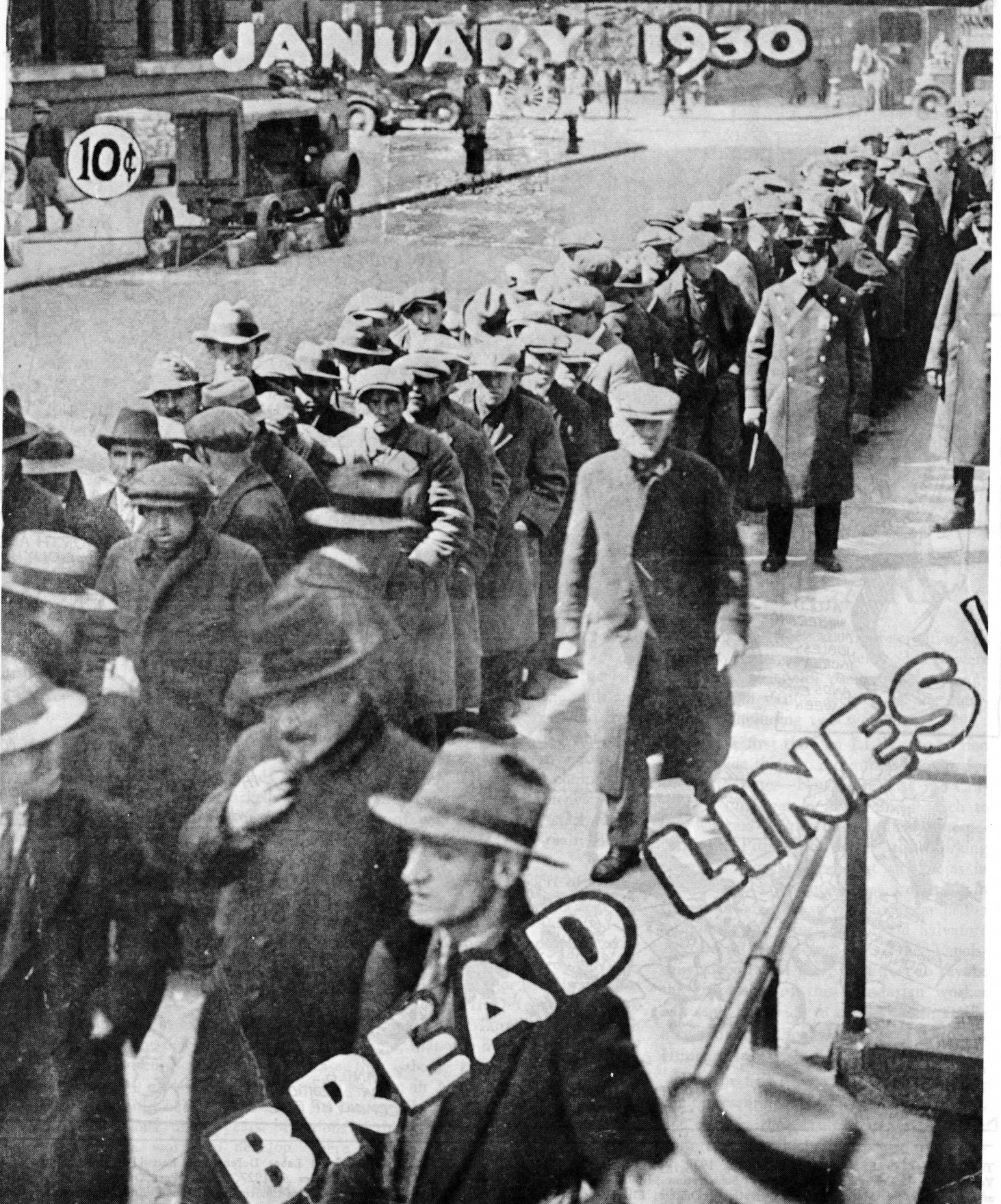


LABOR DEFENDER


JANUARY 1930



BREAD LINES

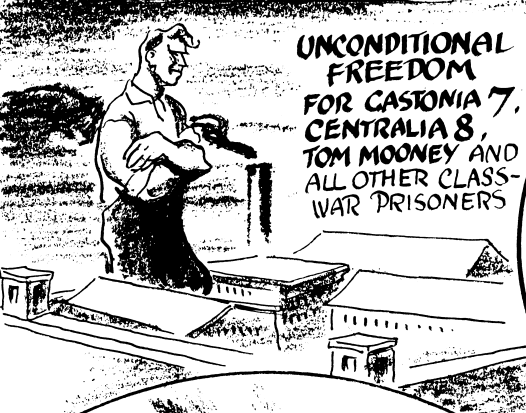
LOOKING at the MONTH with HAY BALES

COMMEMORATION OF LENIN'S DEATH
JAN. 21, 1924.
BEACON LIGHT OF THE WORLD REVOLUTION



INSPIRING THE BUILDING OF SOCIALISM IN THE U.S.S.R.

UNCONDITIONAL FREEDOM FOR CASTONIA 7, CENTRALIA 8, TOM MOONEY AND ALL OTHER CLASS-WAR PRISONERS




JULIO MELLA




MURDERED BY AGENTS OF MACHADO, PRES. OF CUBA AND PUPPET OF YANKEE IMPERIALISM!

THE CAMERA IS A CLASS WEAPON, TOO, THAT THE BOSSES FEAR



USE IT FREELY AND SEND THE RESULT TO US

TEN YEARS AFTER THE PALMER RAIDS



THE TERROR AGAINST MILITANT LABOR IS JUST AS GREAT - ANS. BY BUILDING A STRONGER I.L.D.


I.L.D.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE



MILITANT WORKERS HAIL DELEGATES FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY

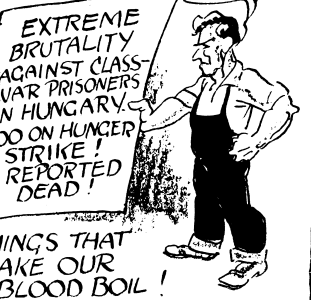
LABOR DEFENDER SUB DRIVE 50,000 READERS BY MARCH, 18. KEEP 'EM COMIN'!



BOY! THEY'RE SURE ROLLING IN!

WE MUST SAVE OUR COMRADES!

EXTREME BRUTALITY AGAINST CLASS-WAR PRISONERS IN HUNGARY. 100 ON HUNGER STRIKE! 2 REPORTED DEAD!




THINGS THAT MAKE OUR BLOOD BOIL!

HERE IS YOUR STEED, M'LORD, ALL SADDLED AND BRIDLED FOR YOU!

ONE RESULT OF HOOVER'S INDUSTRIAL "CONFERENCES"

"WE AGREE NOT TO STRIKE OR ASK FOR ANY WAGE INCREASES NOW!" A.F.L. LEADERS?



RESCUE ACCORSI FROM ANDREW MELLON'S ELECTRIC CHAIR!



A VISIT TO TOM MOONEY

By ERNST TOLLER



Ernst Toller as a prisoner in Germany

WE rode by ferry over the Bay of San Francisco. Then an auto took us over hilly country, grown over with eucalyptus, laurel and redwood trees, through the green southern landscape of Martin County to the prison of San Quentin. While we were yet a few miles away we passed the first watch tower which bristled with machine guns. Soon we saw the prison walls. We came to the gate and had to sign our names. We passed through a court to the second

Ernst Toller, revolutionary dramatist and writer of Germany, has just completed a month's trip through the United States, speaking before workers' audiences on political and proletarian literary subjects. He is a member of the German section of the International Red Aid and of the League Against Imperialism. He wrote his play "Man of the Masses" while in a German prison, where he remained for two and one-half years for his participation in the German Revolution.

While in the West he visited Tom Mooney in San Quentin and also spoke with McNamara and Schmidt who are imprisoned there. The first part of his article, written especially for the LABOR DEFENDER describes his visit to Tom Mooney. In the February number of the LABOR DEFENDER he will write of his conversations with McNamara and Schmidt and of his visit to the death chamber at San Quentin.

Ernst Toller requested us to make clear to the readers of the LABOR DEFENDER that he never made the statements attributed to him by reporters of the New York capitalist press on his arrival here. Reporters who visited him while he was detained by United States Immigration authorities on Ellis Island, even before he was questioned by the authorities, wrote in their papers that he had told the U. S. officials that although he was a radical in his youth he was no longer one and that he had no political affiliations. That is a lie.

These are some of the questions asked Toller by Ellis Island officials: "Did you come here to kill United States officials?"

"If you were in Bavaria, would you overthrow the Bavarian government?"

"That all depends," was Toller's reply to the latter question.

"Are you a socialist or a red?"

"What is the difference between the two?" asked Toller.

"A red is a dangerous revolutionary; a socialist is harmless," was the reply of the immigration official.

"You cannot demand that I change my political views, merely to come into the United States," said Toller.

The one year permitted him in the United States by his visa was changed by the authorities to three months.

Ernst Toller asks that the LABOR DEFENDER transmit the following message to members of the I.L.D. and to the workers of the United States:

"The tasks of the I.L.D. in America will become greater because we are facing an economic crisis. If an American worker has a job he is better off than a German worker. But if he has no job he is much worse off, because he has no rights in time of illness, no social insurance, no unemployment benefit. The economic war will be fiercer than the revolutionary fighting in Germany.

"Prosperity, the consequence of the victory of the United States in the war, is approaching its end, and we will have many struggles. For helping workers in these struggles there must be strong organizations—not ones of charity but of comradeship.

"The I.L.D. must use every means at its disposal to win the masses. Cultural methods, such as the movies, talkies and radio, which the ruling class uses for its own propaganda purposes, must also be appropriated by the workers."—EDITOR.



