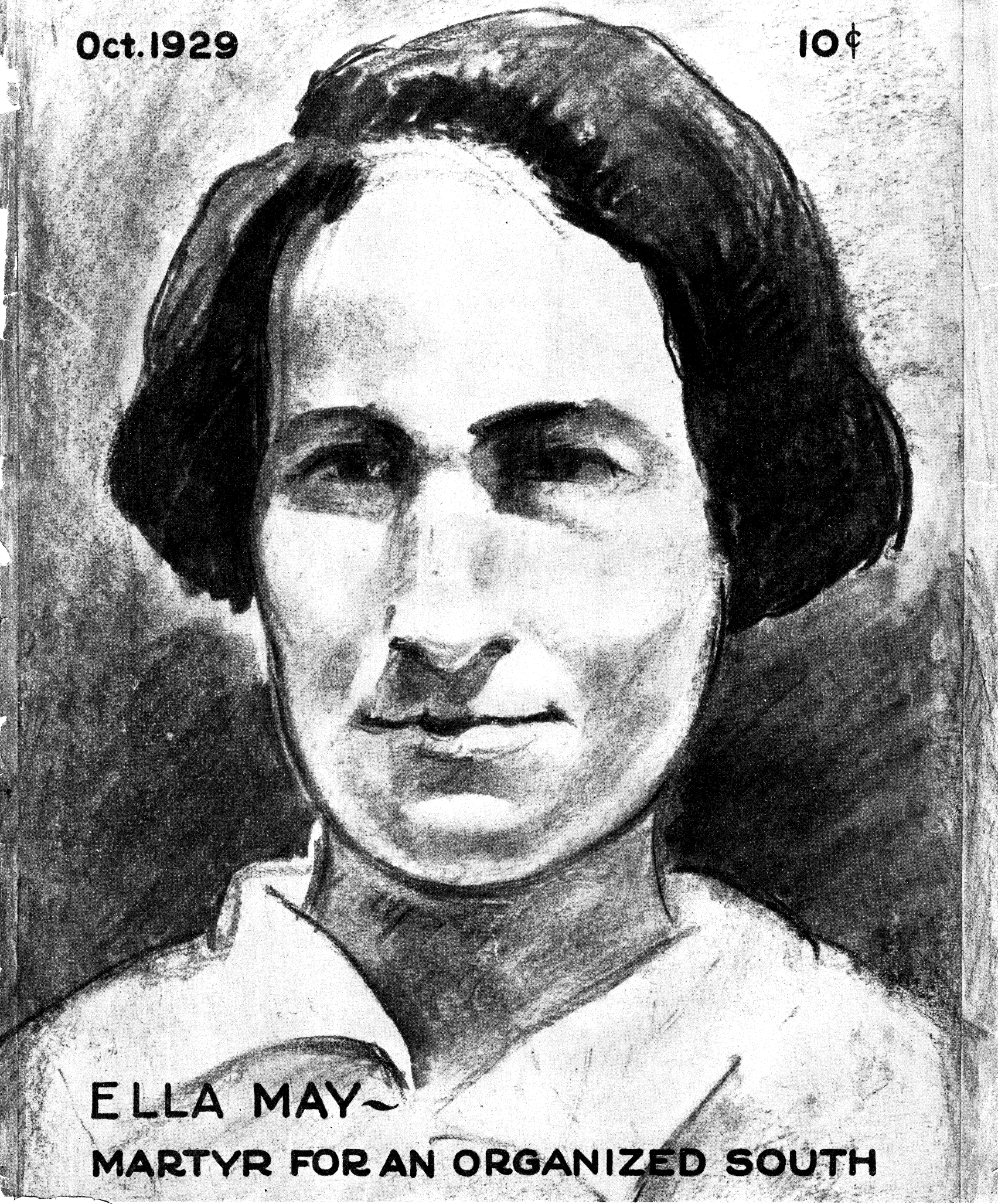


LABOR DEFENDER

Oct. 1929

10¢



ELLA MAY

MARTYR FOR AN ORGANIZED SOUTH

LABOR DEFENDER

Oct. 1929

10¢



ELLA MAY

MARTYR FOR AN ORGANIZED SOUTH

LOOKING at the MONTH with HAY BALES



WIDE PROTEST, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND ESPECIALLY IMMEDIATE FUNDS ARE NEEDED TO STOP THE BURNING OF OUR COMRADES IN GASTONIA!

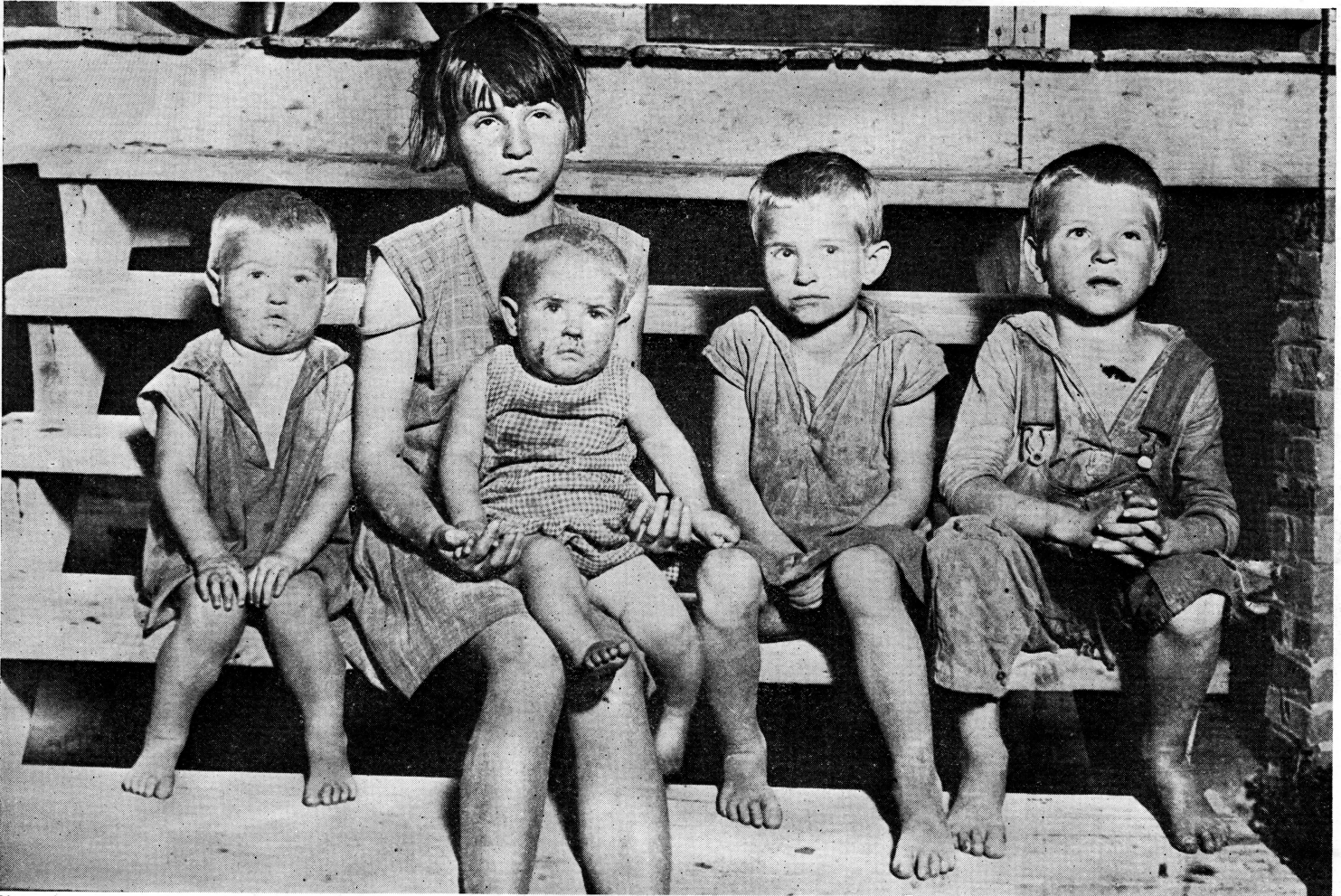


Photo Acme
 THE CHILDREN OF ELLA MAY ORPHANED BY THE MILL BOSSES: (Left to right) ALBERT, 3; MYRTLE, 11; CHALADY, 13 MONTHS; CLYDE, 8; AND MILLIE, 6.

On the Gastonia Battle Front

By BILL DUNNE

THE mass mobilization of the International Labor Defense for the defense of Fred Beal, Louis McLaughlin, Robert Allen, Clarence Miller, Russell Knight, and the eleven other members and organizers of the National Textile Workers' Union defeated the capitalist class of the south and their government. The first phase of the trial showed such tremendous support by the workers of the United States that the bosses were incapable of carrying out their intentions of railroading these workers to the electric chair.

Defeated in their "legal" offensive, the mill owners have resorted to organized terror. Systematically they have planned and carried out a murder, a number of kidnappings and beatings. The murder of Ella May marks the high point of their offensive. After weeks of threats against Communists and other leaders of the National Textile Workers' Union, they shot down a woman, a mother of five children. Ella May, the victim of their wrath, never received more than \$9.00 per week. The powder and lead of the volley that took her life cost more than that.

The black hundreds of the mill bosses, openly supported by the City, County and State governments, and aided by Andrew

Mellon, the head of the Southern power trust—thus connecting the whole struggle in the South with the Hoover-Wall Street government—are hunting the organizers of the National Textile Workers' Union like wild beasts. Major Dolley, of the

North Carolina state militia, is the military commander of the armed bands that took over Charlotte, a city of over 100,000 population, on the night of September 9, that searched hotels and rooming houses in an effort to kidnap and murder N.T. W.U. organizers.

In and around Gastonia is being waged the sharpest struggle against American capitalist rationalization. Here the conditions of the workers are the worst. The State government figures show an increase of 55 per cent in pellagra in the last six months. This is a disease of malnutrition—it is the same disease from which sailors on the old wind-jammers suffered, a foul disease produced by lack of proper food. The National Textile Workers' Union has raised demands for the abolition of the stretch-out, which forces workers to labor to the point of exhaustion, for the eight-hour day, and a minimum wage of \$20.00 per week. It leads the struggle of the workers in the South. The bosses know this.

Sixteen workers are on trial for their lives. They face the electric chair because they led a struggle for the daily demands of the masses.

In this case are involved fundamental workingclass issues. The right to self-de-



SOLICITER CARPENTER, STATE AIDE OF MANVILLE-JENCKES.



Photo: Acme
 AT THE GRAVE OF ELLA MAY. WHILE SHE WAS BEING BURIED THE BOSSES' THUGS RODE BY THREATENING TO SHOOT.

fense, the right to organize for self-defense, the right to organize militant unions and to strike and picket are at stake. The organized terror of the mill owners and their government sweeping through the States of North Carolina and South Carolina in the last two weeks, putting a price on the head of every Union organizer, brings forward in the sharpest form the elementary issue of self-preservation of our leadership for the whole American working class.

In and around Gastonia is being fought

out in this imperialist period a struggle involving the most elementary issues of the labor movement. The International Labor Defense has as its main task the building of a mass united front for the protection of the Southern workers, the newest contingent of the American proletariat, already in its first wide struggle confronted with the task, and carrying through the task, of smashing down the barriers set up in the way of the advancing American working class by American imperialism which is preparing for a new war of conquest.

The Southern workers, especially in the textile industry, in and around Gastonia, are in the front line trenches of the class struggle in the United States. They must be supported. The International Labor Defense must and will mobilize for their support the entire American working class and must also call upon the millions of reserves in the European capitalist countries and in the colonial countries. The International Labor Defense now has a task which taxes all the resources at its command.



ROACH, MANVILLE-JENCKES THUG.

**SOVIET ANNIVERSARY
 ISSUE**

The November issue of the Labor Defender will be a special issue on the Twelfth Anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution.

Double its present size, it will contain special articles on various phases of social and economic life in the Soviet Union, adequately illustrated with special photos newly arrived from the U.S.S.R.

THE MILL MOTHER'S SONG

By Ella May

(This song was sung at the funeral of Ella May by one of the woman strikers. Tune: Little Mary Feigan.)

We leave our home in the morning,
 We kiss our children good-bye,
 While we slave for the bosses,
 Our children scream and cry.

