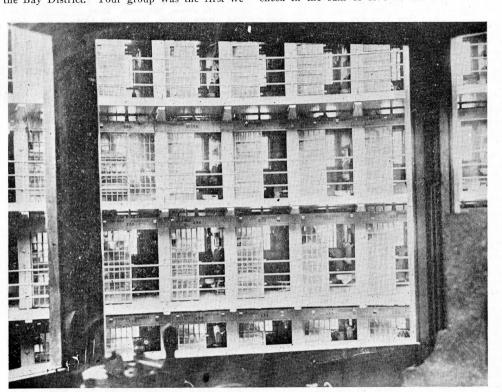


Photo Labor Defender

A VIEW OF THE CELLS IN THE JOLIET, ILL., PRISON

Contributors to the Pledge Fund

THE pledge Fund contributors throughout the country are helping to send money each month to the prisoners and their families.

The following have pledged themselves to help the International Labor Defense to regularly send \$5 to class-war prisoners and \$20 to dependents.

Estelle Tarkoff, Boulder, Colo.
Mrs. A. Kratofil, Norwalk, Ohio.
Joseph Wilson, Long Beach, Wash.
The Siegel Family, Ontario, Calif.
Jens Jensen, Bridgeport, Conn.
Alex Drajnick, Gary, Ind.
A. N. Routhier, Detroit, Mich.
Anne Hammer, Rosindale, Mass.
Mike Paparelli, New York City.
I. E. Ferguson, Chicago, Ill.
Joe Smith, Philadelphia, Pa.
Otto Olson, Kalispell, Mont.
A. Badourina, Raymond, Wash.

I. L. D. BRANCHES

Local Newberry.