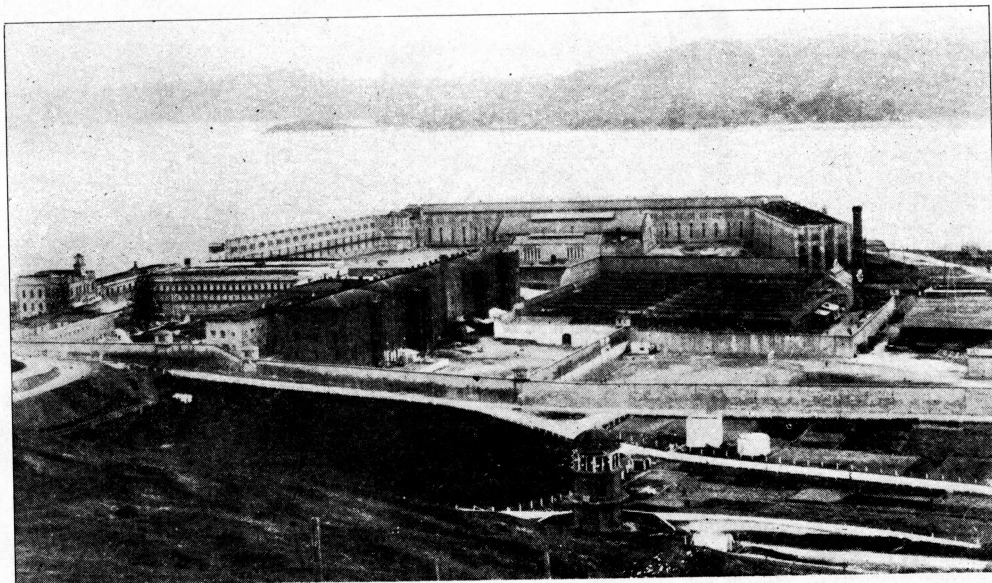
Tom Mooney

gate. We were led into an office. We handed over a letter from the editor-in-chief of the Call-Bulletin, Mr. Fremont Older, who had been fighting for Mooney for many years.

Fifteen minutes later we saw Tom Mooney in the visiting room. At a long table sat the prisoners, and opposite them their visitors. On the center of the table, a small separating partition of rods. The prisoners are not permitted to lean over this. At the end of the table, on a raised pulpit, sat the guard, who kept watch over the prisoners and the visitors.

Tom Mooney has been in prison for thirteen years. He went in as a young robust person. Today he is grey and his face is deeply furrowed. Innocent, this man remains in prison. America, the world knows this. But still the walls imprison him.

Mooney was one of the most active socialist agitators in the American west. He had organized many workers, had led strikes, was one of the most hated (Cont'd on page 18)



A general view of San Quentin Prison

Photos Int'l

TO AMERICAN WORKERS

By NICOLAI LENIN

WE are all firmly convinced that the Soviet Republic, whatever misfortune may still lie in store for it, is unconquerable.

It is unconquerable because every blow that comes from the powers of madly raging imperialism, every new attack by the international bourgeoisie will bring new, and hitherto unaffected strata of workingmen and peasants into the fight, will educate them at the cost of the greatest sacrifice, making them hard as steel, awakening a new heroism in the masses.

We know that it may take a long time before help can come from you, comrades, American Workingmen, for the development of the revolution in the different countries proceeds along various paths, with varying rapidity (how could it be otherwise!) We know full well that the outbreak of the European proletarian revolution may take many weeks to come, quickly as it is ripening in these days. We are counting on the inevitability of the international revolution. But that does not mean that we count upon its coming at some definite, nearby date. We have experienced two great revolutions in our own country, that of 1905 and that of 1917, and we know that revolutions cannot come neither at a word of command, nor according to pre-arranged plans. We know that circumstances alone have pushed us, the proletariat of Russia, forward, that we have reached

this new stage in the social life of the world not because of our superiority but because of the peculiarly reactionary character of Russia. But until the outbreak of the international revolution, revolutions in individual countries may still meet with a number of serious setbacks and overthrows.

And yet we are certain that we are invincible, for if humanity will not emerge from this imperialistic massacre broken in spirit, it will triumph. Ours was the first country to break the chains of imperialistic warfare. We broke them with the greatest sacrifice, but they are broken. We stand outside of imperialistic duties and considerations, we have raised the banner of the fight for the complete overthrow of imperialism for the world.

We are in a beleaguered fortress, so long as no other international socialist revolution comes to our assistance with its armies. But these armies exist, they are stronger than ours, they grow, they thrive, they become more invincible the longer imperialism with its brutalities continues. Workingmen the world over are breaking with their betrayers, with their Gompers and their Scheidemanns. Inevitably labor is approaching communistic Bolshevik tactics, is preparing for the proletarian revolution that alone is capable of preserving culture and humanity from destruction.

We are invincible, for invincible is the Proletarian Revolution.

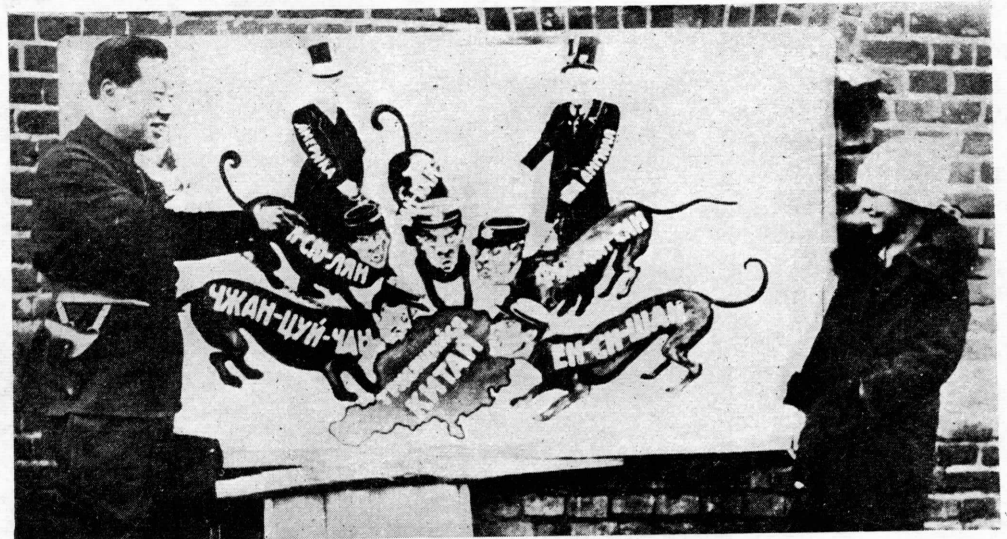
A statue to Lenin recently erected in Slatoust, Russia, by the workers, as an inspiration for the intensive work of building socialism.



This extract from the writings of Lenin is taken from his "A Letter to American Workingmen," written on August 20, 1918, when the Workers' Republic was being attacked internally and from all sides by imperialist forces and white-guardist bands.

Today, six years after Lenin's death, while the workers, peasants and soldiers have succeeded in defeating the counter-revolution in their own territory and are forging full speed ahead in the construction of socialism, imperialist maneuvers have succeeded in pitting the Chinese war lords against the Soviet Union, to the point where open hostilities broke out in Manchuria. The Red Army again succeeded in repulsing the white-guardists and the armies of the war lords in Manchuria, and establishing a peaceful agreement with the Manchurian government, in spite of the intervention of the United States.

The Manchurian situation proves again that every worker who has the interest of his class at heart, must be fully awake to the dangers threatening the Soviet Union. This short extract from Lenin expresses the complete confidence he felt in the international solidarity of the workers.



Lian Kun, chairman of the Society of Chinese Workers in Moscow, is explaining this poster to a young pioneer. The poster is entitled "The Chinese Generals are Fighting, and the Imperialists are Inciting Them." It depicts British and Yankee imperialism urging the war lords, who are shown as their dogs, upon each other.



Photo Labor Defender
 The Southern District I. L. D. Conference at Charlotte, N. C. Inserts (left) Cliff Saylor; (center) Martin Dewey; (right) K. Y. (Red) Hendryx. Woman at extreme left is Daisy MacDonald, secretary of the conference.

SIX MONTHS IN THE SOUTH

By J. LOUIS ENGBAHL

SIX months after the joint police and mill owners' mob attack on the textile strikers' tent colony at Gastonia (June 7) the International Labor Defense held its first District Conference (December 8) in the South, at Charlotte, North Carolina, scene of the ruling class effort to send 16 strikers and organizers to the electric chair.

It was the bloody and murderous war waged against the Loray Mill strikers of the Manville-Jenckes Corporation that called the I. L. D. into the South; its successful and now historic fight for the lives of "The 16" condemned to death that rooted it deeply in the ranks of the Southern toiling masses, Negro and white; while bitter struggles ahead promise it continued growth and influence.

The I. L. D. became a really national organization, covering all the struggle centers in the land, with the holding of its First Southern Conference in the little hall, now known as "The Workers' Center," at Belmont and Caldwell streets, out where the textile workers live in North Charlotte, edging on the Negro neighborhood.

Six months ago the I. L. D. was practically unknown in the South. Today its every movement is watched. The kept press builds full page headlines and endless articles in an effort to misrepresent and slander its activities. Its organizers have been kidnapped, mobbed, flogged and all but lynched. Ella May was murdered. In New Orleans its headquarters have been raided and its members jailed. This same press predicted that the I. L. D.

would desert the South following the Gastonia trial. The First Southern Conference was the answer this press and its masters received—clear, uncompromising.

This Conference opened a new day in that it revealed not only that the I. L. D. had become national in scope but that the Southern workers, coming from four states—North and South Carolina, Georgia and Virginia—had come to think nationally and internationally. Lack of funds alone kept delegates at home in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Here was B. W. Miller, the Negro delegate from Atlanta, who spoke for the unity of workers of all races, not only Negro with white, but also of the exploited masses of China, India, Africa, Japan; eloquent in speech, magnetic in personality. He beholds in the I. L. D. an organization helping to liquidate the prejudices between workers, white and black, yellow and brown.

Out of this Conference came the first voice of protest in all America against the murderous war renewed by Wall Street's butchers against the worker and peasant masses of Haiti.