And when we draw our money,
 Our grocery bills to pay,
 Not a cent to spend for clothing,
 Not a cent to lay away.

And on that very evening,
 Our little son will say,
 'I need some shoes dear mother,
 And so does sister May'.

How it grieves the heart of a mother,
 You every one must know,
 But we can't buy for our children,
 Our wages are too low.

Now listen to me, Workers,
 Both women and men,
 We are sure to win our union,
 If all would enter in.

I hope this will be a warning,
 I hope you will understand,
 And help us win our victory,
 And lend to us a hand.

It is for our dear children
 That seem to us so dear,
 But for us nor them, dear workers,
 The bosses do not care.

But understand all workers,
 Our union they do fear,
 Let's stand together, workers,
 And have a union here.



Photo: Acme
 THE HUT IN WHICH ELLA MAY AND HER 5 CHILDREN LIVED ON THE \$9 A WEEK GIVEN HER BY THE MILL BOSSES.

DRAWINGS BY ELLIS

The sketches of the Manville-Jenckes leaders of the "Black Hundred" and prosecution attorneys were made in the Charlotte court by Fred Ellis, noted labor cartoonist.

Fred Ellis was sent to cover the trial by the International Labor Defense.

The cover is also by Ellis.

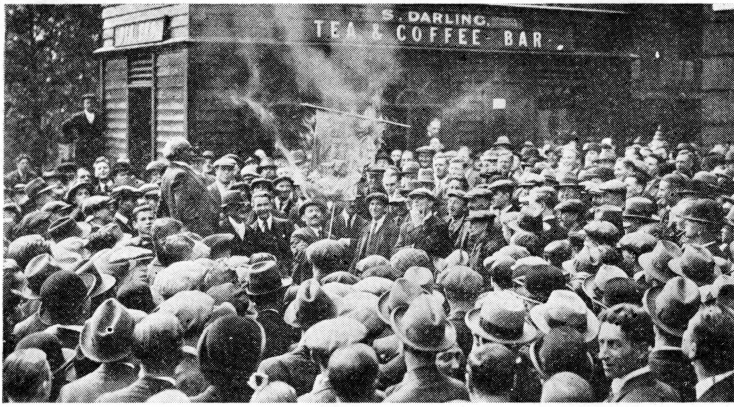


Photo: I.C.W.P.A. LEFT.—GASTONIA DEFENSE AND SACCO VANZETTI MASS MEETING IN LONDON, ENGLAND. SAKLATVALA, WELL-KNOWN INDIAN COMMUNIST, SPEAKING. THE WORKERS ARE BURNING THE MANVILLE-JENCKES BOSSES IN EFFIGY. RIGHT:—GASTONIA DEFENSE MASS MEETING IN UNION SQUARE, NEW YORK CITY. Photo: Int'l

Night and Day in North Carolina

By J. LOUIS ENGDAHL

NIGHT and day the machines roar on in the textile mills of the Piedmont district hereabouts, "with not a single spindle idle", as the local boosters of the Chamber of Commerce and the mill owners' association put it.

Night and day, also, the Gastonia police stand watch endlessly over the tent colony, where the shooting heard around the world, took place on the night of June 7th, from which the strikers have been evicted and their property seized.

The police on the noon day watch of Sept. 19, told me they were guarding the property of the strikers. In reality, however, they were actually standing watch in constant fear that the strikers will return and take possession of their property, of which they are being deprived. The tent colony symbolized for the mill owners the enemy in the midst of the Manville-Jenckes domains,—the enemy that must be suppressed. If this succeeded, then the mills would run endlessly, and profits would flow ceaselessly into the treasure chests of the textile mill millionaires.

To protect these profits and open a campaign of violence and murder against the local organizations of the National Textile Workers' Union, the "Committee of 100" was organized from among the Manville-



C. D. LELL, BEN WELLS AND C. M. SAYLOR, UNION ORGANIZERS, KIDNAPPED AND BEATEN BY "BLACK HUNDRED".

Jenckes officialdom, the superintendents, the formen, the straw bosses and other drivers of labor.

On the night of June 7th it was the police that acted as a vanguard for the "Committee of 100" in the attack on the tent colony. Now that the so-called "Vigilantes" have grown in numbers, the police can rest on their guns, as they do, not only in Gaston, but in Mecklenberg and Cleveland Counties, while murder expeditions sweep through city and country-side, acting as the mill owners' bloodhounds on the trails of union organizers. Against this terror the local workers match their dauntless courage.

I stopped off at the union headquarters on the main street of Bessemer City. The "Black Hundreds" had been here, wrecking and destroying. Only the vigilance and unity of the workers locally had prevented kidnappings. Here is the grave of Ella May Wiggins.

"They tell us that they are not through with Ella May," said a striker. "They said they would come back, dig up her body and cut it to pieces," which is an employing class mob's idea of a good night's work.

In Bessemer City one instinctively feels the working class solidarity knit by the martyrdom of Ella May Wiggins. Many

of the workers in this strike also struggled against the employers in the battles of 1921-22.

Further on is King's Mountain where a trio of selected vigilantes kidnapped Cleo Tessner on the same night that the strikers' platform erected for the "speaking" was dynamited. The sheriff is still looking for "clews."

Not far to the west, in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains, is Marion, where I dropped into a crowded courtroom, mill workers in their overalls listening to the trial of six of their number charged with insurrection and rebellion. The strike here was under the leadership of the United Textile Workers' Union, affiliated with the A. F. of L. It had been sold out in the usual manner, the workers being taken back with the exception of the outstanding leaders. Here is the same fighting spirit as in Gastonia and Bessemer City. The workers are planning to come out on strike again at the first opportune moment.

Over in the County Jail here the imprisoned strike organizers, facing death in the electric chair, say, "We want to get out so we can get to work for 'the Union'."

It remains for the whole American working class to say: "No Death Sentences! No Prison Sentences!" The work of organization must and shall go on.



MILL BARON'S ATTORNEY, HOEY.



MOB LEADER, MAJOR BULWINKLE.



AS this issue of the Labor Defender goes to press the "Land of the Soviets", a plane built in Soviet factories from popular subscription among the 3,500,000 members of the Osoaviakhim (Society for Promotion of Aviation), and piloted by four members of the Red Army, is on its way to Kadiak, Alaska, after negotiating the most difficult stretch in its route. It will proceed to Seattle, San Francisco, Chicago and New York.

At every stop made by the plane in the Soviet Union workers and peasants gathered in large numbers to send it off and send with it to the American workers and farmers their strong greetings of solidarity.

The "Land of the Soviets" is a symbol of the unprecedented industrial and scientific development of the Soviet Union under the direction of the workers, and inspite of the war provocations of the imperialists.

The four Soviet aviators piloting the plane are all members of the Red Army and three of them fought in the revolutionary army, the extreme youth of Fufayeff, the mechanic, preventing him from serving.

The land pilot, Semion Alexandrevich Shestakoff, is one of the most experienced flyers in the Soviet Union in long distance and non-stop flights, making the record

flight from Moscow to Tokio and back in a single-motored mail plane in 1927. Philip Etimovich Bolotoff, the second pilot, is more experienced at sea flying than any other Soviet flier. The aero-navigator, Boris Vassilievich Sterligoff, is only 28, but is chief of the aero-navigation section of the Scientific Experimental Institute in

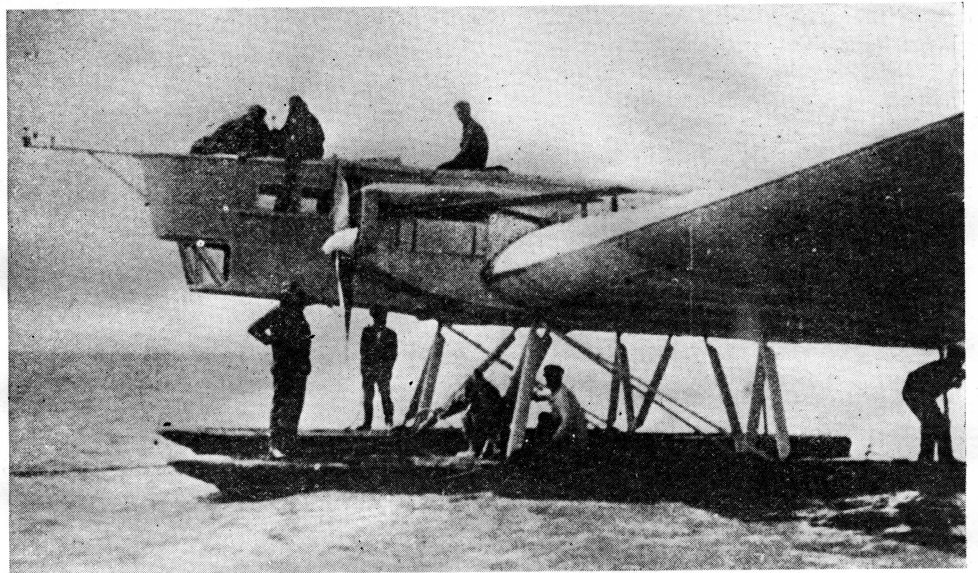


Photo: Press Cliche
THE SOVIET PLANE "LAND OF THE SOVIETS" NOW WINGING ITS WAY OVER AMERICA

Moscow. "He eats, sleeps and dreams motors," they say of Dmitri Vissarionovich Fufayeff, the youngest of the fliers and the most experienced aero-mechanic in Russia. He has been brought up with the young and well-developed aircraft industry of the Soviet Union.

The workers of the United States and friends of the Soviet Union are arranging huge demonstrations of welcome for the Soviet fliers. In answer to the greetings of the Soviet workers and peasants, and in reply to the war provocations against the Soviet Union, American workers are now raising money with which to buy tractors and trucks, to be used by the Soviet workers in socialist construction, and which will be presented to them through the fliers. In this way American workers are helping the masses of the Soviet Union build up their fortress of Socialism with which to withstand the attacks of the enemy.

Workers the World Over Rally to Gastonia Prisoners

Cables, telegrams and resolutions pledging solidarity with the defense of the 23 Gastonia prisoners and with the struggle of the Southern textile workers have been received by the International Labor Defense from the following organizations and mass meetings abroad:

Central Executive Committee of International Red Aid.

Praesidium of the Peasants' International Red International of Labor Unions.

Young Communist International.

Par-Pacific Trade Union Secretariat, for the countries of the Far East and bordering on the Pacific ocean.

ITALY

Italian Red Aid.

GERMANY

Red Aid of Greater Hamburg.

Textile workers of the Thuringer Wollgarn Mill, Leipzig.

Mass Meeting, Flensburg.

Mass Meeting, Neumunster.

Mass Meeting, Stargard.

Mass Meeting of Anti-Fascist Defense Corps, Aachen.

Red Aid meeting, Eimsbuettel.

Red Aid Mass Meeting, Eppendorf-Hoheluft.

West Saxon District of the Communist Party of Germany.

Conference of Workingwomen of Greater Hamburg.

FRANCE

French section of the International Red Aid.

Twenty Unions signed I.L.D. protest blanks.

500,000 workers protest to U. S. Consulate.

ENGLAND

International Class War Prisoners' Aid.

Mass Meeting, Tower Hill, London; Plymouth, Bristol, Greenoch, Hull, Green-

wich and Edinburgh.

CANADA

Mass Meeting, Meadow Portage, Manitoba.

AUSTRIA

Austrian Red Aid.

Mass Meeting, Vienna.

Twenty-five prominent intellectuals.

MEXICO

Mexican Section of the Caribbean Red Aid.

National Red Aid Youth Conference.

Mass Meetings in 20 cities.

ARGENTINA

Red Aid.

URUGUAY

Demonstration, Montevideo.

DENMARK

Mass Demonstration, Copenhagen.

SOUTH AFRICA

Lithuanian Defense, Johannesburg.

SOVIET UNION

800,000 Russian textile workers.

GASTONIA HEARD AROUND THE WORLD

Some of the Many Tokens of International Solidarity

l'Humanité
ALERTE AU PROLETARIAT MONDIAL

Le capital yankee fourbit de nouveau la sinistre machine!