l	Chicago:	hicago: Hungarian		; Nortl	Northwest	
(CONTRI	BUTIONS	FOR	MAY	1928	

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20760	Hungarian, I. L. D. Akron, Ohio	5.00
20761	Saul Steinberg, Brooklyn, N. Y.	5.00 2.00
20762 20763	A. M. Peterson, Strattord, Conn.	1.00
10764	Workmen's Sick & Death Benefit Fund	1.00
		5.00
20765	Scan. Workers' Club, Rockford, Ill	5.00 2.00
20766	Agnes de Lima, Valley Cottage, N. Y.	2.00
20767 20768	B. M. Allen Cheshire Conn	5.00 2.00
10769	Scan. Workers' Club, Rockford, Ill Agnes de Lima, Valley Cottage, N. Y. A. Feldbum, New York Ciy B. M. Allen, Cheshire, Conn Workmen's Sick & Death Benefit Fund College Point, N. Y.	2.00
	College Point, N. Y	5.00
20770	B. Valli, ureka, Calif	1.50
20771 20772	Italian Section, I.L.D., New York City	9.00 20.00
20773	Northern Progressive Ladies' Society	20.00
	, Detroit, Mich.	20.00
20774	Women's Branch, Detroit, Mich	15.500
20775 20776	Tithuanian Branch, Detroit, Mich	10.00 10.00
20777	Mooney Branch, Detroit, Mich	5.00
20778	Scandinavian Branch, Detroit, Mich	10.00
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20781	Otto Bartram, Springfield, Mass	3.00
20782	C. Alwood Tobey, Oakland, Calif	6.75
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20785	Amelia S. Harwood, Upland, Calif	5.00
20786	Mrs. H. S. Upson, Santa Barbara, Calif	10.00
10787	H. White, Santa Barbara, Calif.	1.00
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20790	John S. Codman, Boston, Mass	5.00
20791	Chas. Cassell, Kalamazoo, Mich	1.00
20792 20793	Puth W Porter Hubbard Woods III	10.00
20794	Mrs. V. A., Paterson, N. J.	2.00
20795	Effie N. Hirsch, Cincinnati, Ohio	10.00
20796	Alex M. Jankovic, Chicago, Ill	3.00
20797 20798	Otto Laine Lowell, Ariz	10.25
20799	Scandinavian Branch, Detroit, Mich Mrs. Frederick T. Ackermann, Bronx- ville, N. Y. H. J. Van Huizer, Newport News, Va. Otto Bartram, Springfield, Mass C. Alwood Tobey, Oakland, Calif Tom Mooney Br. Detroit, Mich G. Kakanskas, East Chicago, Ind Amelia S. Harwood, Upland, Calif Mrs. H. S. Upson, Santa Barbara, Calif Anna L. B. Williams, Pasadena, Calif Anna L. B. Williams, Pasadena, Calif Anna L. B. Williams, Pasadena, Calif Anna L. S. Williams, Pasadena, Calif Anna L. B. Williams, Pasadena, Calif Geo. Salmi, Wilkes Barre, Pa Ruth W. Porter, Hubbard Woods, Ill Mrs. V. A., Paterson, N. J Effie N. Hirsch, Cincinnati, Ohio Alex M. Jankovic, Chicago, Ill E. Fuhrman, Stamford, Conn Otto Laine, Lowell, Ariz R. G. Davies, Santa Monica, Calif Gust. JoJhnson, Afognak, Alaska David Cohen, Philadelphia, Pa P. V. Zalpis, Chicago, Ill H. B. Clark, Bloomfield, Conn Mary F. Shields, Lansing, Mich Joshua L. Bailey, Jr., Baltimore, Md P. Bozurich, Chicago, Ill Tom Mooney Br. ILD, San Francisco Calif Mat Schmidt Br., ILD., San Francisco	1.00
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20801 20802	P V Zalnis Chicago, Ill	100.00
20803	H. B. Clark, Bloomfield, Conn.	5.00
20804	Mary F. Shields, Lansing, Mich.	29.80
20805 20806	P Rozurich Chicago III	100.00
20807	P. Bozurich, Chicago, Ill	20.00
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20000	Calif. Mat Schmidt Br., ILD., San Francisco	7.80
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20811	Prof. K. Francke, Cambridge, Mass	1.00
20812 20813	Italian Section New York City	4.50
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20818	Fan Findler, New York City	2.00
20819	Robt. Zelms, Boston, Mass	5.00
20820	S. Kenmotsu, Berkely, Calif	22.00
20821 20822	Women's Consumers Edut. League,	
	Women's Consumers Edut. League, Los Angeles, Calif The Siegel Family, Ontario, Calif Alex Pennanen, Spirit Lake, Idaho Czecho-Slovak, No. 1 Br., I. L. D.	5.00 1.00
20824	The Siegel Family, Ontario, Calif	3.00
20823 20825	Czecho-Slovak, No. 1 Br., I. L. D.	
20023	Chicago, Ill.	2.50
20826	Chicago, Ill. Z. Kozlowski, NeNw York City Mary Shalenen, Newark, N. J. Dr. Wm. Leonard, Minneapolis, Minn Alex Draznik, Ir., Gary, Ind	3.00 3.00
20827 20828	Dr Wm Leonard, Minneapolis, Minn	1.00
20828	Alex Draznik, Jr., Gary, Ind	1.00
20830	F. H. Peterson, Mesa, Ariz	25.00 2.50
20831	N. Napoli, New York City	2.00
20832 20833	Frank Spector, Los Angeles, Calif	50.00
20834	F. Spector, Los Angeles, Calif	35.00
20835	J. Lyman, Philadelphia, Pa	55.00 2.00
20836 20837	Harry Lawrence, Houston, Tex	3.00
20838	Dr. Wm. Leonard, Minneapolis, Minn. Alex Draznik, Jr., Gary, Ind	5.00
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branch; Lettish branch; South Slavic branch; Northwest Mother's League; Douglas Park Jewish branch; German branch; Freiheit Youth Club.

Local Boston: Lettish branch.

Local Detroit: Torm Mooney branch; Lithuanian branch; No Ladies Prog. Society branch. Scandinavian Br. Women's branch. So. Slav. Br. Russian W. S. Br. Italian Antifascisti Br. Women's Educ. Circle. Polish E. S. Br. Greek Br.

Local New Yor: German Yorkville branch; Richmond German branch; Sacco-Vanzetti branch; Hungarian York-

Local New York (family)

Local Philadelphia; Strawberry Mansion branch. North Western branch; Scandinavian branch; Russian branch; Cornice and Roofer Workers Union.