K. Y. (Red) Hendryx, one of "The Seven," who is facing seven years in

prison, urged the struggle to save Salvatore Accorsi from the electric chair in Pennsylvania. Here was the handclasp of the Southern textile worker with the Pennsylvania coal miner, the solidarity born in the crucible of bitter class battles.

Cheers of approval echoed the reading of greetings to the workers and peasants of the Soviet Union, carrying the congratulations of these Southern toilers on the triumph of the Five Year Plan. Elmer MacDonald, member of the Children's Delegation but recently returned from the U.S.S.R., spoke for the Pioneers. The delegates knew that one of their number, K. O. Beyers, was at that moment touring the Soviet Union, being greeted by workers everywhere, while he had been refused admission to Great Britain by the MacDonald government, that feared his message to British labor.

The Gastonia gang of the Manville-Jenckes outfit refused to permit the release of George Carter, the last of the defendants held in prison, on bail, so that he could attend the conference. While the conference was on, the mill owners' press spread provocative slanders against the I. L. D. intended to incite mob raids on its Charlotte headquarters. The day after the Conference, when Carter was finally released, a warrant was issued for the arrest of Cliff Saylor, I. L. D. organizer, under the old charge of the murder of the police chief, Aderholt, the crime that had been unsuccessfully lodged against "The 23." The I. L. D. grows in the South in the heat of the many developing conflicts.



Photo Labor Defender
 The Southern District I. L. D. Conference at Charlotte, N. C. Inserts (left) Cliff Saylor; (center) Martin Dewey; (right) K. Y. (Red) Hendryx. Woman at extreme left is Daisy MacDonald, secretary of the conference.

Salvatore Accorsi is Saved

By SENDER GARLIN

SALVATORE ACCORSI has been saved. He has been snatched from the Pennsylvania executioners by the International Labor Defense, which since his arrest on June 12, 1929, has been carrying on an untiring campaign for his release.

The frame-up was too crude for the middle-class jury which heard the "evidence." It is the International Labor Defense which is responsible for the acquittal of Accorsi. Had it not taken charge of the defense in this hideous frame-up plot against the Italian miner, the plot would never have been exposed.

The bosses murder crew failed to "get their man," but they have still others to choose from. Ten workers are still under indictment in connection with the Cheswick meeting, with charges against them ranging from "unlawful assemblage" to "inciting to riot." Who is next? When the Pennsylvania industrialists make their answer, the International Labor Defense will have another big job on its hands.

Accorsi was arrested, convicted and extradited by the labor-hating Tammany Governor Roosevelt, charged with the murder of Downey, Pennsylvania State trooper, who, together with a small army of uniformed thugs mounted and on foot, smashed the Sacco-Vanzetti protest meeting at Cheswick, Pa., on August 22, 1927. Three thousand workers, mostly striking miners, attended this demonstration. The troopers and state witnesses were forced to admit under cross-examination that the troopers hurled tear-gas bombs



Salvatore Accorsi, saved from Mellon's electric chair and freed by the workers.



The Accorsi family, taken care of by the I.L.D. during the arrest and trial of Salvatore Accorsi. Mrs. Accorsi is holding Luigini, 4 months; Armanto is 18 months and Carolina 9 years.

into the huge crowd. They trampled men, women and children under their horses' hoofs, clubbing mercilessly all who came within their reach.

A trooper had been killed: hence a worker must pay with his life. Mellon ruled for the state of Pennsylvania that he must pay with his life. Mellon ruled that the state of Pennsylvania must at all costs vindicate the bloody state police, the bosses' most effective weapon against exploited workers in the steel mills and coal mines. Salvatore Accorsi, 38 years old and father of three little children, was selected as the worker who must pay with his life for the death of the trooper.

Accorsi is innocent of the death of Downey. But let it here be stated and let bosses and their bloody hirelings know—that henceforth workers cannot be beaten and murdered with impunity. This the Gastonia textile workers were quick to

demonstrate. And whoever it was who emptied his revolver into the 175-pound Downey—and it was undoubtedly a worker driven to this act by the most unprovoked brutality—was completely justified in doing so.

An elaborate frame-up superstructure was built up against Accorsi. The majority of the state witnesses, most of them troopers, were intent upon refurbishing their reputations tarnished by the bloody details of the brutal murder of another coal miner, John Barkoski. This worker was beaten to death with a poker by three drunken coal and iron police in their barracks in imperial Pennsylvania. In the face of a mountain of evidence against them, the three policemen were acquitted.

An insight into the frame-up technique of the Pennsylvania bosses was furnished by the claim of the prosecution that the slayer of Downey had a moustache. More than a dozen defense witnesses, on the other hand, including two barbers, swore that Accorsi never had a moustache. Why did the state pursue its lost cause to the bitter end? Because at the coroner's inquest two years ago the slayer was described as a man with a moustache. And so Accorsi had to be given a moustache!

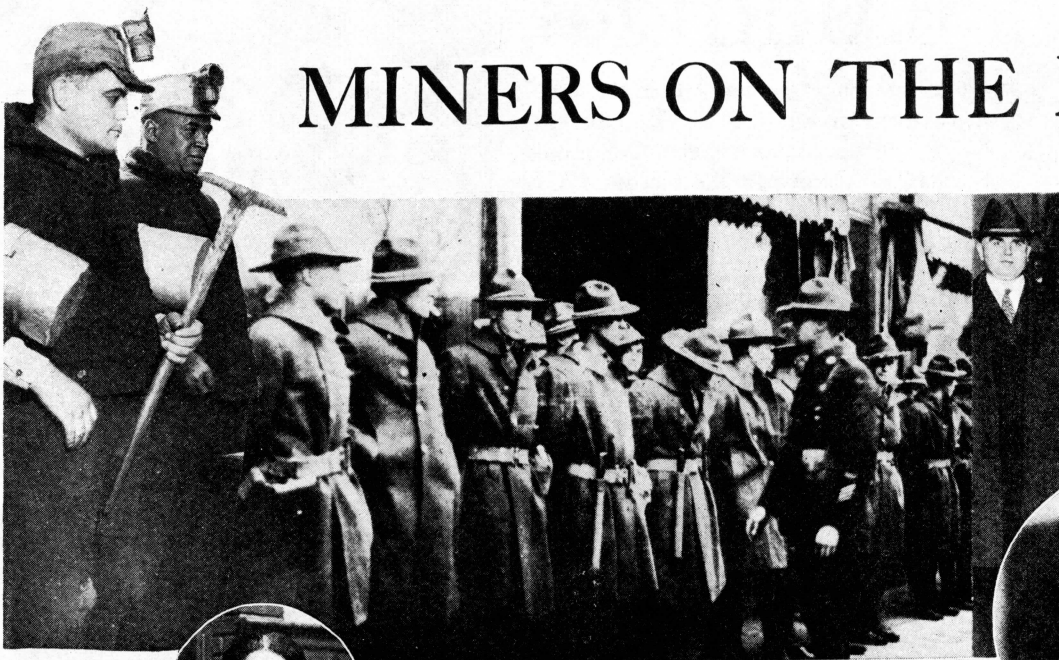
One of two "star" witnesses, Trooper Brown, "positively identified" Accorsi as the man who shot Downey. Yet at the inquest Brown testified he "could not describe the fellow."

The workers are justified in their satisfaction that Accorsi was saved from the electric chair. But let no false conclusions be drawn from the jury's verdict, let there be no illusions about justice in capitalist courts! Remember Sacco and Vanzetti, Gastonia, Woodlawn.

The Accorsi verdict proves that only the working class by means of its fighting weapon, the International Labor Defense, succeeded in smashing the frame-up plot against Accorsi. Today Accorsi is free; tomorrow another worker may be caught in the clutches of boss justice.

Workers! Ever on guard! Build and support the International Labor Defense, the shield of the working class!

MINERS ON THE MARCH



(Left) The troops called out in Taylorville, Ill. on the first day of the strike! Members of the U.M.W. refused to work under their protection and joined the strike.

(Inset, left) John Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, who is being deserted by the Illinois miners.

(Circle) Pat Toohey, secretary-treasurer of the National Miners' Union, leading the strike.



(Circle) Mrs. Boyce, wife of the Negro vice-president of the National Miners' Union, one of whose demands is no discrimination in any way against Negro workers. The women are playing a great role in the miners' strike.



(Right) Out of the mines and on the picket lines! In the midst of winter the Illinois miners strike. They must have the support of all workers.



THE Illinois miners, under the leadership of the left-wing National Miners' Union, are on the march. On December 9, 1929, the miners at Taylorville struck. In a few days, miners marching from one mine to another, brought their fellow-workers out on strike in other sections of the state, until, as the LABOR DEFENDER goes to press, 10,000 miners are estimated to be on strike in Illinois.

On the first day of the strike troops were called out at Taylorville. Company gunmen and special deputies were on the job. Freeman Thompson and George Voyzey, strike leaders, were placed under military arrest. Hundreds of other miners were arrested wholesale in the attempt to break the strike, the first major struggle called against the drive launched on the workers by the Hoover special conferences in Washington. Three hundred members of the union who marched on

Nokomis to picket a mine of the Illinois-Indiana Corporation were bottled up in a street by a force of a hundred deputies heavily armed. A shot was fired to intimidate the picketers and 35 men were taken from the crowd to jail.

This struggle in Illinois marks the disintegration of the United Mine Workers, which had been split by the fracas between Lewis and Fishwick, U.M.W. locals went over in a body to the National Miners' Union and rank and file members of other locals refused to work under the protection of the troops.

News also comes that 18,000 miners have voted to strike in Kentucky and a miners' strike is in progress at Boonville, Missouri. This is an answer to the no-strike, no-wage-increase policy of Green and Lewis promised to Hoover.

The strikers demand the six-hour day

and five-day week, minimum wage of \$35 a week, larger crews on the machines and a 15 minute rest period every hour, abolition of the check-off (by which the mine companies, on agreement with the U.M.W. take union dues out of the pay envelopes), no discrimination against young workers and Negro workers, social insurance paid by the state and the companies.