MENACÉS DE LA CHAISE ÉLECTRIQUE
Seize grévistes de Gastonia comparaisent aujourd'hui devant la cour d'assises
SECTION FRANÇAISE SECOURS ROUGE INTERNATIONAL
 SECTION FRANÇAISE SECOURS ROUGE INTERNATIONAL
 23 августа.
 МЕ КАЗНИ
 Хотя мажорит на рабочих было совершено без всякого повода и их отпустили, но хотя совершенно безвредно и случайно, но в этот раз по настоянию полиции арестованы и посажены в тюрьму 23 рабочих, 13 из них, обвиняемых в том, что грозили смерти казнь. Хотя они есть и такие, которые во время стачки даже не были в то...

ПРАВДА
23 августа.
 Хотя мажорит на рабочих было совершено без всякого повода и их отпустили, но хотя совершенно безвредно и случайно, но в этот раз по настоянию полиции арестованы и посажены в тюрьму 23 рабочих, 13 из них, обвиняемых в том, что грозили смерти казнь. Хотя они есть и такие, которые во время стачки даже не были в то...

HUELGA GENERAL EL DIA 23
HELP SAVE THE LIVES OF THE GASTONIA PRISONERS
IA LA HUELGA

RADI
 Via RCA
 R.C.A. COMMUNI
 X D BR 15 HBA113
 HAMBURG 42
 INT INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE GASTONIA REL
 ROOM 402 NEWYORK PO (75'S BWAY)
 KONFERENZ VERKAUFTE FRAUEN GROSSHAMBURG AM 18. AUGUST ERHEBT FLAMMENDEN PROTEST GEGEN AMERIKANISCHE JUSTIZWILLKUR UND VERLANGT SOFORTIGE FREILASSUNG DER 23 UNTER ANKLAGE GESTELLTEN FUHRER UND FUHRERINNEN DER TEXTILARBEITER GEWERKSCHAFT IN GASTONIA

STERR. ROTE HILFE

SYNDICAT GENERAL
 du PERSONNEL de la SECTE de BIZ de PARIS
 BOURSE DU TRAVAIL
 BUREAU DE L'ETAGE
 SECRETARIAT

FEDERATION NATIONALE
 des CHIMISTES
 et des Industries Chimiques

BOURSE DU TRAVAIL
 PARIS

Union St. des Pat
 P. Fischer

Le Syndicat
 des producteurs et distributeurs d'énergie électrique de la R.F.

Union des Electriciens
 de la R.F.

Union des Electriciens
 de la R.F.

Sie Shot Stalin
Rettet die dreizehn vor dem elektrischen Stuhl!

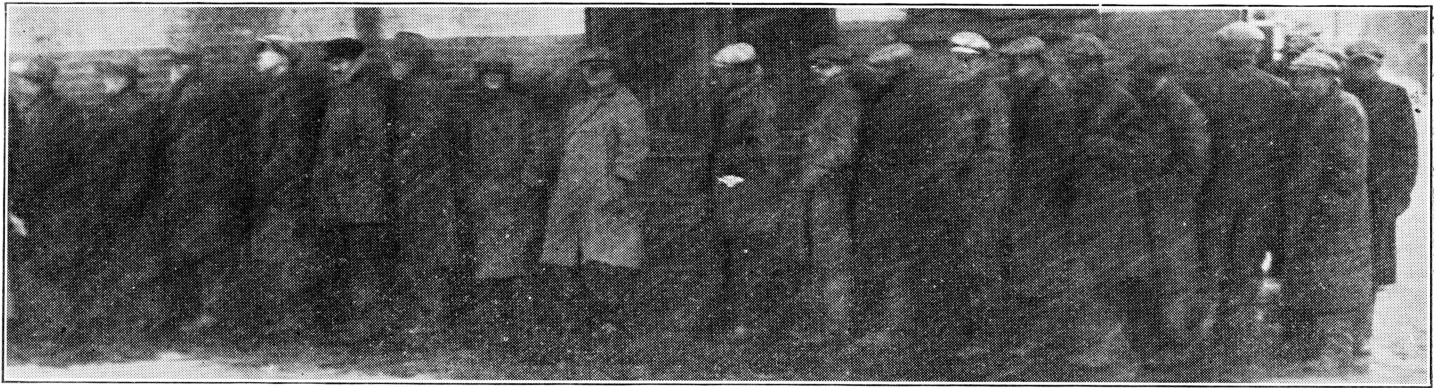


Sunday Worker
 GASTONIA MASS. CRUCIFIXION
 SUNDAY, AUGUST 23
ROJO INTERNACIONAL
"M. O. P. R."
 (SECCION ARGENTINA)
SUB COMITÉ POLACO DE LA SECCION ARGENTINA
 Secretaría: SARMIENTO 2816
 U. T. 47, CUYO 2628

ROTE HILFE
 Deutschlands
 Bezirk Wasserkanne
 Hamburg 3

RADI
 PRP1976 DFWCL
 BERLIN 143 14 2320 PGE 1/50
 PRESS DAIWORK
 NEWYORK.

OSKOW STOP EXECUTIVE INTERNATIONAL READD ISSUED FOLLOWING APPEAL COLON UNITED STATES PROCCSS COMMENCING AGAINST THIRTEEN WORKERS FOR DARING RESIST CAPITALISM STOP CRIME ACCUSED THAT THEY LED GASTONIA WORKERS IN STURGGLE MINIMUM WAGE EIGHTOURDAY AND RECOGNITION UNION STOP FOLLOWS DESCRIPTION GASTONIA HAPPENINGS STOP TWO YEARS AGO AMERICAN CAPITALISM



MINERS WILL BE IN JOB LINES LIKE THIS ONE THIS WINTER. THEY ARE BEING DRIVEN FROM MINE FIELDS BY THOUSANDS.

Miners on the Job Lines

By HARVEY O'CONNOR

ICY blasts soon will be whistling from Ontario wastes across the Great Lakes and down upon Detroit where long queues of jobless workers will be shivering, stamping the ground, flinging their arms to and fro as they wait before the Ford, Briggs and General Motors plants, asking for jobs that don't exist. Many, perhaps even a majority, of those in the long lines before employment offices of Detroit auto factories, Cleveland machine shops, Akron tire plants, will be coal miners, among the 300,000 whom John L. Lewis says must be pushed out of the coal industry.

The same story is also told comprehensively in a series of reports being released from time to time by the federal bureau of mines. The figures are so astonishing as to make one gasp. Read this: "The number of workers engaged in the coal mining industry of Ohio was reduced by 14,172 last year. The total reported employed in 1928 was 21,371. In 1927 there was a total of 35,543 men employed."

14,172 miners pushed out of Ohio's mines in just one year! And that is only half the story, for Ohio had 60,000 miners not so many years ago. In not more than five years two thirds of that number have had to leave the Hocking Valley, the Bellaire field, Cambridge, Coshochton and other veins.

Please do not imagine though that the production of coal has declined in Ohio as much as the de-jobbing of miners would indicate. While coal operators were getting rid of 14,000 miners last year—who with their families would represent a population of perhaps 40,000 to 50,000—the production of coal declined a mere 1.1%. To the worker those figures spell the word which stands at the end of nearly every industrial problem in this country today, **SPEEDUP!**

Anna Rochester, who has delved into facts, figures, problems and tragedy of the coal fields more than any other labor research worker in the past few years, has summed up these federal mine reports admirably.

"Nearly one half of the men employed in

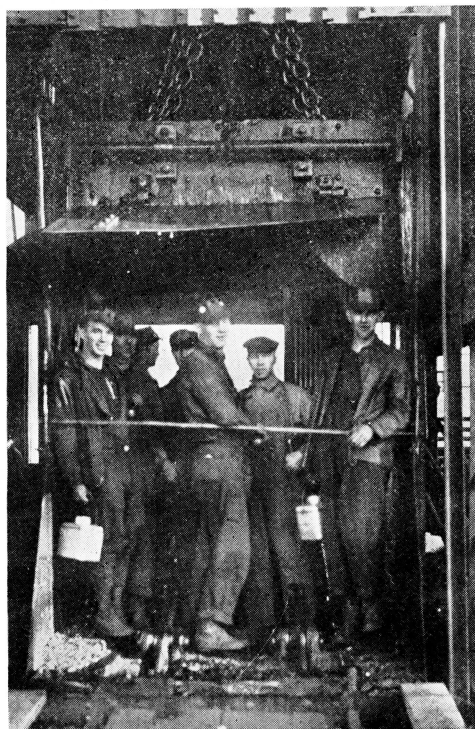


Photo: W.I.R.
AT THE END OF A DAY'S WORK—AT LOW PAY, UNCERTAIN OF THEIR JOB; THREATENED BY THE FACTORY-IZING PROCESS.

Montana coal mines in 1920 had been frozen out of the industry in 1928, according to figures just released by the U. S. Bureau of Mines" she reports. "Pennsylvania soft-coal mines have dropped at least 61,500 men or one-third of the number they employed in 1923. In Indiana mines, the number frozen out is 18,600, or more than half of those working there six years ago. Such figures for important coal states have been trickling from the federal Bureau of Mines this summer, and the incomplete returns already available show a total decrease of 100,000 mine workers in recent years, not counting the tens of thousands in Ohio and Illinois for which official 1928 figures have not yet been issued.

"The operators have put over such drastic wage cuts that the miners who are

still employed cannot make in 218 days as much as they earned in 180 days under the Jacksonville scale."

The mechanized mine has seen its main development, so far, in Illinois. Near Duquoin in Perry County, Illinois, a coal mine with human labor reduced to a minimum hitherto unknown and producing 10,000 tons of coal a day is about to commence operations. The projected output is between 5 and 10% of the average daily output of all Illinois mines for the last six months.

Every conceivable device for eliminating labor and substituting automatic or power operation has been installed by the United Electric Coal Co. Output is to be on a strip basis, with giant electric shovels having a 150-yard boom and a 15-yard dipper removing the soil over the 7 to 9-foot seam of coal. The biggest shovel weighs 1,550 tons and looks like a battleship.

In Pennsylvania and West Virginia, as Anna Rochester points out, speed-up is achieved more by closing down the smaller, marginal mines and developing bigger properties—coal factories. Each day the mine grows factory-ized, with mine bosses keeping close tab on the men, installing uniform efficiency methods, insisting on nine, 10 and even more hours' work every day.

The worker who looks for any easy solution of the de-jobbing of miners will find himself face to face with a similar process in every other industry, as workers displaced by speed-up and machine join each other on the job line. Certainly the one immediate task for those still working in the collieries is to unite in an all-embracing union that fights for their interests against the coal operators and their allies in the government. Another is for the de-jobbed miner to join the union in whatever industry he finally finds work, and to make a united front with all other workers against capitalism, against the industrial system which enriches the owning class while offering the choice of a lousy, sweated, low-paid job, or unemployment, to the worker.

American Labor's New Center

By KARL REEVE

THE convention which founded the Trade Union Unity League in Cleveland was a historic gathering for the working class of this country. The 690 delegates present formed a new trade union center which is now mobilizing the unorganized workers together with the members of the new militant industrial unions and the left wing minorities in the reactionary unions for the struggle against capitalism on a class struggle program.

The composition of the delegations is proof of the broad base and of the revolutionary character of the T.U.E.L. Unlike former conventions of the Trade Union Educational League, this convention was national in character including a representation of 60 delegates from the southern states of West Virginia, North Carolina and Virginia. The delegates were largely from the basic industries, and for the first time in the history of such a convention, large numbers of unorganized workers were represented by delegates from shop committees.

The most exploited sections of the working class were represented in large numbers, with 159 youth delegates, 64 Negro delegates, and 72 women delegates. The basic and war industries formed the largest part of the convention with 184 delegates from the mines, 66 from steel and metal, 52 auto, 11 rubber, 8 marine, 20 railroad,

38 textile, etc. There were 18 delegates from local A. F. of L. unions representing approximately 3,000 members. The new class struggle industrial unions had 322 delegates representing 57,000 workers and there were 126 delegates representing T. U. E. L. groups and local union affiliations. One hundred and seven delegates represented 2,000 workers in shop committees, with 580,000 workers employed in the shops where these committees function. A large proportion of the delegates represented unskilled workers.

The revolutionary spirit displayed by the 690 delegates present was ample evidence of the growing discontent of the workers, of the widespread awakening of the masses, of their increased radicalization, of their increased class consciousness, and readiness to organize on the basis of class against class.