Local Seattle: English Br.

Local Oakland (prisoner and family); Claude Merritt

Local Oakiand (prisoner and ramny),
branch.
Local Paterson.
Local Passaic, N. J.: Polish branch.
Local Los Angeles: Lituanian branch 51; Women's Consumers Educational League.

20839 Harry Epstein, San Antonio Tex	1.00
20840 Dr. Wm. Robinson, Paris, France	10.00
20840 Dr. Wm. Robinson, Paris, France	1.00
20842 Rose Baron, New York City	35.00
20842 Rose Baron, New York City	2.00
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20848 Otto Olson, Whitefish, Mont.	. 2.00
20849 Nicola Napoli, New York City	3.00
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20858 Helen S. N. Athey, Baltimore, Md	5.00
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20859 W. J. White, Pittsburgh, Pa	1.00
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20877 John Suest, Ukiah, Calif	5.00
2087 Alck Barada, Blooklyi, A. 1. 2087 20877 John Suest, Ukiah, Calif. 20878 Anna Porter, Br., San Jose, Calif. 20879 A. Cohen, Croton-on-Hudson, N. Y. 20880 Victor Hartman, Martinez, Calif. 2007	5.00
20879 A. Cohen, Croton-on-Hudson, N. Y	1.00
20090 Victor Hartman Martinez, Calif	4.00
20880 Victor Hartman, Martinez, Calif	40
20881 A. Towonen, Kirkland Lake, Ont	
Mich,	10.00
MICH.	
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Our Contributors

Salvador de la Plaza, of Mexico City, is the secretary of the Continental Committee of the All-America Anti-Imperialist League there.

Robert Minor, now editor of the "Daily Worker", was for years associated with the Mooney-Billings defense movement; he is the author of a number of pamphlets on the case.

John J. Watt, former head of the Springfield, Ill., subdistrict of the United Mine Workers of America, is now chairman of the national arrangement committee that has called the conference in Pittsburgh this month to form a new union of American miners.

Anna Louise Strong has spent the last few years in China and the Soviet Union and is well-known to American readers through her contributions to the periodical press.

Scott Nearing, the well-known author and speaker, has recently made an investigation and study of conditions in Chicago's packingtown.

Bill Sheehan was active in the labor movement of the northwest for many years. His father, Mike Sheehan was one of the original defendants in the Centralia I. W. Case.

case. Thurber Lewis is a well-known young journalist in Chicago who has made a special study of the Arctic and polar expeditions.

Tom O'Flaherty has enlivened the columns of the labor and radical press with his witty and incisive comment on

events.

Samuel A. Herman is a member of the Young Workers League who has actively participated in the Kenosha strike since its inception, and has been arrested for his activity in Kenosha and Waukegan.

Joseph Giganti is the secretary of the Chicago local of the I. L. D.

Max Shachtman, editor of the Labor Defender, has just returned from a trip to the New Bedford strike field.

Hay Bales' frontispiece of page of cartoons is a regular monthly feature of the Labor Defender.



THE PRISON POEMS OF RALPH CHAPLIN

WHILE Ralph Chaplin, former I. W. W. agitator, writer and poet was a labor prisoner in Leavenworth, he wrote this book of beautiful

Many famous poems are included which have been re-printed thruout the labor press. Mourn Not The Dead, Wesley Everest, To My Little Son and others.

Scott Nearing has written the introduction. Now to help the other prisoners, the I. L. D. by arrangement with the author has issued this new cloth bound edition, for only

50 CENTS

You can get this little volume for only 25 cents if you subscribe or renew for the Labor Defender for one year.

Bars And Shadows (\$.50) and a year's subscription to the Labor Defender (\$1.00) together only

\$1.25

LABOR DEFENDER

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STATE				



THE PRISON POEMS OF RALPH CHAPLIN

WHILE Ralph Chaplin, former I. W. W. agitator, writer and poet was a labor prisoner in Leavenworth, he wrote this book of beautiful verse.

Will Mooney and Billings Get Out?