When it is remembered that during the last 6 years 35,000 miners in Illinois alone were forced out of work by the introduction of machinery in the mines, and about 300,000 thruout the country, and that periods of employment are irregular then the significance of these demands for the unemployed can be seen.

All power to the striking miners, under the leadership of their National Miners' Union! The International Labor Defense is supporting them and will support them in their struggles.

BREAKING BARRIERS

By SOL AUERBACH

"INCITING the Negro to rebellion." That is the charge on which Stephan Graham was arrested in Norfolk, Virginia, and then released on \$2,500 bail pending his trial. That is the charge brought against him by the Spring Manufacturing Company of Norfolk, 85 per cent of whose workers are Negroes, most of them young women.

You might think that this was taking place in the days of slavery before the Civil War. The charge itself—"Inciting the Negro to rebellion"—might have come from the lips of some Southern gentleman fighting to keep his slaves on his plantation.

But the South, and with it Norfolk, has changed. The Spring Manufacturing Company, a subsidiary of the Nachman Spring-filled Corporation of Chicago, Ill.,



Tobacco worker at Winston Salem, N. C. Her wage was \$9.90 a week, until she was discharged for being a union member.

which has other units scattered through both the South and North, has two plants in Norfolk. In Norfolk, too, and in its vicinity, are 29 fertilizer plants, large shipbuilding yards, saw mills—making up a smoke-stack skyline of an industrial center.

In these mills work many Negro workers—men, women and youngsters. In the Southern Spring Manufacturing Company, where Graham was employed, the young Negro workers make from \$1.25 to \$2.25 a day of up to 10 hours on piece

work, the young girl workers in the sewing department are started at \$1.00 per day.

Into this scene came the Communist, Stephan Graham. In the words of Graham: "After working and seeing these horrible working conditions, I talked to a number of workers, distributed literature in the plant, and told the workers that the only way to improve these conditions is by organizing into truly militant industrial unions, under the leadership of the Trade Union Unity League."

This much the bosses are agreed upon: white and Negro workers may have equal-



ity to work alike under slave conditions in their plants. But under no circumstances must they be permitted to stretch their equality further, as, for instance, equality translated into solidarity of the Negro and white workers in the fight against the new slavery of the South and the older one of the North.

This was the message brought to the South by the Communists and the National Textile Workers' Union in Gastonia. This was the message, that by the logic of the events at Gastonia, blazed a trail through the South.

Walking on this trail and hewing it further came the white worker Stephan Graham. That is what he told his fellow Negro workers in the plant where he worked.

Graham called a meeting of the workers in his plant for October 15 to talk about organizing a union. In the meeting hall, to which most of the workers had walked more than two miles, were about 150 Negro workers, most of them from the Southern Spring Company.

"You have no right calling niggers to meetings," said one of the detectives to Graham after the meeting. Graham said that the meetings would continue. He was arrested, told that "he wasn't fit to associate even with niggers," and threatened



Low wages for heavy work in a metal plant. Their wives and children work also.

(Left) Six-year old girl picking coke from the tracks at Birmingham, Ala. (Photo Esther Lowell)

(Right) Stephen Graham



with "being taken into an alley and used as a football."

Graham's room was raided, all literature found there confiscated, and then he was charged with "inciting the Negroes to rebellion."

But a trail once blazed cannot be so easily buried. From the mouths of the present southern gentlemen in Norfolk again come the old familiar words: "inciting the Negroes to rebellion." The inciting they themselves have done in their plants, with their wages, in the homes they have rented the Negro workers to live in, in the barriers of prejudice they have erected around them. There come leaders to show the way in breaking down these barriers.

Stephen Graham is one of these leaders. To set him free unconditionally is part and parcel of the whole fight to organize the South, part of the fight against jim-crowism and lynching, part of that great struggle against exploitation built on the solidarity of the workers of all races and nationalities.

HOOVER'S PEACE

IN HAITI

AS in 1920, the Haitian masses have risen in revolt against the most abominable conditions forced upon them by Yankee armed occupation, to find that the 700 marines in Haiti, the Haitian Garde officered by 100 Americans, an additional 500 marines hurriedly dispatched by President Hoover on a battleship, and thousands of more marines, held in readiness, were at hand to drown their revolt with lead from machine guns, rifles, airplanes and battleships.

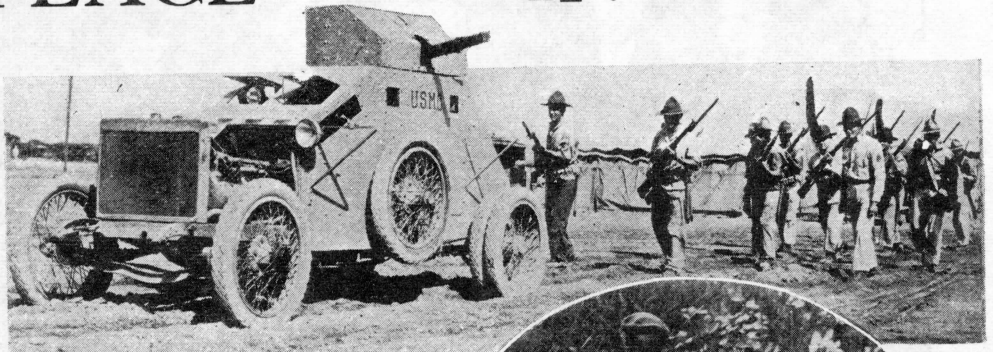
Secretary of State Stimson was hardly through wiping the pen with which he signed the note of intervention to the Soviet Union, when Yankee marine guns spat death at Haitian toilers, killing five and wounding 20 at Aux Cayes. The Kellogg Peace Pact is supposed to guard the weaker nations from the clutches of the more powerful. But it seems at though the pact does not apply to Haiti, with its 3,000,000 extremely exploited Negro inhabitants.

For Wall Street bleeds out of Haiti millions in profits and needs the island for two naval bases with which to control the Carribean against British imperialism.

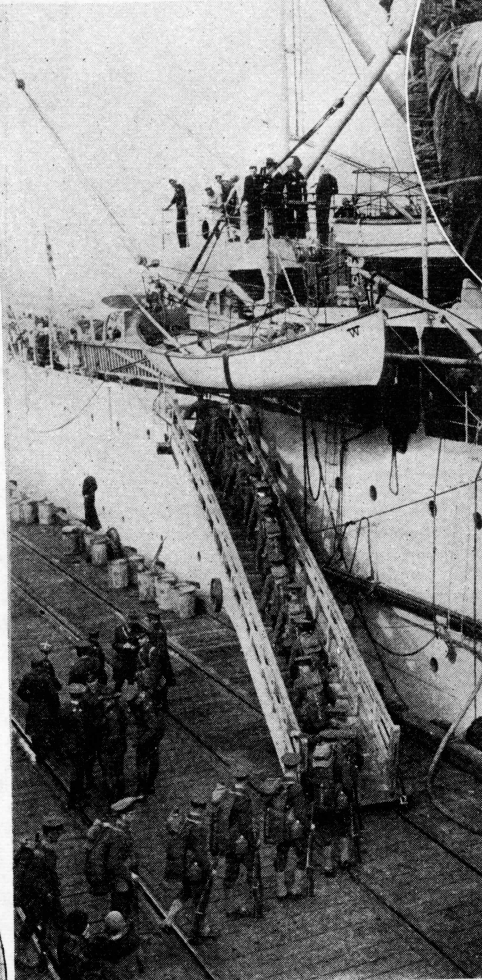
When Haiti, in 1914, refused, at the request of President Wilson, to subject itself to the control of the National City Bank of New York, an American battleship landed marines and removed \$500,000 from the Haitian National Bank and government treasury and brought it to New York. The New York bank then stopped all payment to the Haitian government forcing it to suspend operations. Permanent armed occupation began August 27, 1915.

The Haitian government, at the point of the bayonet, was then forced to sign one treaty after another, placing the control of the entire island in the hands of the Yankee imperialists. The Haitian constitution was amended to permit Americans to hold large plantations, with the

(Insert) *President Borno, Wall Street puppet.*
(Below) *U. S. Marines lying in wait for Haitian toilers.*



(Above) *U. S. marines on the war path in Haiti. (Below) Marines boarding U. S. S. Wright for Haiti, at Hampton Roads, Virginia.*



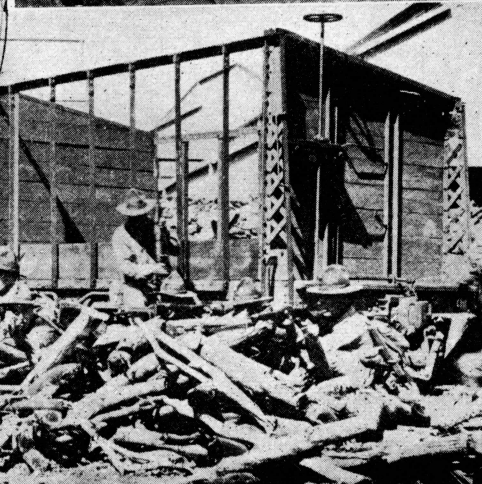
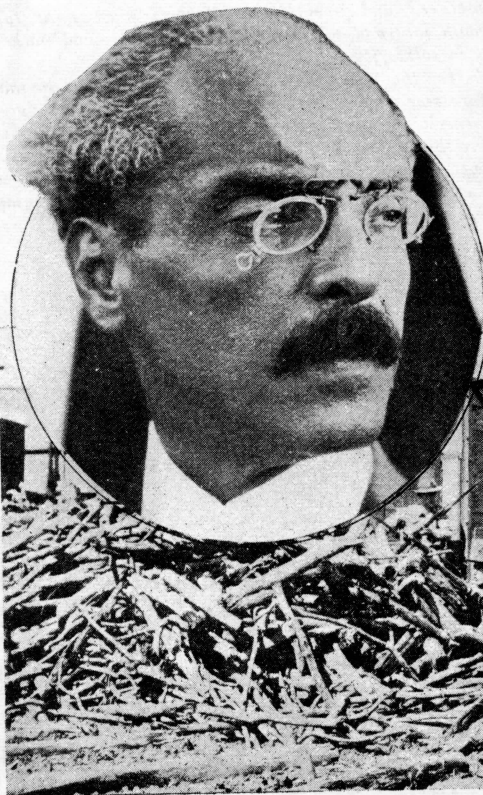
Haitian toilers at work on a plantation. Thousands have been forcefully deported for slavery in Cuba.

result that peasants were ousted from their holdings and made penniless. They were, however, "taken care of" by the same American landowners in Cuba, who paid their Haitian officials \$10 per head for Haitian natives induced to come to slavery in the Cuban sugar plantations. As a result, Haitian "emigration" to Cuba has increased from 117 in 1914 to 21,619 in 1927, and 14,098 in 1928. Nearly one-fourth of the adult male workers of Haiti had been removed for exploitation in Cuba!