The convention recognized capitalist rationalization, the speed-up, and the imminent danger of a new imperialist world war as the imperialist twins of the present period. The resolutions and program adopted showed that the imperialist powers are now uniting to attack the Soviet Union. The convention declared one of the principal tasks of the T.U.U.L. to be the defense of

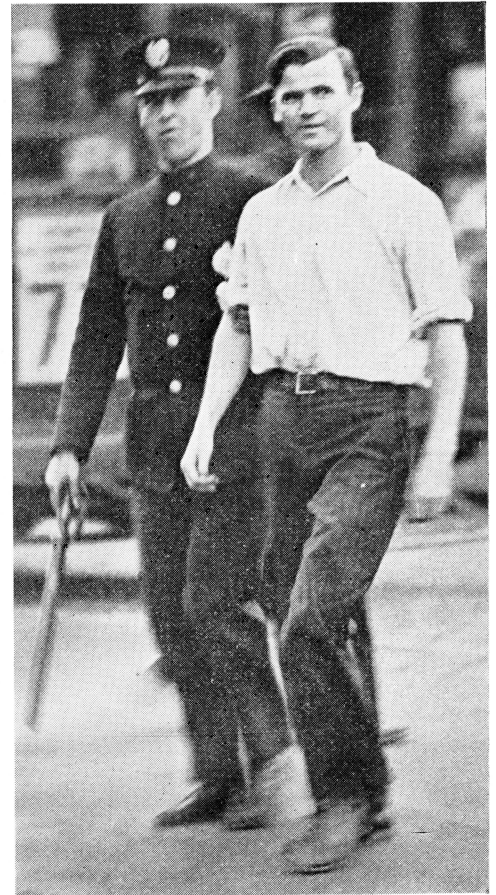


Photo: Pittsburgh, I.L.D.
PAT TOOHEY, SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL MINERS' UNION, ARRESTED IN PITTSBURGH DURING AUG. 1 DEMONSTRATION.

the Soviet Union, which is successfully constructing a socialist economy, from the danger of the imperialist attacks.

The resolutions provided for special work among Negro, youth and women workers, the unskilled in basic and war industries, who are being doubly exploited. Resolutions were passed supporting the struggles of the colonial and semi-colonial toilers in a common struggle against American imperialist exploitation. The prominence given to the question of strike strategy was in keeping with the fact that the T.U.E.L. is now leading important strikes and class battles both in the North and in the South, and a detailed study of strike strategy, from the viewpoint of drawing the workers into the leadership of these struggles and combating the influence of the reformists, is essential.

The question of the everyday economic demands of the workers—the seven-hour day five-day week, against the speed-up, for social insurance controlled by the workers, etc.—received special attention. They were taken up thoroughly at the special conferences and committees.

The International Labor Defense was endorsed as the organization fighting the class persecution of the workers in Gastonia and in all class struggles, and defending

(Continued on page 203)



Photo: Central Press
DELEGATES TO THE CLEVELAND CONVENTION: STANDING (Left to Right), LEONARD; BYERS, OF GASTONIA; MRS. BOYCE, OF THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OF THE NATIONAL MINERS' UNION; HINDU SILK WORKER OF PATERSON, N. J.; (kneeling) LLOYD, YOUTH DELEGATE FROM GASTONIA; DELEGATE FROM BESSEMER CITY, N. C.; WM. MOE, OF THE CHINESE FOOD WORKERS' ALLIANCE.

HEROES OF SOUTHERN TIMBER

By Art Shields



Photo: Esther Lowell
NEGRO LUMBERMEN CUTTING LOGS FOR PULP WOOD FOR THE GREAT SOUTHERN PAPER MILL AT BOGALUSA.

LUM WILLIAMS was a labor hero. His fellow workers said after the Bogalusa massacre: "He died doing his duty. There was not enough money to buy him nor enough guns to scare him."

It is almost 10 years since the massacre. November 1919 was a bloody month for the lumber workers in the red fir and cedar forests of the northwest and the piney woods of the south. The big timber companies loosed their gunmen and used the American Legion against the unions with Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer helping the pack. On November 11 they raided the loggers' hall in Centralia, Wash., castrated and lynched Wesley Everest. Eleven days later they slaughtered Lum Williams and four other sawmill workers by Pearl River in Louisiana, nearly 3,000 miles away.

Lum Williams had lived in Bogalusa 12 years and was a millwright in the Great Southern Lumber Company mill when the 1919 wage-cuts came. Williams led the union movement that enrolled nearly a thousand men in the biggest sawmill in the world.

Bogalusa was a shabby lumber city of about 10,000, with cheap dwelling houses and great industrial plants belching smoke. An unusual setting for a diplomat, perhaps, but the diplomat was here, one of the shrewdest that ever mixed handshakes with bullets. Col. Sullivan, the clever general manager of the Great Southern saw Williams was a key man that he should win to his side. Failing in that he offered the young millwright \$2,500 to leave town quietly. Williams refused.

So, quite coolly, Col. Sullivan passed sentence of death. If Williams stayed he would be killed, went the word. No idle threat. Bogalusa gunmen had a record of murders that Butte, Montana, must step to equal. A reign of terror was going on that Fall. Just a few days before the massacre the gunmen went through the Negro quarter whipping union members. One old Negro had both arms and one leg broken. Ed O'Brien, white, vice-president of the trades council, and old northwesterner, was run out of town by Banker Lindsley's Self-Preservation and Loyalty League, with the letters "I.W.W." painted on his back, though O'Brien was an A. F. of L. man. The gangsters accused him

of expressing sympathy for the Centralia prisoners.

Williams had everything to live for. He had a beautiful wife and child. But he was game and devoted. He would not run away. However, he wired the governor of Louisiana and Attorney General Palmer demanding protection. Palmer was just then arresting steel strikers and deporting revolutionists. He coldly wired Williams that the United States government would not interfere. His New Orleans Bureau chief of the department of justice, Forrest Pendleton, made a brief visit to Bogalusa and conducted a fake investigation, winked his eyes at the approaching massacre and went home. Don't forget that fellow Pendleton, readers. He later opened up a strikebreaking private detective agency of his own in New Orleans and during the street car strike there this summer bore the title of chief U. S. deputy marshal.

Then came the episode of Sol Dacus that inflamed the gunmen to the breaking point. Dacus was the Negro organizer who had been operating in the woods among the loggers in the camps outside of the sawmill town. The gunmen had been after him but Sol was clever.

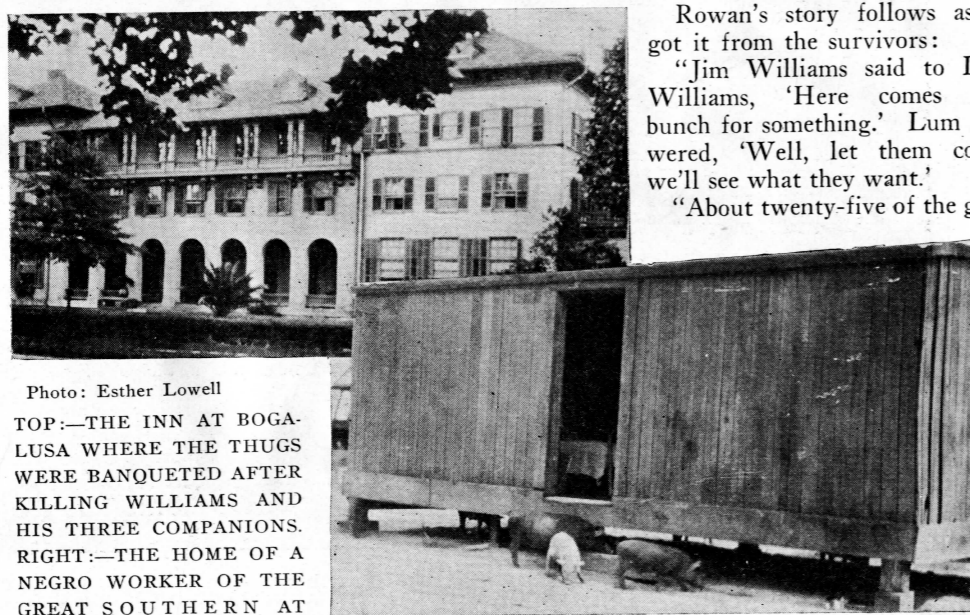


Photo: Esther Lowell
TOP:—THE INN AT BOGALUSA WHERE THE THUGS WERE BANQUETED AFTER KILLING WILLIAMS AND HIS THREE COMPANIONS. RIGHT:—THE HOME OF A NEGRO WORKER OF THE GREAT SOUTHERN AT BOGALUSA.

He shifted his base, sleeping on a bed of pine needles under the trees one night and in some lonely Negro worker's cabin the next. Then one day he appeared openly in Bogalusa, walking down Columbia Street to Williams' headquarters.

Two white union men with shotguns in their arms walked beside Dacus, guarding their colored fellow worker. They brought him to Williams' office where he held a consultation with his chief. At once the Great Southern gang raised the stereotyped slogan of "race equality" throughout Bogalusa. And privately they whispered: That man must die quickly.

Williams could whip two gunmen but not 75, the approximate number Col. Sullivan sent against him. The mill siren shrieked the signal at high noon Saturday. The gang gathered, a motley crew of roughnecks and white collars. Some were under Sullivan's orders as company gunmen. Some as city policemen, for Sullivan was mayor as well as general manager. And many belonged to the company's Loyalty League, led by Banker Lindsley. They rushed at the Williams' place on Columbia Street, the main thoroughfare. The millwright's family was in the cottage on the lot. Tom Gaines, a militant unionist soon to die, was in the garage. There was an old boat in the yard and the tiny union office where Williams was sitting with his brother Jim and a group of unionists.

Let E. C. Rowan tell the story of the slaying in his own vivid way. Rowan was an idealistic ex-foreman of the company who fought for the union all through the campaign. I'm taking the following account from the pamphlet he wrote of the massacre. His narrative is the only authentic story of this historic affair, and I am indebted to W. L. Donnels, an organizer who risked his life in Bogalusa, for what may be the only extant copy. It comes to Labor Defender readers now for the first time I am sure, since its distribution 10 years ago was very limited and confined to southerners.

Rowan's story follows as he got it from the survivors:

"Jim Williams said to Lum Williams, 'Here comes that bunch for something.' Lum answered, 'Well, let them come, we'll see what they want.'"

"About twenty-five of the gun-

men came in with shot guns near their shoulders. They ranged themselves between the dwelling and the office, about 15 feet from the office. Several other men with guns stopped near the boat. Without rising from his seat, Lum said:

"Come on in you fellows and let's see what you've got."

"Lum then walked to the door unarmed and said:

"Well, here I am, what do you want?"

"The head gunman had been pointing his gun toward the garage, where he had probably seen Tom Gaines. As Lum spoke the gun was turned towards him, and he was shot; the load hardly scattered. It tore a hole through him about as big as man's fist, touching his heart.

"Williams fell without a word. Bourgeois, his brother-in-law, caught him and was dragged down under him.

"Bourgeois says that Lum looked toward him and smiled as sweetly as he ever saw; he died doing his duty. There was not enough money to buy him, nor enough guns to scare him.

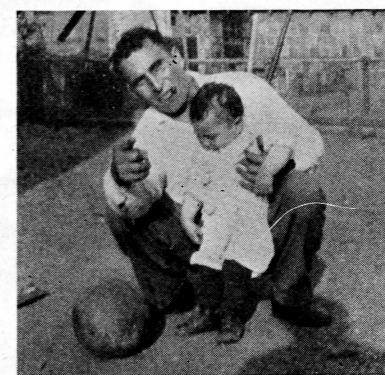
"When Lum was shot, every man in the mob seemed to shoot. Then Bouchillon was shot in the stomach with a shotgun, also in the right hip with a rifle. He too fell on top of Bourgeois.

"Tom Gaines in the garage was also killed instantly, a buckshot load under his left arm.

"The other men crouched in the office, or got behind the door. It kept raining bullets. The glass of the door spattered in their faces.

SALVATORE ACCORSI - Echoes of Sacco-Vanzetti

By JOSEPH NORTH



SALVATORE ACCORSI
With the youngest of his three children

TO the miners of Cheswick, Pennsylvania, the electrocution of Sacco and Vanzetti was as real as the crash of a rock fall 1,000 feet underground.

They came, 2,000 of them, foreign born workers, their wives carrying the kids, leading the young by the hand, to the farm at Cheswick, August 22, 1927, to demonstrate for their fellow-workers Sacco and Vanzetti.