(Continued from page 184) ized labor novement can be made to act for the freelom of these war-prisoners of the class struggle. It is by mobilizing the hundreds of thousands of rank and file workers behind the demand, sincerely and frankly taking the Mooney-Billings case for what it is—an issue of the class struggle. I mean, furthermore, by connecting the demand for the release of Mooney and Billings with all of the other issues of the class strugglethe strikes such as those of New Bedford and Fall River, of steel workers, automobile workers, coal miners, etc., etc., and with all political connotations of these struggles included. Further I say that the struggle must be made again a live international issue against American imperialism Don't forget what Hoover said, that the official labor leaders (who broke the coal strike and trying to break the textile strike) are supporters of American "individualism" (read Imperialism) and are in all recent cases fighting to break every strike. I state categorically that the struggle, therefore, in all events, will be a struggle to release Mooney and Billings against the will and the activity of the present leaders of the official trade union movement. There are doubtless some who will quaver at this. A thousand times I personally have heard the "wise" voices say, "Sh! Dont say that! Of course it's true, but you can't sacrifice Mooney and Billings by antagonizing the heads of the trade union movement." Yes, and Mooney and Billings have been sacrificed to the criminal idiocy of such advice for twelve years.

This is essentially an affair of mobilization of a mass movement. The "wise" advisors can't imagine this. They don't see that the trade union movement is now not only in its deepest crisis but also on the verge of the biggest upheaval that it ever faced. The organization of masses of unorganized workers (the beginning of which can be seen in the textile, coal and automobile industries) means a deep-going change in the labor movement. I tell you that the coming conventions for the forming of the two great nation-wide unions in the coal and textile industries will have more effect upon the volume and force of the demand for the release of Mooney and Billings, than all of the timid, insincere and perfunctory resolutions that first Gompers and then Green have ever let get past the pro-capitalist censorship of a resolutions committee of any A. F. of L. convention.

The handling of this issue boldly by the Workers (Communist) Party in the election campaign will give the movement for release a vitality it has not had in ten years.

With all Hoover's boast of the slavishness of the official labor movement, it would nevertheless be stupid to say that the trade union movement cannot be won for the working class cause. The fight both in the old unions and in the organizing of that

vast majority of the workers which is totally unorganized, is all one process, and the fight for Mooney and Billings either is a part of that process, or else is a gesture in empty space.

Let me close by repeating what I have told you before:

The release of Mooney and Billings, like any other concession from the ruling class, will never be obtained except as a *by-product* of class struggle.

Come into the fight and let's get them out.

NORTH BERGEN PICNIC

On Sunday, September 2, 1928, the Anti-Fascist Alliance of North America will hold a picnic at Zeman's Park, North Bergen, N. J. There will be workers' sports, music, dancing and other entertainments. All friends of labor are invited to attend. Admission is fifty cents.

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TEXTILE STRIKERS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED

Since May 10, 575 strikers have been arrested in New Bedford and Fall River, Mass. Men and women have been badly beaten—all of them have been thrown into prison. The arrests continue.

Police have been brought in from other cities to break the strike. The District Court is in the hands of the bosses. Heavy fines have been imposed on the strikers. Sentences of 1,043 months in jail have been given. \$248,500 worth of bail has been asked for the release of many arrested making necessary a deposit of over \$400,000 in security.

All these cases have been defended by the International Labor Defense. The money for fines and the funds and security for bail and bailers' fees has been raised by the I. L. D. The International Labor Defense has broadcast thru the press and thru its organization this latest outrage against labor.

Meanwhile the International Labor Defense is hard at work defending the cases of scores of miners throughout the country; the case of the steel workers of Woodlawn, Pa., whose sentences are now being appealed to the supreme court; the campaign for Mooney and Billings and the Centralia I. W. W.; the numerous deportation cases; and dozens of others that arise out of the struggle every week and require expenditures of tremendous sums of money.

HILE thousands of dollars are needed to help the textile strikers, the I. L. D. continues its fight for all labor prisoners. \$20 is sent to the family of labor prisoners and \$5 a month to each prisoner. The need for funds is serious. Send your check today.

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