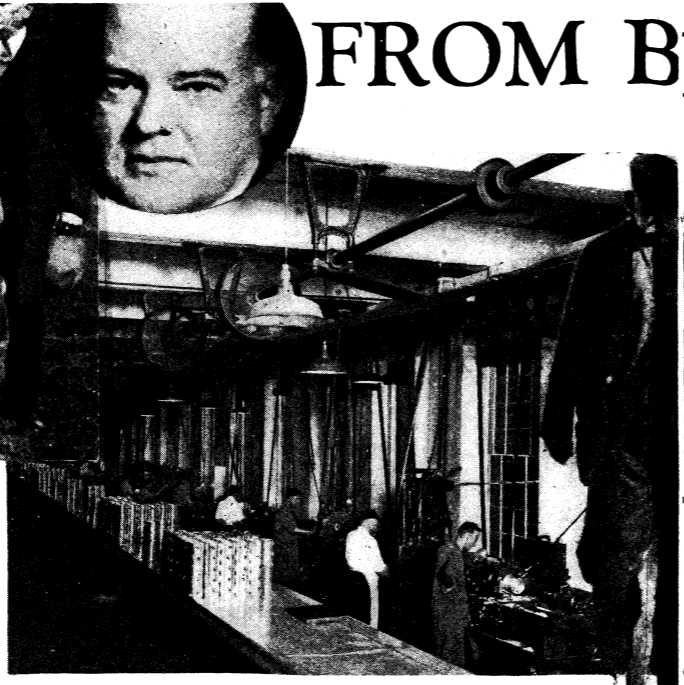
The American marines were hard put to it to "pacify the country." They resurrected an old law under which Haitians were compelled to work on the roads. Many of these virtual slaves were shot in cold blood by Yankee marine officers. When the Haitians rose in revolt against this slavery in 1920, 3,500 of them were killed.

In 1922, the present high commissioner, General John H. Russell, was appointed by Wall Street. This is what he did: he placed American officials in leading departments of the government; collected all taxes; no laws could be passed or money appropriated without his consent; he controlled all courts; he placed in power in 1922 the present president, Borno, did away with the legislature and instead had Borno appoint a council of state, which in turn re-elected Borno; he had Borno issue orders, which the Yankee marines carried out, suppressing all newspapers criticizing the state of affairs even mildly, throwing editors in jail, suppressing every movement for organization among the Haitian masses.

This is bloody Yankee imperialism at work. When American workers in New York City and in Washington protested against this bloody occupation, they were beaten and ridden under foot by the police. Only by the unity of the oppressed workers of all races and nationalities can imperialism be done away with.



FROM BREADLINE TO UNITED STRUGGLE

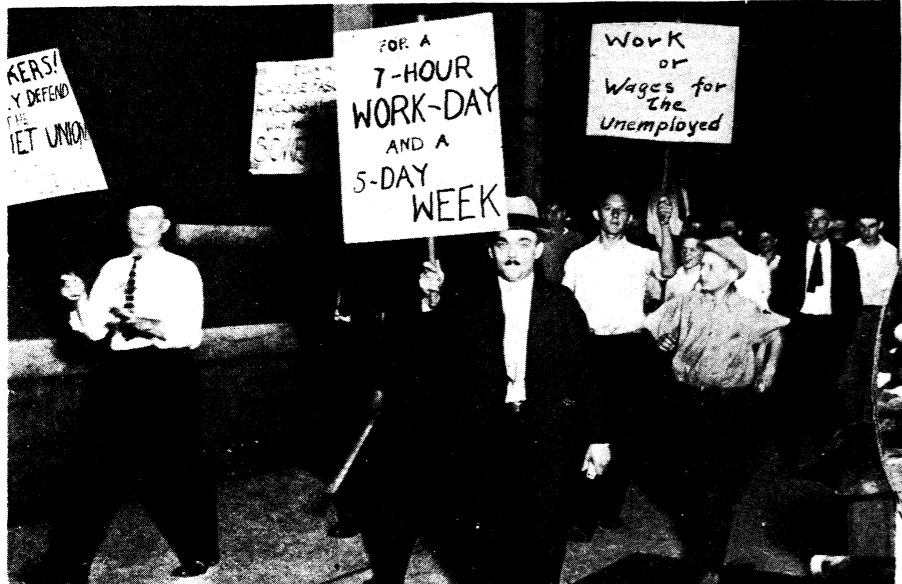


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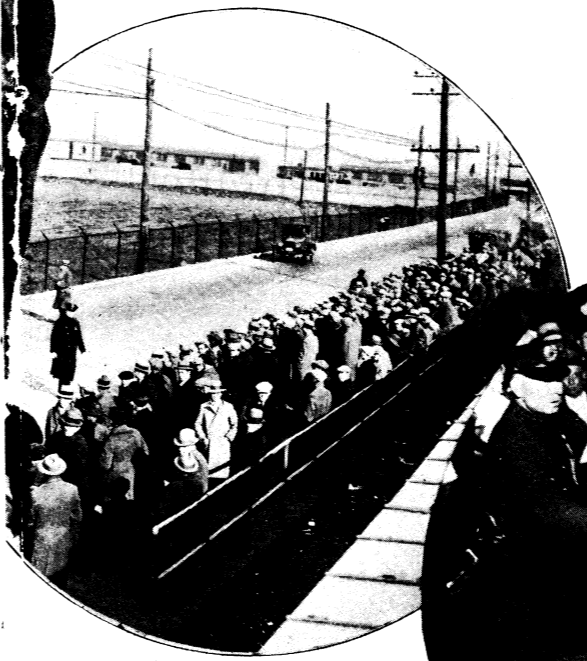
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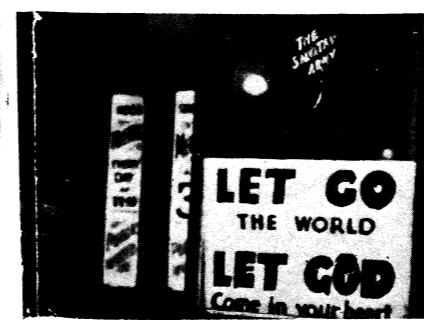
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(4) As he walks miles seeking for a job, with his last penny gone, he learns that when workers protest against conditions such as he and many others have to suffer, they are beaten and jailed. He sees many Communists arrested for saying many things which he knows to be true. They are beaten and ridden down by the same police who watch the job-lines for the bosses.



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In New York City alone, in the month of October, between 2,000 and 3,000 families had been dispossessed by their landlords, because being unemployed or only partly employed, they could not pay their rent, or because the landlord demanded an unbelievable rent increase. Most of these families are Negro families, for the Negro worker is the most exploited of workers, getting the lowest pay, being the first to be laid off, being the last to get a job. To make matters worse, the landlords and the real estate sharks had succeeded in doing away with the Emergency Rent Laws, which had made it more bothersome for them to raise rents. Now they can raise them as often and as high as they choose—and if the tenant does not pay, out he goes. During this winter it is expected that the number of families dispossessed in New York City alone will mount high into the thousands.

An even worse situation exists in the numerous company mining, steel and textile towns. As soon as a worker is fired he loses his home. As soon as he dares go on strike against this bitter exploitation, he is evicted, as happened in the historic Gastonia textile strike.