Mellon's well paid mercenaries, the State Police, (the miners call them Cossacks), got their orders.

The Cossacks rode their fiery horses down on the crowd, swung their vicious clubs, cracked skulls, broke the neck of one miner, fatally injured a pregnant woman, and scattered the crowd. Trooper John J. Downey, swinging his riot club over the head of a miner, suddenly straightened up as a shot rang out, and slid from his horse, dead.

Nobody knew who fired the shot.

Sacco and Vanzetti are dead two years. The masses had battled with police in Paris, in Buenos Aires, in Berlin, in London; from Boston to Tokio, Sacco and Vanzetti has become a revolutionary slogan. Sacco and Vanzetti's power grew during the two years and



Photo: Esther Lowell
THE GREAT SOUTHERN MILL AT BOGALUSA, LA., WHERE THE SIREN SIGNALLED THE MURDER OF LUM WILLIAMS.

Jim Williams said, 'We must do something or all of us will be killed.' He grabbed a 22 calibre target rifle, and shot Jules LeBlanc in the wrist. This shot surprised the gunmen so that many of them tried to get behind the house and the boat. The firing almost ceased.

"Jim Williams, Richoux and O'Rourke jumped through the window into the other lot. O'Rourke had already been given his death wound. He threw up his hands and begged not to be shot again. Clay Richoux was wounded, but got away, leaving a trail of blood. Jim Williams had left the empty rifle in the house. He threw up his hands. A man attempted to shoot him, but Mrs. Williams, Jim's wife, struck the gun; the man slapped her down. Lum Williams' wife then

struck the gun, and the load of buckshot hit the fence nearby.

"After getting to the street O'Rourke was jerked into an automobile by officials of the Great Southern Lumber Co. O'Rourke was carried to the Great Southern Lumber Co.'s hospital under arrest, and died there a few days later." (O'Rourke was in effect murdered in the company hospital, it is said. Good treatment would have saved him.)

"Four widows and sixteen orphans are left at the mercy of the world.

"That night at the Pine Tree Inn a banquet was given. This was almost in hearing of the moans of the families of Lum Williams and of his father. The banquet was attended by many of those who had fought so gallantly in this battle."

gan their fight against his extradition to the barracks of Pennsylvania, where the floors are stained with the blood of workers, who are occasionally beaten to death with pokers, revolver butts, brass knuckles, blackjacks. State Police and Coal and Iron police of Pennsylvania are well paid and faithful mercenaries.

On the basis of an indictment passed September 5 in Allegheny County, Pa., where the steel mills of Pennsylvania blot out the sky with their smoke, Governor Roosevelt, Tammany figurehead, gave his O.K. to extradite. The I.L.D. appealed and the final hearing on Accorsi's extradition will be held early in October.

The State Police charge he fled Cheswick after the shooting. He can prove he worked four miles from Cheswick for six months after the meeting. He was at his home when the meeting at Cheswick was held.

The Accorsi case is part of the new drive against foreign-born workers. Shoe Manufacturers in New York recently received letters signed by Charles G. Wood, Commissioner of Conciliation for the United States Department of Labor, in which foreign-born work-

(Continued on page 201)

New Wave of Terror in Mexico

By PAUL DIAZ

WITH the increased penetration of American imperialism in Mexico, with the new pacts between the counter-revolutionary government of Portes Gil-Calles and the reactionary Catholic Church already established, the White Terror is sweeping Mexico, and becomes more aggres-

sive every day. Morrow, U. S. ambassador, and the Portes Gil-Calles clique, which has completely sold out the interests of the country to Wall Street.

The Mexican Government, which took

In spite of all this terror, the spirit of rebellion of the Mexican workers and peasants is growing stronger and stronger every day, and cannot be intimidated. A few days ago, the Indian workers on the Chicle plantations in Yucatan, rebelled against the inhuman exploitation to which they are subjected, in spite of the fact that they knew the government, acting under orders of the American Chicle Company, would try to quell the rebellion at the price of many workers' lives.

Against this reign of terror instituted under the guidance of Mr. Morrow, American ambassador in Mexico and official representative of the house of Morgan, and his lackeys the Portes Gil-Calles fascists, the American workers and our Mexican brothers must build a strong Defense and Relief Organization, which will help us fight Yankee imperialism and its lackies, who are responsible for all the assassinations and persecutions of workers in the Latin American countries.

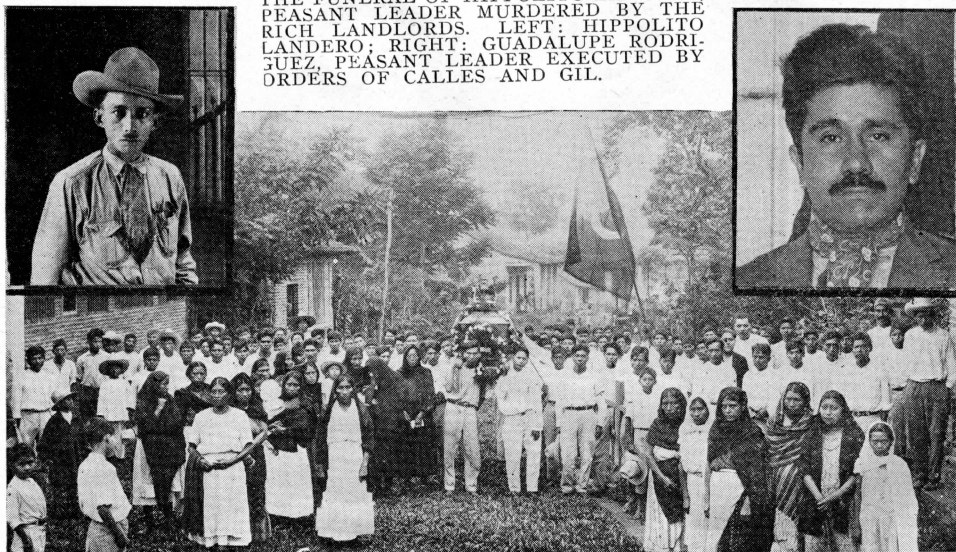
We must do our share to help our Mexican comrades out of their present difficulties. Let us fight against our common enemy, and its fascist persecutions at present manifested in Mexico.

Fight American imperialism at home!
Joint the International Labor Defense!

CANADIAN "LABORITES" BAN WORKERS' PAPERS

The Canadian Government has barred from the mail the revolutionary daily, Radnik, the South Slav Communist paper published in Chicago. Only recently four other Communist papers had been barred: "The Freiheit" (Jewish daily, New York), "Uj Elore" (Hungarian Daily, New York), "Il Lavoratore" (Italian weekly, New York), and "Saznanie" (Bulgarian weekly, Detroit).

THE FUNERAL OF HIPPOLITO LANDERO, PEASANT LEADER MURDERED BY THE RICH LANDLORDS. LEFT: HIPPOLITO LANDERO; RIGHT: GUADALUPE RODRIGUEZ, PEASANT LEADER EXECUTED BY ORDERS OF CALLES AND GIL.



sive every day.

Hippolito Landero, a member of the Central Executive Committee of the Mexican I.L.D. (Socorro Rojo Internacional) is one of the latest victims. This courageous comrade, according to the investigations of the I.L.D., which took charge of the case, was murdered in cold blood by the thugs employed by the rich landowners and the officials of the government.

The state of Durango has become the center of reaction. Its governor, Terrones Benitez, an old renegade, is the instigator of more than ten assassinations of workers and peasants, including the frame-up and execution of Comrade Guadalupe Rodriguez, treasurer of the Workers' and Peasants' Bloc. This comrade, who took an active part in helping the government put down the last counter-revolutionary movement, was murdered with fifteen more comrades without a trial, and by special orders of General Calles. Over a hundred members of the I.L.D. are being held at the present time in the penitentiaries throughout the state of Durango; the reasons for their imprisonment have not been stated.

The recent strike called by the Printers' Union of Monterrey, N. L., was attacked by the yellow elements of the C.R.O.M. (Mexican Federation of Labor) and the government of the state, which has declared the strike "illegal." The strikers and the organizers of the union have been thrown into jail. This strike was declared against the newspaper "El Porvenir," the organ of the National Party, which supports the nomination of P. Ortiz Rubio for the next presidential term. Ortiz Rubio is the man imposed upon the Mexican people by Mr.

an active part in the assassination of Julio Antonio Mella, a leader of the Cuban Communist party who was murdered in the streets of Mexico City six months ago by two agents of the fascist Machado government, is going further, and now is deporting all foreign-born workers active in the revolutionary labor movement in Mexico. The chief of police of Mexico City, Valente Quintana, who has a long criminal record, is now hunting Cuban political refugees in order to deport them to Cuba, and leave them to the mercy of butcher Machado.

The Communist Party has been driven underground. The printing plant of "El Machete," its official organ, and also the plants of almost all of the radical publications have been ransacked under special orders of President Portes Gil.



Photo: Mexican Red Aid
MEXICAN WORKERS BEFORE THEIR RED AID HEADQUARTERS IN MEXICO CITY.

Gastonia and Bombay

WHAT are the special characteristics which bring to my mind the coupling together of Gastonia and Bombay?

By HARRISON GEORGE
(Managing Editor of the "Pan-Pacific Monthly")

which the union organizers were taken from Bombay to Meerut for trial on the charge of high treason to the British crown, Ghandi

The productive capacity of the world textile industry has increased enormously, during and since the war. The industrialization of the South in the United States, is paralleled by the building of factories in India especially during the war period. Now, however, seeking vainly to allay discontent at home in Manchester and to take for English capital the profits which during the past period went to native Indian capital, such pressure is being put by the British upon India that Indian factories are being closed down or—Indian capitalists are required by their own lust for profits, to put increasing burdens in the form of wage reductions on Indian textile workers.

Hence we see: wage cuts in Gastonia and wage cuts in Bombay. In both places workers whose standards are the standards of slaves, toiling long hours at the most modern machines, pitted against each other by their slave drivers competing for the markets of the world, asked to compete against each other—in ability to starve and endure inhuman exploitation for the benefit of their employers.

Hence we see—to the glory of Labor—in Bombay the new Textile Union, the "Girni Kamgar", militant, revolutionary; and in Gastonia the new and militant National Textile Workers Union, both in strike, both in struggle, resisting in the spirit of class struggle the attacks of the employing class.

In India, the oppressive power of the employing class is represented by the police and troops of British imperialism. The workers begin to struggle for economic demands, and instantly find they must struggle against imperialism—the repressive state power. In Gastonia, the textile workers went on strike, and immediately found the powers of the capitalist state, the sheriff, the police, the troops, thrown into action against them.

In Bombay, the imperialist troops and police shoot down strike pickets and under a supposed "labor" government the union organizers of the "Girni Kamgar" are being tried before a judge for treason, for



Photo: Red Aid
AN INDIAN REVOLUTIONARY WORKER KILLED BY BRITISH POLICE IN BOMBAY.

trying "to deprive the King Emperor of His sovereignty over India." In Gastonia, the police who openly are serving the textile capitalists, after repeated violence against the strikers, try to terrorize the strikers by armed attack at night on the tent colony.

If the Gastonia strikers defended themselves using force against force, arms against arms, and replied shot for shot—so much more to their credit as soldiers of labor driven to this extremity by intolerable persecution. Not from them should we expect an apology, a plea of "guilty or not guilty"—but from the mill barons and their lackeys and servile police and courts, from those who—having been defeated in armed encounter, now seek to kill in the electric chair what they failed to kill with bullets at the tent colony.

But always there are snivellers, those who teach the lie that government is above classes, a fair, impartial and pure-hearted solomonic mechanism, a lie whose falsity is revealed to the worker the moment he dares go on strike. Always are those "non-resisters" who never discover exploitation until the exploited revolt and then hurry in to remonstrate with revolution. In India we have seen the bankruptcy of this "non-resistance" policy on a major scale. The Indian working class is through with the holy fraud of Ghandi, whose futility is reflected, as compared with the "Girni Kamgar" organizers, in the fact that the day on

di was fined one Rupee (about 38 cents) for "opposing" British imperialism by burning a piece of British made cloth in a public park as an ideological demonstration of pure and high-minded, idealistic—and utterly futile, desire for national independence.