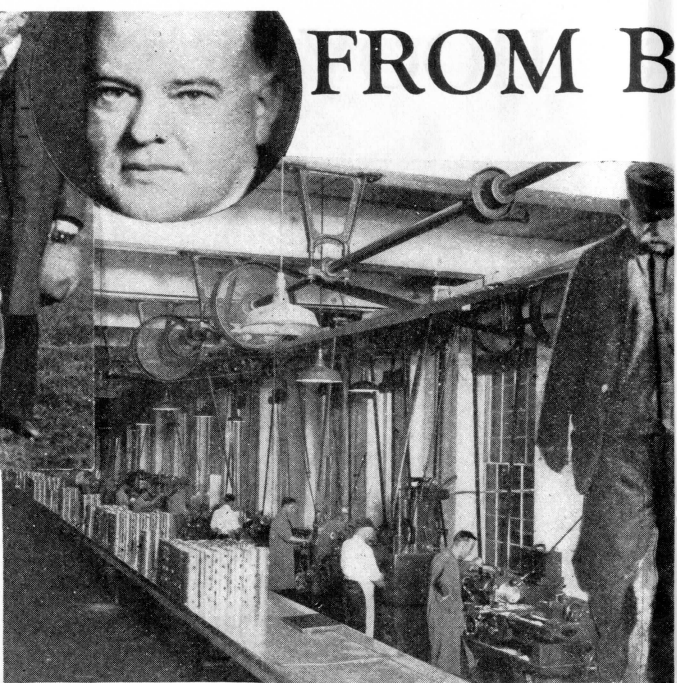
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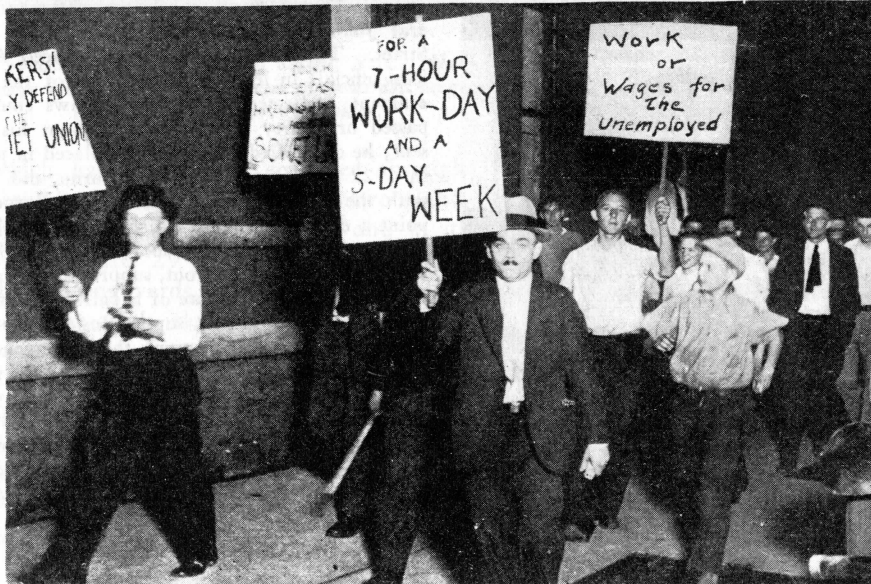
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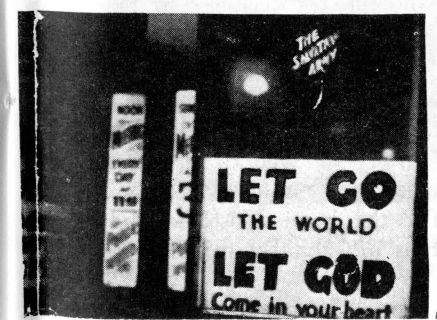
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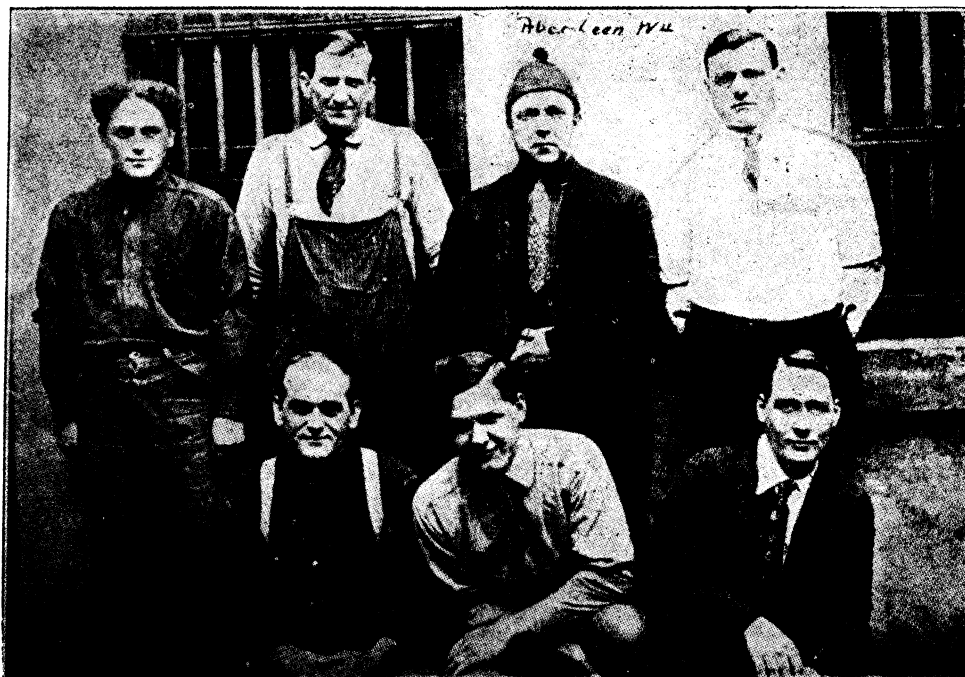


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THE CENTRALIA PRISONERS—Standing (left to right): Bert Bland, John Lamb, Britt Smith, Jas. McInnery; kneeling (left to right): O. C. Bland, Ray Becker and Eugene Barnett, Loren Roberts is not on this picture.

Comrades in Exile

By ELLA REEVE BLOOR

ALMOST ten years ago I visited Eugene Barnett and Britt Smith, two of the Centralia boys, at Montesano, where they were waiting to be transferred to Walla Walla, Washington State Prison. The jail there had a portable cage, in which they locked us with a grating between us. We could not see each other's eyes.

Today, at Walla Walla, we talked with all the Centralia victims, eight men, some still quite young, erect, and their eyes shining with pleasure to have a visitor. Walla Walla is so far from the main travelled roads. Very few can get to this gloomy isolated prison.

Lest we forget, it might be well to remind our friends that these eight men were arrested for murder while defending their new I.W.W. Union Hall in Centralia from a vicious attack by the American Legionnaires, who were celebrating Armistice Day and raided the hall in their usual ruthless fashion.

One of the union men, Wesley Everest, was brutally murdered after being cruelly mutilated. The union men shot to defend themselves and their property and one Legionnaire was killed.

The captain of the prison told the guard to bring them all in at once—so in they filed, smiling, and as they took my hand each one gave his name: Britt Smith, Ray Becker, O. C. Bland, J. Bland, Eugene Barnett, J. McInnery, John Lamb and

Loren Roberts. At the time of his imprisonment Loren Roberts was not much more than 18 years of age. On the night of the murder of Wesley Everest the fiends threw him in the cell with the dead body of Wesley Everest. His body was so fearfully mutilated, and the terror of the whole event so impressed this boy that for a long time it seemed as if he would never regain his reason. Now he is a mature



Ella Reeve (Mother) Bloor, on her way to the I. L. D. Convention.

young man of 28, alert to all that goes on in the class war outside the stone walls.

Every month they all look forward to the check from the I. L. D. and they appreciated the fact that in spite of the large number of severe cases now being cared for by the I. L. D., they still remember the Centralia boys regularly.

The boys all want more letters. If different branches of the I. L. D. would decide to get individual members to write to one of the Centralia prisoners each month, then they would not be so terribly lonely. They want new books which can be sent direct from the publisher. I feel sure there are many friends who will be glad to order new books sent directly to the prisoners to each man by name.

The Centralia victims of this ten years exile have very little work to do, which makes for long weary hours. Eugene Barnett and one of the younger boys work in the tailor shop. Loren Roberts had some work in the cannery, but, as a whole, they are idle. Eugene Barnett is never content to sit still a moment without some creative work of his own. He has been making postcards, drawing and painting them, and the prison employees take them to town and have them photographed.

When the Soviet Fliers came to Seattle he sent them a set of his postcards, which they received gladly. He had written messages on the back about their great achievement, and of the wonderful progress of the Soviet Union. The fliers said that they would take the cards back to Moscow and place them in the Revolutionary Museum.

We talked together of the fact that now, in thirteenth year of their imprisonment all our strength should be put forward to set them free.

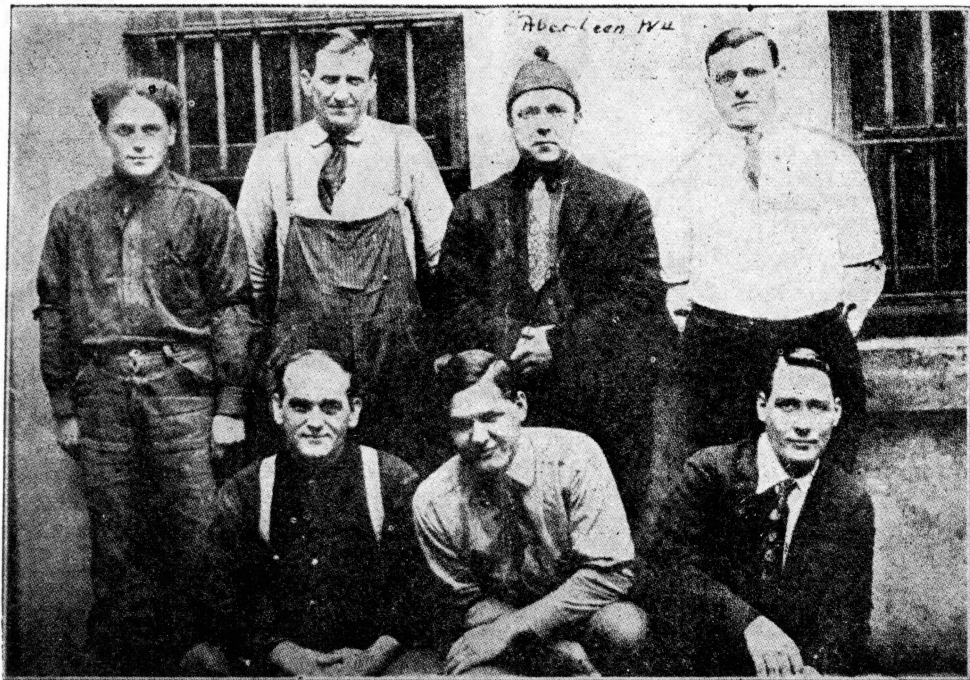
We spoke of the international demonstrations that last day when Sacco and Vanzetti were about to die. If these mass demonstrations had been made earlier, their lives might have been saved.

With the same fate of 20 years facing our Gastonia victims, the International Labor Defense now faces the great responsibility of making public all over the world the startling outrages perpetrated against the workers of America.

The International Labor Defense faces this task alone today. The Centralia Liberation Committee has gradually ceased to function, mostly due to the fact that the American Federation of Labor arbitrarily withdrew its delegates. The executive committee in liquidating its work, donated all funds in its treasury to the Centralia boys and their families.

The Elmer Smith Centralia Publicity Committee has resolved its work into trying to get mandamus proceedings in the spring still "hoping" as their report in the Federated Press stated.

At our convention in Pittsburgh we must launch the biggest international campaign in the history of labor. It is not enough to "hope." We must work, and work hard, for the brave Gastonia and Centralia victims of capitalist injustice.



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Ella Reeve (Mother) Bloor, on her way to the I. L. D. Convention.

Blacklisting Lumber-Jacks

By CHARLOTTE TODES

"I have been a rigger for over 18 years and I can do any job in the camp. I have been blacklisted in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and in Montana in the days of the Western Federation of Miners. It got so bad in California that if you kicked on the feed the bull-kicker or the boss would fire you. I said once: 'This grub ain't fit for pigs to eat' and I got black-balled for that. They don't blacklist you now the way they used to. They don't tell you you are blacklisted, they give you some other reason. They say you don't do the work, or there's no more work for you, or they treat you so bad that you either have to quit or fight. And most men quit." This is the story told by many workers on the Skid Road in Seattle, where the lumber workers from the camps and mills from all parts of the Northwest gather during periods of unemployment.

One-hundred thousand workers are registered on the books of the Clearing House, the insidious instrument of the Northwest lumber interests, established to weed out militants from the lumber camps and mills and smash any attempts at union organization. Loggers and sawmill workers from Montana, Idaho, California and the Middle West, who seek jobs in Washington and Oregon, find that all employment agencies lead inevitably to the Clearing House. Here the lumberjack must tell all about himself, his age, his height, birth, marriage, his past jobs, his citizenship status, his years of service under the Stars and Stripes, his membership in a radical organization; even the color of his eyes and hair is carefully scrutinized and noted as well as "peculiarities for identification." A criminal does not get more thorough treatment. Then he must sign his name to a statement authorizing former employers or future employers to supply all information regarding his "character, record, ability and reason for leaving." Some cards contain photographs of militants who have been especially active in organization work in the camps and mills. If a militant worker is arrested, his fingerprints find their way to the Clearing House and are attached to his card. The card of information is carefully filed away and checked whenever a job is applied for. The records of the Clearing House comprise one of the most formidable weapons for espionage in industry.

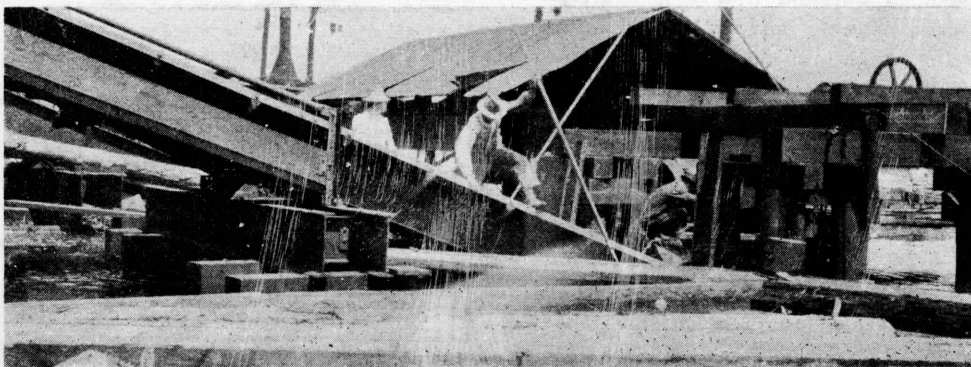
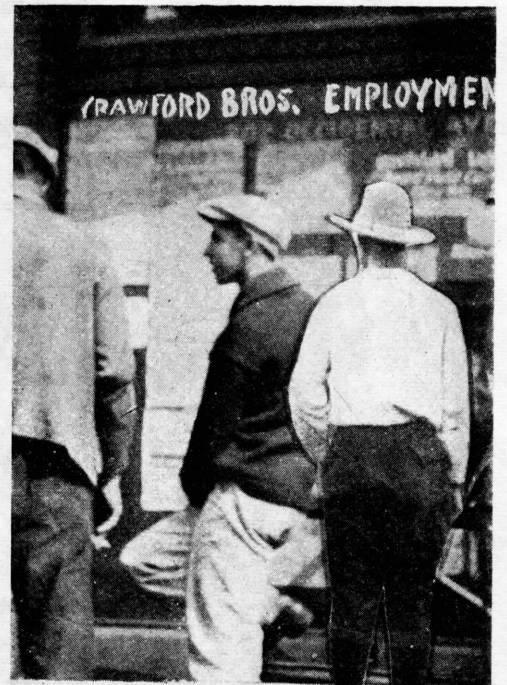
The Clearing House is run by the Western Operators' Association, to which over 110 of the most powerful of the logging companies of the Northwest belong. The plan operates throughout the Northwest with the main office in Seattle and branch offices in Portland, Centralia, and Aberdeen. Since the Clearing House

was organized in 1923, 65,000 men have passed through it yearly. A logger or sawmill worker pays from \$1 to \$5 for a job in an employment agency but this does not get him employment. He may be sent to the camp or mill for a few days' work and then fired when the report comes from the Clearing House. Usually he goes from the employment agency to the Clearing House with his job slip, where his record is checked and his slip taken from him for future reference. If he has a "bad" (militant) record he is refused the job. In some instances, especially if he is an experienced and capable worker, he is warned to cease his activities and "given a chance." In an effort to "stabilize" the industry, a special drive is made against the migratory worker who is independent and leaves the job at any time if his complaints are not remedied. If he is found to be actively organizing on the job, or propagandizing the workers, or if he expresses his dissatisfaction by leaving the job too frequently, he is forever barred from employment in Association camps or mills, unless he can "beat" the blacklist.

The employers' espionage system on the job supplies the Clearing House with a full record of the workers' activities. The large corporations have their own little card catalogue systems which carry a complete record of every worker. In these plants, a worker is not only disqualified from employment for his activity on the job, but also for any physical defects or old age. The mission or the poor-house is the fate of these sick and old workers who have given their strength and lives to the building of fortunes for the lumber barons.

Are the lumber workers putting up a fight against the blacklist? A lumberjack answers: "Sure they are. That is why we are being black-listed more than ever. Many workers have no fear about complaining and demanding shorter hours, better wages and better food. The bosses say, if there wasn't a clearing house they would have men going into the camps who didn't know anything about it and they would have more accidents. But that's an alibi because they really want to keep out radicals and organizers and men who don't like conditions the way they are."

The fight to abolish the Clearing House and the blacklist is one of the major planks in the program of the Lumber Workers' Section of the T.U.U.L. Under its militant leadership a powerful industrial union in the lumber industry must be built through which the lumber workers will fight to rid themselves of this espionage system which has brought unemployment, poverty and hardship for those who wish to change the conditions of the workers.



Breaking up a jam at Bogalusa, where five lumberjacks were murdered by company gunmen for organizing a union in 1919. (Top photo By Charlotte Todes; others by Esther Lowell.)

(Top) Lumberjacks waiting around for a job at an employment agency in Seattle.

(Center) Lumber workers at Bogalusa, La., keeping the logs on the move.

(Above) "Homes" on wheels at the Great Southern camp at Bogalusa. A number of families live in one of these box cars.

Imperialism's Killers At Work



*Photo Tina Modotti
This photo of Julio Mella was taken seven hours after his death.*

By ALBERT MOREAU

ON the night of January 10th, 1929, Julio Antonio Mella, one of the founders of the Communist Party of Cuba and a leader of the Anti-Imperialist movement in Latin-America, was murdered in Mexico City by an agent of butcher Machado of Cuba with the help of the Mexican government. His last words on his dying bed were: "The Government of Cuba is having me murdered." We might add the following words to those of our fallen comrade: "American imperialism is just as much responsible for this cold-blooded assassination."

The regime of terror and systematic persecution against the working class organizations and their leaders perpetrated in Cuba by the tropical Mussolini, President Machado, is part of the plan of the American government which unconditionally defends the interests of the sugar barons and financiers of Wall Street in that enslaved island.

Since Machado was appointed by Wall Street with the consent of the State Department as "President of the Republic of Cuba," not a single week has passed without the proletariat being robbed of one or two of its valiant leaders. Since the assassination of Julio A. Mella, Machado's weekly murders became almost

daily. The brutal suppression of strikes has been followed by mysterious disappearance of militant workers who dare to challenge God Mammon and its executor. He who dares to raise his voice against Wall Street and its lackey who so faithfully serves as a watchdog for the \$1,500,000,000 Yankee investment, is doomed.

The notorious murders of workers have been followed by jailing and deportation of the students who stand against the fascist regime. The Cuban proletariat is bleeding. With the consent of the U. S. government: Enrique Verona, leader of the sugar workers, was assassinated; the execution of Tomas Grant, of the railroad workers, was

ordered by Machado; Alfredo Lopez, of the Federation of Labor of Havana, murdered; wholesale massacres of workers in the Island of Pinos; innumerable murders of the best working class fighters in order to cripple the revolutionary movement.

The United States government repeatedly sanctioned Machado's regime as a government of 'order' and 'normal functioning'. The recent fake investigation undertaken by the Foreign Relations Committee was instigated by individual millionaires such as Mr. Barlow, whose interests collided with the big trusts which have the supremacy over the economic and political life of the island. Mr. Borah promised the investigation but the differences were smoothed out and now "all is well" in Cuba. The big landowners and rapacious financiers are for full support of the regime.

Machado has the sanction of all enemies of the oppressed to continue his policy of murders. Santiago Brooks, leader of the Union of Railroad Employees of North Cuba, was cowardly killed for his strong protest against the using of the organization by Machado in telegrams that the latter sent in the name of the working class organizations asking affiliation to the Pan-American Federation of Labor.

But the workers and peasants in Cuba cannot be put into submission. During the months of November and December the hat workers of the firm Mariano Ferreo went on strike and the movement for a general boycott was widespread. The heroic struggles of the working men and women in the cigar factory of La Competidora Gaditana brought about a clash between the strikers and strike-breaking police forces of the government. These strikes are not only a fight of the workers against speed-up and intensified exploitation, but also indicate a widespread struggle against the class collaboration policy of the government being imposed upon them. It can certainly be said here that reformism in the trade unions is not at all popular in Cuba. The Communist Party of Cuba, forced by American imperialism and the terrorist government of Cuba to operate illegally, has a strong influence in the trade unions.