The imperialists of Britain recognize their most effective foe, and charge with high treason the leaders of the militant trade unions. Ghandi is fined 38 cents, which is all his "opposition" is worth. In Gastonia, too, the "non-resisters" will probably be allowed to speak freely, endlessly—and futilely, for all the beautiful abstractions, "justice", "truth" and

what not. But those workers who, being workers, recognize class justice, class truth, and who organize their class brothers and sisters regardless of race, age or sex, in the trade union which can translate abstractions into food, clothing and shelter—these heroes and heroines of American labor are also hailed into capitalist courts for high treason to capitalism, and the capitalist state demands that they be seared and burned by electric voltage until they are dead.

Away with canting hypocrisy! The textile workers of Bombay on trial at Meerut, the textile workers of Gastonia on trial at Charlotte, join in the chorus of militant labor throughout the world, which cries out:

"We do not defend, we accuse!"

●
SALVATORE ACCORSI
(Continued from page 199)

ers were ordered to be tabulated. The manufacturers were also requested to withdraw agreements signed with "the Independent Shoe Workers Union, managed by Fred Biedenkapp, an alien now out on bail." Biedenkapp's crime consisted of "conspiracy to parade" during the New Bedford strike.

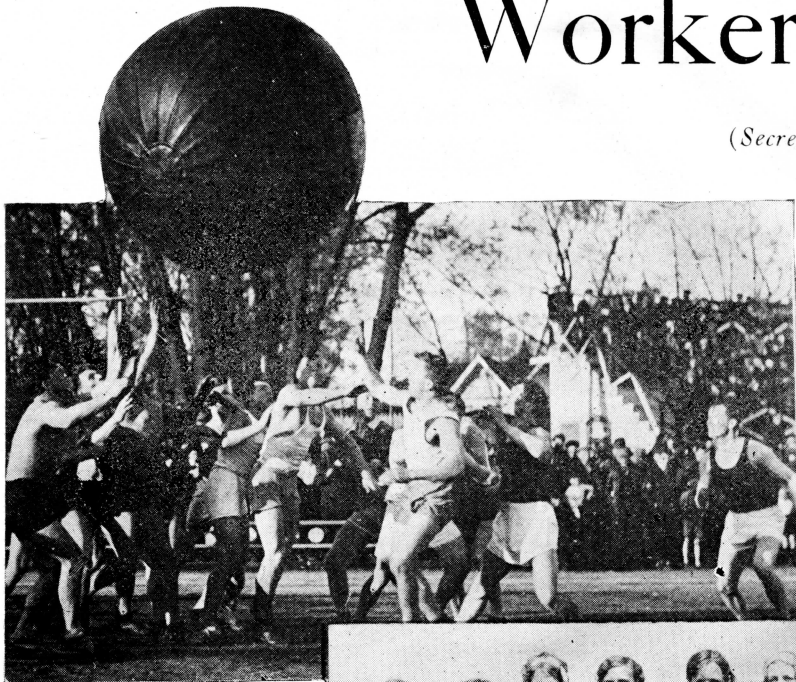
Sacco and Vanzetti's fate has taught the workers of America a great lesson. They know it by heart. And they will not let Accorsi die.



Photo: Red Aid
AN INDIAN REVOLUTIONARY WORKER KILLED BY BRITISH POLICE IN BOMBAY.

Workers' Own Sports

By WALTER BURKE
(Secretary of the Labor Sports Union)



LEFT: — MEMBERS OF THE RED TRADE UNIONS OPENING THE FALL SPORTS SEASON AT THE STADIUM IN MOSCOW. IN THE SOVIET UNION THE WORKERS' SPORT MOVEMENT IS BY FAR THE MOST POWERFUL IN THE WORLD. (Photo: Press Cliche).

workers and is an active force in preventing the workers from organizing into militant trade unions.

Three years ago the class-conscious worker-sportsmen proceeded to build their own class sports organization, the Labor Sports Union of America. Today it has close to seven thousand workers within its ranks.

The Third Annual National Track and Field Meet of the Labor Sports Union was held on the 24th and 25th of August in New York. Only about 1,000 workers attended the event, illustrating the fact that the labor movement does not yet realize the

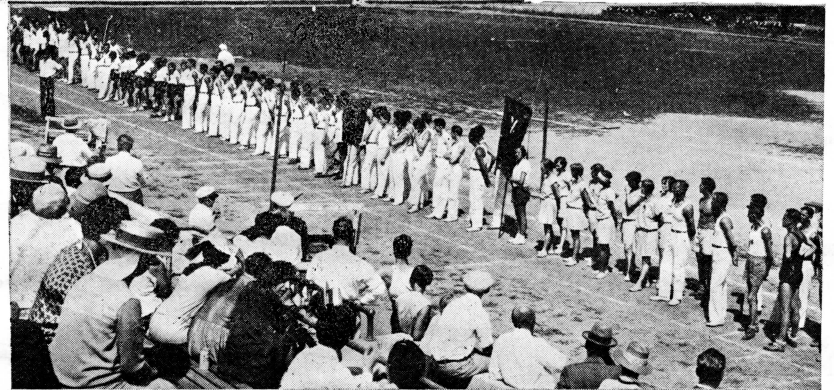
tremendous possibilities in the labor sports movement. Through it, thousands of young workers can be won over to militant organization, and the sport groups themselves, besides serving as social and binding centers for militant workers, form the base for the organization of the workers' defense corps.

The Labor Sports Union is affiliated to the Red Sports International.



FOR some years past sports in this country have been entirely in the hands of the bosses and their reformists. The bosses have taken good advantage of the great interest American youth shows for sports and have succeeded in building up and developing a sports movement which is second to none in the world today. This sports movement is part and parcel of the bourgeois machine for spreading illusions among the workers. The slogans of "sports for sports sake" and "every one is equal on the sports field" have been propagated by the bosses' press and serve to act as a bulwark against the spreading radicalization among the discontented workers. The company sports movement alone embraces millions of

TOP: — SOME OF THE WORKING-GIRL ATHLETES AT THE NATIONAL LABOR SPORTS UNION MEET IN NEW YORK CITY. RIGHT: — AT THE CLOSE OF THE GRAND MARCH AT THE NEW YORK MEET. (Photo: L.S.U.)



SPEED-UP IN THE NORTH CAROLINA COURTS

THE textile bosses are not satisfied with speed-up in the mills.

They want it in the courts. "It takes too long to send these radicals to the chair," they say.

The mill owners are working on the assumption that no jury can render "justice" in a labor case unless twelve tried and true mill-owners compose it. They are out to change the laws of the state to gain their point.

Their campaign has already begun. The opening shot was fired in the most faithful mouthpiece of the employers, the Gastonia Gazette. It was printed also in the Charlotte Observer.

These papers, dissatisfied with the tempo with which the jury was picked in the Gas-

tonia case at Charlotte, and the fact that the sixteen Gastonia strikers are not already on the electric chair, are now crying for a change in the jury regulations.

The Gastonia Gazette, in its September 3 issue recommends editorially, "each county should have a jury commission whose duty it would be to so revise the jury box so that it would contain only the names of men of known intelligence and integrity."

The results of such a move are apparent to the most blind of observers. Who would be "men of known intelligence and integrity," according to the law-makers?

They would be bosses, influential and powerful moneyed elements. Manville and Jenckes, owners of millions of dollars and desirous to own the lives of thousands of

workers, would be considered "men of known intelligence and integrity."

Thus J. C. Baskervil writes from Raleigh, in the Gastonia Gazette, "The excessive delay in selecting a jury in Charlotte for the trial of the 16 strikers and labor leaders charged with the murder of Chief Aderholt in Gastonia, is causing a number of newspaper editors to ask why the North Carolina judicial system permits so much delay and why something is not done to speed-up trials, especially the selection of juries."

The campaign is on. The bosses whisper into the ears of their hirelings the press, and the press stands on its hind legs and howls, "It takes too long to send these radicals to the chair."

Third Generation on the Move

THE Congress of Communist children organizations was opened festively in the monster Sports Stadium in Moscow on August 18.

Seven thousand two hundred delegates of 157 nationalities and races, representing over 2 million workingclass children, were there. Among them was a large number of Pioneers from many countries, including a delegation of seven Pioneers from the United States. They were all enthusiastically received and entertained by the workers of Moscow.

Over 50,000 Young Pioneers and adult workers of Moscow took part in the opening meeting. After the mass meeting an endless demonstration marched thru the streets.

The Pioneers visited the various museums and some officials in Moscow, as well as numerous factories. Special enthusiasm marked the all-day outing with the Red Army. At the close of the outing it was decided to form a Pioneer Division, which, in answer to the Chinese and white-guardist war provocations, is to hold collections for the construction of an airship which will have the name of "First Pioneer Congress."

The American delegates were official guests of the All-Ukrainian Pioneer Congress in Kharkov. At this Congress Harry Eisman was made an honorary delegate to the Ukrainian and All-Union Pioneer Congress and a resolution demanding his immediate release from the Jewish home in America where he is imprisoned was passed.

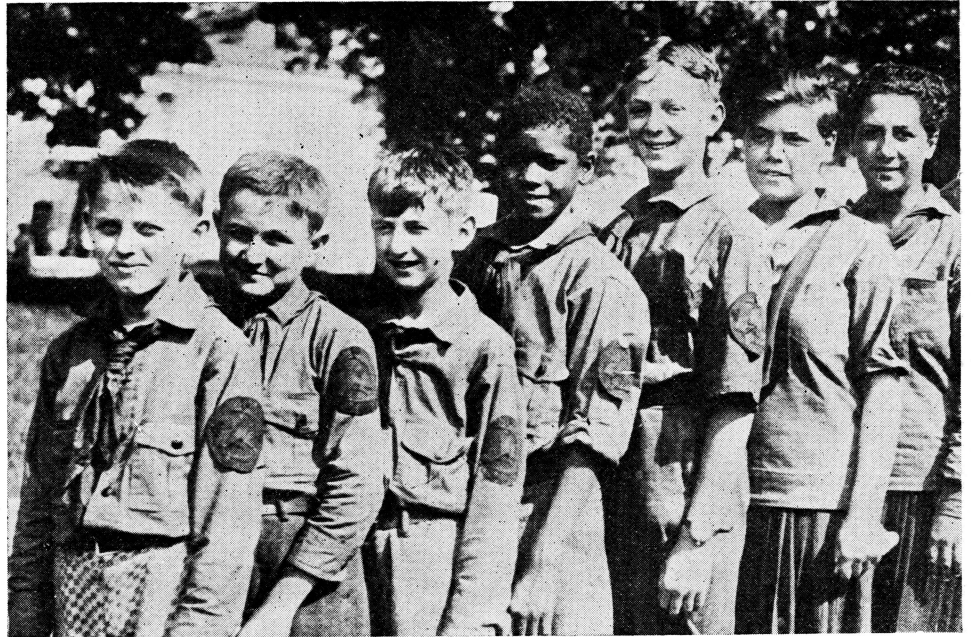


Photo: Int'l

THE AMERICAN PIONEER DELEGATION IN MOSCOW.

The Camera on the Class Front

ONE of the most effective means of convincing workers of the need to struggle against capitalism and for a workers' and farmers' government is with the camera. It is simple and it is direct.

Show them the picket lines of militant labor, show them workers resisting the onslaught of police and thugs, show them graphically their own conditions in comparison with the wealth of the bosses, show them the life of militant labor in photos and they will understand more easily and join hands with the class conscious workers.

So use your cameras. Take pictures. Take a snap of the factory in which you work, of your union or I. L. D. headquarters, of workers on the picket line, etc. Send them to us. The Labor Defender will publish them. In this way we can build up a strong corps of worker-photographers, who will snap as they fight, and help strengthen the Labor Defender pictorially into a graphic expression of the militant solidarity of labor.

AMERICAN LABOR'S NEW CENTER

(Continued from page 197)

the workers from the class persecution of the government institutions.

The prominence given the South in the convention, the support given the struggle of the National Textile Workers Union in Gastonia, and the defense of the 23 Gastonia strikers, as well as the inauguration of the campaign for better conditions among the Southern miners and metal and steel workers, shows the intensification of the class struggle in the South.

The keynote of all the deliberations was the necessity of struggle not only against the employers and their government, but also against the A. F. L. bureaucrats, and the fake progressive Muste-ites, who in this period, are open and direct agents of American imperialism.

The I.L.D. hails the formation of the Trade Union Unity League as a blow aimed at capitalist rationalization, which includes the attack of the imperialist government on the workers; as a blow aimed in defense of the Soviet Union.



Photo: Press Cliche
DEMONSTRATION FOR THE 5-YEAR PLAN OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION. THE BANNER READS: "WE ARE 5 YEARS OLD AND WE ARE FOR THE 5-YEAR PLAN."

The Fourth I. L. D. Convention



Photo: Pittsburgh I. L. D. POLICE BREAKING UP AUG. 1 DEMONSTRATION IN PITTSBURGH. THE I.L.D. MUST RUSH TO THE DEFENSE OF WORKERS FIGHTING FOR BETTER CONDITIONS.

Below we are publishing the call for the Fourth National Conference of the International Labor Defense to be held in Pittsburgh, Pa., on Dec., 29, 30, 31. The Executive Committee is preparing a new draft of the Constitution of the I.L.D. which will be published in the next issue of the Labor Defender. Additional information in regards to the Conference can be secured from the National Office of the I.L.D., 80 E. 11th St., Room 402, New York, N. Y. In connection with the National Conference the I.L.D. is initiating a vigorous campaign for fifty thousand new members. Instructions, new application blanks and other material for the membership drive has been forwarded to all organizations of the I.L.D. and will be published in the labor press. All workers are called upon to help make both the conference and the membership drive a big success.—Editor.

CALL FOR THE FOURTH NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE

To be held in

PITTSBURGH, PA. DEC. 29, 30, 31, 1929

To all Districts, Locals and Branches of the I. L. D.

To all Labor Unions and other Working Class Organizations:

GREETINGS!

The Executive Committee of the International Labor Defense is hereby issuing the Call for the Fourth National Conference of the I. L. D. to be held at Pittsburgh, Pa. on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, December 29, 30 and 31, 1929.

The class struggle is growing ever more intense throughout the entire world, including the United States of America. The feverish preparations of all capitalist countries for a new imperialist world slaughter, the rationalization of industry with its consequences for the workers—speed-up, wage cuts, mass unemployment, smashing of unions and other labor

organizations—call upon the workers to organize their forces for resistance to the capitalist offensive and for a struggle for shorter working hours, better wages and working conditions, and for the right to organize and to strike.

The capitalist governments in this situation are becoming more and more brutal in their attacks on the workers. Since the Third National Conference of the I. L. D., held in 1927, we were faced with the serious problem of taking care of thousands of cases, which grew out of the miners' strike, the textile strike, needle trades and shoe workers' strikes. The murder of Sacco and Vanzetti left behind it a trail of persecutions of workers who participated in the movements and demonstrations to save these victims from the clutches of capitalist justice—the attempt to railroad to jail a score of miners in Cheswick, Pa., the imprisonment of Harry Cantor in Boston, the attempt to send Accorsi to the electric chair on the charge of killing a state trooper shortly after the Cheswick riot in 1927. Tom Mooney and Warren Billings are still rotting in jail, as are the Centralia I. W. W. prisoners.

In Gastonia the textile workers are waging one of the most heroic struggles in the history of the American labor movement against misery and starvation, for their right to organize and strike. In their heroic struggle they met with the most vicious attack of the bosses, the fascist thugs and the government agencies. Twenty-three leaders of the strike and union organizers are on trial and are in grave danger of being sent to the electric chair or to long terms of imprisonment. The struggle has culminated in the murder in cold blood of Ella May Wiggins, a mill worker and mother of five children. The workers of the United States must rally to the defense of the Gastonia workers. We must not permit the textile barons to snuff the life out of the leaders of this great textile strike.

Other cases the I. L. D. is called upon to defend, are too numerous to be enumerated here. Every day brings new arrests of workers in various parts of the country.

The Fourth National Conference which is to be held in Pittsburgh, Pa., the stronghold of capitalist reaction, ten years after the infamous Palmer Raids of 1920, is of vital importance to the interests of the working class of this country. All I. L. D. organizations, all labor unions and other workers' organizations, all workers in the shops, mines and mills which are sympathetic to the I. L. D., are therefore called upon and urged to make a special effort to help make the Conference a big success and to demonstrate the power of the workers' organizations for workers' defense.

The representation at the Fourth National Conference will be as follows:

1. Each branch of the I. L. D. is entitled to send one delegate for each fifty members, or major part of that number. Each branch should send at least one delegate no matter how small it may be.

2. Each City Organization of the I. L. D. (in cities of more than one branch) is entitled to two delegates to be selected by a City Conference or, in the smaller cities, by a membership meeting of all branches.

3. All trade unions, co-operatives, workers' fraternal organizations, defense committees and other organizations sympathetic to the aims of the International Labor Defense are entitled to send delegates.

4. Groups of workers from shops, mines and mills are entitled to send delegates.

Former class war prisoners, members of the National Executive Committee and district organizers, who are not regular delegates, are invited to attend as fraternal delegates.

All expenses of the delegates shall be borne by the organization sending the delegates.

The coming National Conference must solve many urgent and important problems. It must be a huge demonstration against capitalist reaction the world over, and for the defense of the interests of the working class. It must be made the starting point for an intensive campaign to make the International Labor Defense a real effective mass organization, capable of meeting the new situation in the labor movement. The period preceding the conference must be devoted to an energetic mobilization of all I. L. D. forces to free the political prisoners, to enroll tens of thousands of new members and make International Labor Defense a powerful shield of the working class.

NAT'L EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

J. LOUIS ENGDAHL, Secretary

AGENDA

I. ORGANIZATION OF CONFERENCE:
Opening of conference.

Election of Credentials and Rules Committees of Five.

Report of Credential Committee.

Report of Rules Committee.

Election of permanent officers of conference and committees.

II. REPORTS:

Report of Secretary on the present situation and on activities since last convention.

Report of the international situation.

Report on organization.

Report on Labor Defender.

Report of committees—constitution, resolutions.

Election of National Committee.

Speeches by fraternal delegates.



Photo: Pittsburgh I. L. D.
POLICE BREAKING UP AUG. 1 DEMONSTRATION IN PITTSBURGH. THE I.L.D. MUST
RUSH TO THE DEFENSE OF WORKERS FIGHTING FOR BETTER CONDITIONS.



Voices from Prison

(The following letter from Salvatore Accorsi, framed up by the Pennsylvania coal barons on a charge of murder in connection with the shooting at Cheswick, Pa. at a Sacco-Vanzetti demonstration, clears up once for all the erroneous statements of Carlo Tresca, editor of "Il Martello", anarchist weekly, who tries to make it appear that the I.L.D. has nothing whatsoever to do with the case.)

Richmond County Jail

Dear Comrade Baron:

Replying to your inquiry of recent date, please be informed that your organization is the only organization authorized by me to conduct the defense of my case. I have not given authority to anyone else to conduct my case or to apply for funds for my defense, except the International Labor Defense.

Comradely yours,

SALVATORE ACCORSI

Walla Walla, Wash.

International Labor Defense:

I have a few words to say regarding the Gastonia workers facing the electric chair and I know of what I speak for it was only ten years ago that I faced the hangman's noose myself. Everything that labor possesses must be put into this fight for the lives of these striking Gastonia workers. To lose this fight would not only be losing the lives of those who are fighting our fight for us but would be a blow that throught the ages to come could never be wiped out.

I speak this evening from my cell and I say: workers use in all your might and stop this contemplated murder of the innocent. Act before it is too late. Tomorrow is too late,

Yours for a square deal,

BERT BLAND

Moundsville, W. Va.

Dear Comrades:

It has been a source of great satisfaction to me to know that I am a member of your great organization, and only wish that it was possible for me to help you in your work of defending the Gastonia strikers.

I am with you one hundred percent and I have no doubt but that with your able council, the Gastonia strikers will be freed.

Please extend to them my greetings, and say for me that I know they were fighting for the right cause, and to have no fear for they are being defended by able hands.

Your fellow worker,

JOHN M. LYNCH

Gate, Wash.

Dear Fellow Workers:

I seat myself to write you a few lines and let you know we are all well. I have been sick for a couple of weeks, but I am better now. All the boys in prison and I send their best regards and good wishes to the Gastonia prisoners. Yours for Industrial freedom,

MRS. O. C. BLAND

Walla Walla, Wash.

Fellow Workers:

I have read many articles in regards to the case of the Gastonia strikers and from what I have read their case is about the same in nature as the Centralia case.

The Centralia defendants know exactly what the Gastonia strikers are up against as they have had their experience, too. We are sending you our greetings and best wishes and we are hoping for an immediate acquittal.

We know that you are brave and true fellow-workers and we know that your friends will stand by you thru thick and thin until your release is an established fact.

Fellow workers, and friends and all true lovers of justice, now is the time to get interested in the case of the Gastonia defendants, otherwise the Gastonia defendants will have a tough break fighting for justice. Best wishes to you all.

Yours for industrial freedom,

JOHN LAMB

Moundsville, W. Va.

Dear Sirs and Comrades:

Received your monthly check and wish to thank you for your most kind remittance and for those you have sent in the past. At the present writing I wish to say that I wish to extend my most sincere greetings to my fellow workers in the South and hope that they come up on top.

Fraternally yours,

ALEX CHESSMAN

N. Andover, Mass.

The Gastonia strikers and their cause have our heartfelt sympathy and their staunch courage in facing the heavy battle of the class war deserves the highest praise. It is just such

leaders that carry on the fight to ultimate victory and make working class history. We realize the seriousness of their position as we have also faced a capitalist court, but their loyalty and bravery in the struggle is a cheering sign of solidarity.

Hoping to see the time the South will be free of boss rule and wishing the strikers success,

Sincerely yours,
MRS. JOHN E. MERRICK and
JOHN E. MERRICK

Sioux Falls, S. D.

Dear Fellow Workers:

I don't know what words of courage I can send to the fellow workers, who are waiting trial at Gastonia, N. C. but no doubt they are aware that organized labor throught the country is fighting another big frame up.

With all good wishes to the fellow workers who are unjustly charged with drong-doing because they had the nerve to stand up and defend themselves from paid thugs, and my warmest wish for their speedy acquittal.

Yours fraternally, FRANK GODLOSKY

Liberty, Ohio

Dear Sirs:

Have received your check for which I thank you very much because I sure need it. I thank you again for your help.

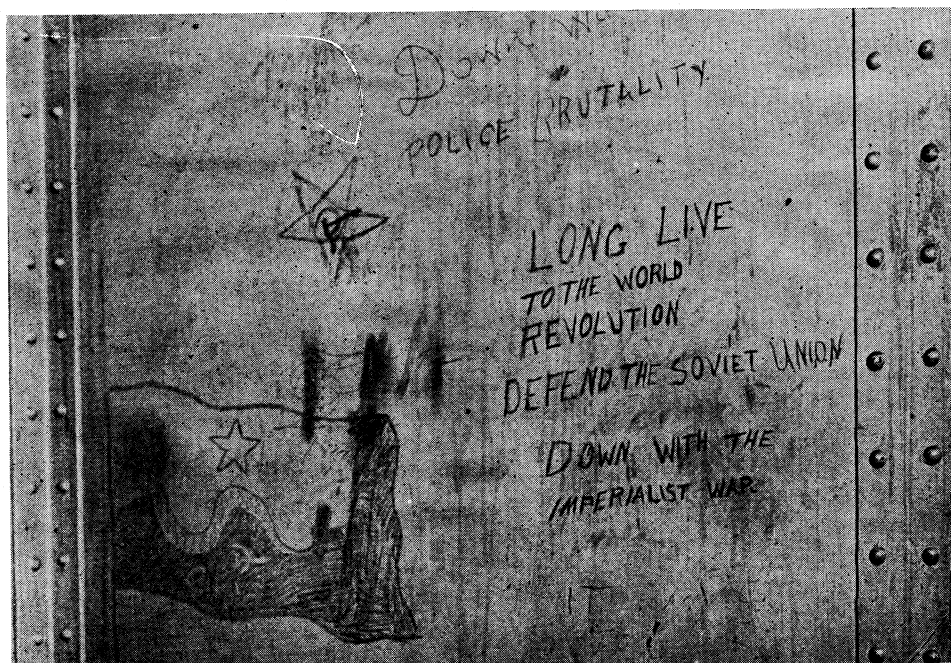
Yours truly,

ANNA JACKOWSKI

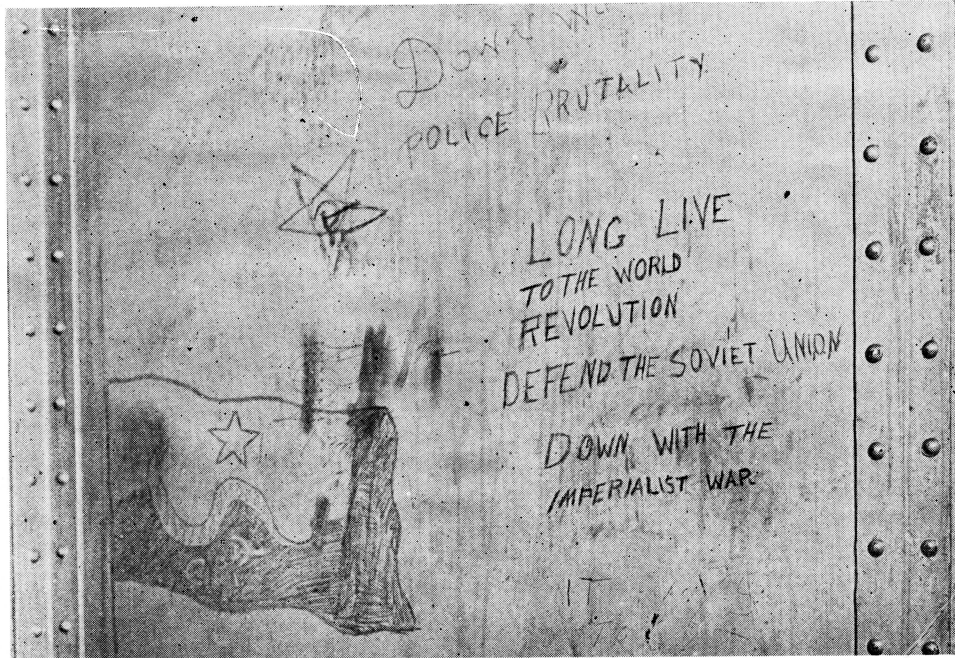
Eastern State Penitentiary, Phila, Penn.
My Dear Brother Workers:

Received your letter also the \$5.00 check and words cannot express my gratitude at the sight of it. I fully realize how the brothers are struggling for better conditions.

SAM BENATO



THE WALL IN THE PITTSBURGH PRISON CELL, WHERE AUG. 1 DEMONSTRATORS WERE IMPRISONED.



THE WALL IN THE PITTSBURGH PRISON CELL, WHERE AUG. 1 DEMONSTRATORS WERE IMPRISONED.

How to Form Defense Branches



GEORGE SAUL, I.L.D. ORGANIZER IN CHARLOTTE AND GASTONIA REGIONS.

Beginning with the next issue, the *Labor Defender* will carry a special page dealing with organization problems of the *International Labor Defense*. The next issue will

By A. JAKIRA

contain an article dealing with the functions and activities of the branches. These articles are of special importance at this time when the I.L.D. is starting a campaign for 50,000 new members.—Editor.

The branch is the basic unit of the *International Labor Defense*. We will consider first how to organize a branch.

1. Interest a group of five or more in defense work, either in the place where you are employed—shop, factory, mill, mine, lumber camp, farm—or in the part of the city where you reside. Call a meeting of these prospective members.

2. At this meeting, the prospective members should sign an application blank which can be secured from the city or district office, or from the national office, at 80 E. 11th St., Room 402, New York. Each applicant should pay 25c initiation fee and at least one month's dues, to the amount of 15c. In addition to this \$1.00 should be raised for a charter.

3. Then proceed with the election of officers—secretary, financial secretary, *Labor Defender* and literature agent, and city central delegate those towns where there is a city central committee. After the election of officers decide when and where the branch will meet next.

4. Larger branches should elect an execu-

tive committee of between 5 and 7 members. The branch executive committee should consist of the main officers of the branch and such other officers who may be considered necessary for the work of the branch. The executive committee shall meet regularly prior to the regular meeting of the branch. Special meetings of the executive should be called when important and urgent problems come up which cannot wait for action until the regular membership meeting. For example, when it is necessary to arrange a special mass meeting on short notice, or when someone is arrested and must be taken care of immediately, etc.

5. It is very important that a definite day or date of the month be set for the meeting. (For example, every second and fourth Tuesday, or first and third Monday, etc.) This will help the members to get the habit of keeping these days open for the I. L. D. meeting. Branches should meet at least once a month.

6. If the time permits, at the first meeting, other problems may be taken up, such as the problem of getting in new members, the immediate work, the question of the *Labor Defender*, etc. Otherwise, all these questions should be left for consideration to the next regular meeting.

7. After the meeting the secretary should report either to the city or to the district or national office, the names and addresses of the officers and should order a charter on a blank especially prepared for this purpose by the National Office. In this way, the branch establishes connections with the higher committees of the organization. Instructions will then be sent to the branch which will help it in its work and in the conduct of the next meeting.

Books

THE AGE OF BLOOD

A Review of "I SAW IT MYSELF"
By Charles Yale Harrison

MOPR, the international defense organization of which the *International Labor Defense* is the American section, sent Henri Barbusse on a trip through Eastern Europe to report on how men are tortured at the hands of the White Terror. "I Saw It Myself"* is the result.

In Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary—wherever in Europe workers are slowly ground to death—Barbusse investigated and set down in writing the results of his observations. The total is enough to freeze one's blood, so diabolical and maniacal is the agony to which class-conscious proletarians are subjected in these countries.

But let Barbusse speak:

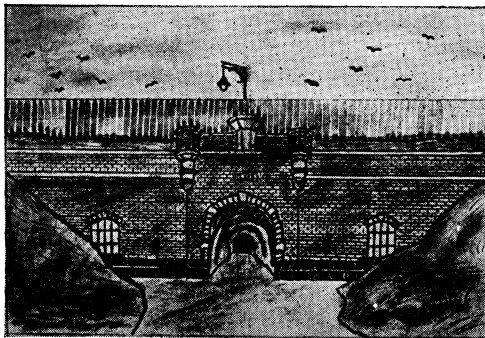
"I know what happens in Rumanian prisons, those living cemeteries. I went to Rumania purposely to find out. I have talked with prisoners, had letters from them; in Rumania and elsewhere, I have talked with men who have got away from those up-to-date caverns in Dof-tana, Jilava, Vacaresti, etc., where political prisoners, convicted or detained on suspicion of Bolshevism, are killed by slow degrees.

"Countless facts, patent, undeniable, throng round me, clamoring with a voice like the voice of remorse."

Damp, rat-infested dungeons, war, white terror, floggings—these figure in the pages of Barbusse's book. There are a few of the tortures which revolutionists must be prepared to face in the Balkans and elsewhere. If you

have a squeamish stomach do not read "I Saw It Myself"—but if you want to have an authentic picture of the heroism of European militant workers by all means buy it.

*E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. \$2.50.



THE ENTRANCE TO THE DUNGEONS OF JILAVA, RUMANIA.

THE CALL WITHIN, by Boris Dimondstein, Bee Dee Publishing Co., \$2.00.

One wonders how such an unreal, unconvincing novel ever got itself into print. It deals with Russia in pre-Soviet days. In this sobby book the author whines about a Jewish poet who is supposed to have inspired all revolutionary thought, and ends up with a Zionist tirade as a cure for all existing evils. We advise you not to waste your time reading it.

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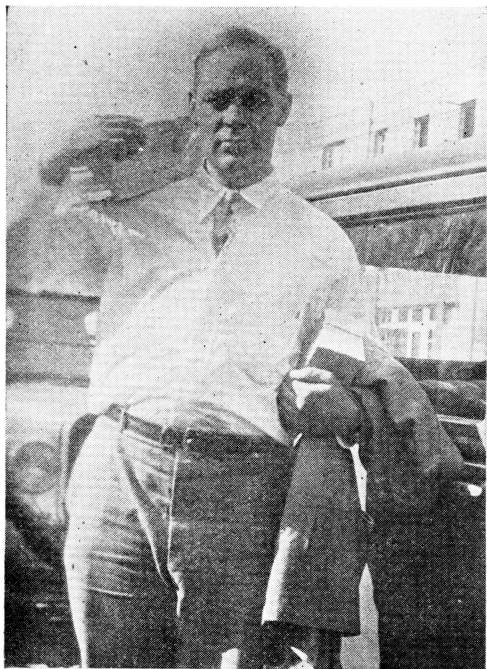
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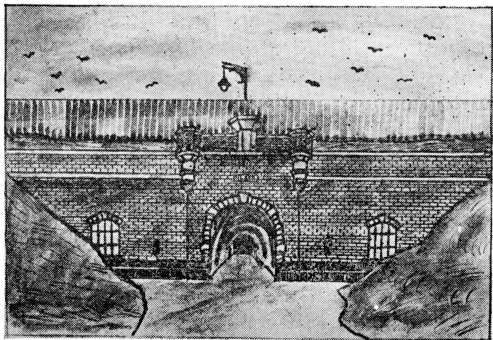
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Beginning with the next issue, the Labor Defender will carry a special page dealing with organization problems of the International Labor Defense. The next issue will



THE ENTRANCE TO THE DUNGEONS OF
JILAVA, RUMANIA.

THE CALL WITHIN

By Boris Dimondstein

A Novel of the Russian Revolution
A book of love, passion and adventure
PRICE \$2.00

Excerpts from some newspaper reviews:

The San Francisco Bulletin, says:

The CALL WITHIN, by Boris Dimondstein. "With a strange intermingling of romanticism and realism, this story of a Russian Jewish boy takes us through the first Russian Revolution. There is something beautiful and something terrible shining and writhing in turn through these pages. It is handled in a manner that leaves a haunting fever in your veins. Here is starkness wrapped in a veil of gauze-like beauty. The idealism of the mind and the grossness of the flesh contrast themselves vividly, under the hand of Dimondstein. You will not forget this story."

The Boston Evening Transcript, says:

"Emotion, mysticism, idealism and imagination are brought together into the pages of this story of Russia, of the First Revolution."

The Oakland, Cal., Tribune, says:

"THE CALL WITHIN, by Boris Dimondstein, had many sharp pictures of Russia in the days of the first revolution. Rasputin, the Czarina, and the people of the streets and fields are thrown into a book which has a hint of autobiography. "Dimondstein does succeed in putting something of self and country in a book to make it out of the ordinary."

The Boston Globe, says:

"Novel that is unusual in manner of its setting. THE CALL WITHIN by Boris Dimondstein — A swiftly-moving novel that takes one through the first Russian Revolution. There is a brevity of character delineation and a tumult of events. The author is eager to tell his tale and he has eschewed much that seems to be traditional in the novel. The work is a valuable piece of fiction."

In preparation: "Beyond Human Power" a sequel to the "Call Within". A novel growing out of the World War and the Soviet Revolution.

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**THE TEXTILE MILL BARONS, THEIR COURTS, THEIR THUGS, YEARS OF
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Ella May fought shoulder to shoulder with her fellow-workers in the National Textile Workers' Union to obtain for herself and her five children, for her fellow-workers and for their children, freedom from mill slavery and better conditions.

She was a leading spirit in organizing the textile workers of the South. This struggle is the struggle of the unorganized workers in the steel, coal, automobile, oil and other industries.

She and the 23 Gastonia prisoners facing the electric chair and long terms in prison fought to assure better conditions for the new generation, children like the five of Ella May left orphaned by the mill bosses.

**THE MILL BARONS, WITH ALL THEIR FASCIST TERRORISM COULD SUBDUE ELLA MAY ONLY WITH
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The Textile Workers of the South Are Fighting On in the Spirit of Ella May

NEITHER BULLETS, ROPE, NOR THE WHOLE APPARATUS OF CAPITALIST OPPRESSION HAS TERRORIZED THEM. THEIR STAND SHOULD BE THE STAND OF WORKERS THROUGHOUT THE LAND.

Fight in the Spirit of Ella May for the Freedom of the Gastonia Prisoners!

The trial of the 23 strikers and union organizers facing the electric chair and long imprisonment has begun all over again. Again thousands of dollars are needed daily.

WORKERS, SWELL THE DEFENSE FUNDS

Collect in the factories, in the streets, in the homes, arrange mass meetings, form defense committees.

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HELP THE WORKERS DEFEND THEMSELVES AGAINST THE FASCIST MOBS!

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