Machado's assassins operate also outside of Cuba. In the arrest of Sandalio Junco in Mexico for deportation, is seen the black hand of Machado with the complicity of the reactionary government of Portes Gil. The bourgeoisie of Mexico is learning lessons from the butcher. And both Machado and Portes Gil obey the orders of one master—United States imperialism and its government. Morrow in Mexico and Guggenheim in Cuba give the orders in the name of Wall Street. The executors are the national bourgeoisie.

Murders, jailings, deportations, cannot and will not weaken the class struggle. Julio Antonio Mella, in a message to the workers of Cuba and of Latin-America, said: "To triumph or to serve as a trench for the others. Even after death we can be useful."



A cartoon depicting the assassination of Mella which appeared in a Mexican paper. The man with the knife is Machado.



Photo Tina Modotti

This photo of Julio Mella was taken seven hours after his death.



A police attack on the funeral of one of the Hungarian hunger strikers in Budapest.

Drawing by Hugo Gellert

On Hunger Strike Against Fascism

ON the 21st of October all the political prisoners in Hungarian jails went on a hunger strike. Their number, judging by the frequent large scale arrests of workers under the fascist Horthy regime, is put at several hundreds, by some at a thousand. The reasons for the hunger strike were the unsanitary prison conditions, frequent beatings, solitary confinement, censure of their reading, which is wholly limited to religious writings, and bad and insufficient food.

The food—for breakfast, one kind of thin soup; for midday dinner, a portion of cooked vegetables, or a portion of boiled paste of the macaroni type; for supper, again this soup; added to this one pound of a sticky black substance, the prison bread, which is entirely uneatable. On this fare they were expected to work eleven hours daily at hard labor! The number of prisoners who contracted tuberculosis and other diseases under these conditions is appalling.

Four of the prisoners died during the strike, among them Sandor Lowy, an able young writer and a brave leader of the revolutionary Hungarian masses. The police attacked the funeral of Sandor Lowy and arrested his bride, Irma Leuz and

By HUGO GELLERT

several others in the procession. They are charged with Communist conspiracy and were given severe beatings at police headquarters to force confessions from them.

Forcible feedings while in straight jackets were administered to the prisoners. Many of them had their throats lacerated and some of the deaths occurred during these forced feedings. All the prisoners were subjected to floggings several times during the strike. That the death rate was not much higher among them is nothing short of a miracle. Rakossy, Weinberger and Szanto, the most prominent among the prisoners, were in a critical condition.

One of the women was thrown out of a window and had a pelvis bone fractured.

The strike included all of the sentenced political prisoners, also those who were held for investigation. Today eighty arrested workers and peasants are facing a mass trial in the fascist courts of Horthy.

On the eighteenth of November, the political prisoners accepted food for the first time in twenty-eight days. Just as they started the strike, so they ended it. As one man. The government promised

to remedy prison conditions. According to the latest reports, the condition of the political prisoners remain unchanged. There is a possibility of a renewed hunger strike.

At present the prisoners are held incommunicado, not even their attorneys may see them. The sister of Rakossy, who persisted in her efforts to reach her brother, was arrested and brutally beaten by the police in an attempt to force her to divulge the names of the organizers of the hunger strike.

During the past months throughout Hungary many industrial and agrarian strikes were quelled at the point of the bayonet. The restlessness of the masses forced the government into a pact with the social-democratic "opposition" for the effective suppression of the workers and peasants of that country. The social-democrats stood aloof and would not raise a finger in aid of the strikers. But the Hungarian masses proclaimed their solidarity with the hunger strikers. They marched upon the jails in open defiance of the police and demanded the release of the political prisoners. And for the first time in ten years, since the existence of the white terrorist government, "The International" rang through the streets of Budapest.

An Attack on the Seamen



Photo Marine Workers' League
A group of militant seamen in a German port.
The sign reads, "Seamen of all countries, unite."

WHAT appears to be a concerted effort on the part of the open-shop steamship lines to smash the Marine Workers' League, a militant seamen's and dock-workers organization, found expression during the last month in the almost simultaneous raids on the seamen's headquarters in New Orleans and San Pedro, Calif.

The arrests and re-arrests of Victor Aronson, International Labor Defense organizer in New Orleans; William J. Davids, John Morgan and Leonard Brown, members of the Marine Workers' League, all of New Orleans, were accompanied by public statements by chief of police Ray and American Legionnaires that they were determined to smash these militant organizations.

The police in New Orleans, undoubtedly at the behest of the shipowners, charged these seamen with sedition, on the ground of November Labor Defender and leaflets confiscated in the raid on their headquarters. The Labor Defender is seditious literature, say these shipowners' agents, because it tells of the Soviet Union, and has "gruesome" pictures of the Marion massacres.

The Marine Workers League, a fighting industrial union, takes in all workers in the marine industry, regardless of race, creed or color. One of those arrested in New Orleans was a Negro seaman, showing again that the shipowners are interested in dividing the Negro and white workers.

The Marine Workers are opposed to the sell-out policy of Andy Furryseth and the officialdom of the Independent Seamen's Union. Their recent West Coast Conference was a great success and they have already opened three headquarters on the west coast. The Gulf Coast Conference, for which the seamen in New Orleans were making preparations when arrested, will take place January 18 and 19 at New Orleans.

More organizers have been dispatched to New Orleans, and the International Labor Defense will support every effort of the Marine Workers to organize into their militant industrial union.

ORGANIZING MASS MEETINGS

By A. JAKIRA

WE are holding many mass meetings throughout the country with prominent local and national speakers. The local committee in charge of the meeting must, naturally, use its own initiative in making the arrangements. The suggestions given here may be of some help.

As a rule "a one man affair" is what, we call, a flop. The arrangements should be in the hands of a live, enthusiastic committee capable of getting the entire organization to help in the arrangements.

Proper advertising is essential to the success of the meeting. The methods of advertising should be worked out by the committee in charge in accordance with the local conditions. Leaflets, posters, selling of admission tickets in advance, house to house canvassing, notices in the local newspapers, are some of the methods to be used. But the most effective method, which our organizations unfortunately have not yet learned to use, is reaching the workers in the shops, factories, mines and mills. Trade unions and other workers' organizations should be canvassed and their membership urged to attend. Special efforts should be made to reach the Negro masses, as this is being much neglected in many cases.

The hall should be properly decorated with suitable placards, banners or posters. Labor Defenders, and working class literature should be ordered in advance and sold at the meeting.

A good chairman is one who himself speaks little, so that the speakers would have more time. Arrangements should be made for one of the speakers or for the chairman to make an appeal for membership and for subscriptions to the Labor Defender—these appeals to be made one at a time. Committees, previously organized, should pass around application cards and subscription blanks immediately after the speaker has finished his appeal.

As a rule, a strong appeal for a collection should be made not only to help cover the expenses of the meeting, but to help build the organization and to carry on the defense work generally. The chairman, with the assistance of a good floor committee, should take care that the appeals and announcements do not break up the meeting. Where the main speaker is to make the collection appeal he should do it in the middle of his speech, and not leave it to the very end when the audience begins to leave the hall.

After the meeting a report should be sent to the National office for its information and for use in the press, and a statement issued for the local press.

BUILDING THE I.L.D.

MILWAUKEE

A subdistrict organization has been established with headquarters in Milwaukee. The subdistrict, which is part of the Chicago district, includes the following centers: Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha, Madison. Julia Shulner is the organizer, and the subdistrict office is at 302 W. Water Street, Milwaukee, Wis. The subdistrict is determined to get 1,000 new members and five thousand dollars by January 15.

WILMINGTON

Good news comes from Wilmington. The I.L.D. branch was just reorganized and new officers elected, with John A. Griffin, a Negro comrade, as secretary. The branch ordered 3,000 leaflets "What Is the I.L.D." for its membership drive in Delaware.

BUFFALO

Comrade Sara Wand, organizer of Buffalo District, writes: "During the last two months we have organized a Sacco-Vanzetti branch with 11 members in Buffalo. Rochester organized a Bill Haywood branch. Two branches were organized in Syracuse. Six new members joined in Schenectady and the Tom Mooney branch in Buffalo is being reorganized and strengthened. A series of Sub-District Conferences will be held and at least 15 delegates will be sent from our district to the National Convention."

WASHINGTON

Mother Bloor reports: "On Thursday evening I organized a GOOD I. L. D. local at Everett, Washington, of lumbermen, fishermen, and farmers. We named it the 'Verona' branch after the ship where five men were killed in the Everett struggle."

MINNESOTA

Definite steps are being taken to organize a District in Minnesota and a district conference is to be held for this purpose. The district will

also include part of Wisconsin and Michigan. Clem Forsen is in charge of this new district.

PHILADELPHIA

West Philadelphia branch, which has not been functioning well for some time, is now well on the go again and has just obtained 12 new members. Six new members joined the Greek branch and new officers were elected. Philadelphia District has arranged for a competition among the branches and it remains to be seen which of the branches will show the best results. So far, Washington reports that it expects to get 20 new members in no time, and is challenging Baltimore to do better.

NEW AFFILIATION

The Finnish Workers' Club of Toivola, Mich., has affiliated to the I.L.D. Efforts are also being made to form a regular I.L.D. branch in that city.

DETROIT

Arnold Ziegler, Detroit District Organizer, reports that a Greek branch with 30 members was just organized. The branch was named "The Louis Tikos Branch" after a Greek worker who was killed in the miners' strike in Colorado in 1917. He also reports that the Ukrainian Club No. 18, with 50 members, has decided to affiliate on a collective basis.

WITH THE LANGUAGE SECTIONS

Louis Candella was appointed secretary of the Italian section of the I.L.D. located at the National Office, 80 E. 11th St., Room 402, N. Y.

Luis Martinez is in charge of the Spanish section of the I.L.D. recently established. All communications pertaining to work among the Spanish speaking workers, should be addressed to the National Office. The leaflet "What Is the I.L.D.? What It Means to the Workers and Why You Should Join It" is being translated into the Spanish Language and will soon be ready for distribution.



Photo Marine Workers' League

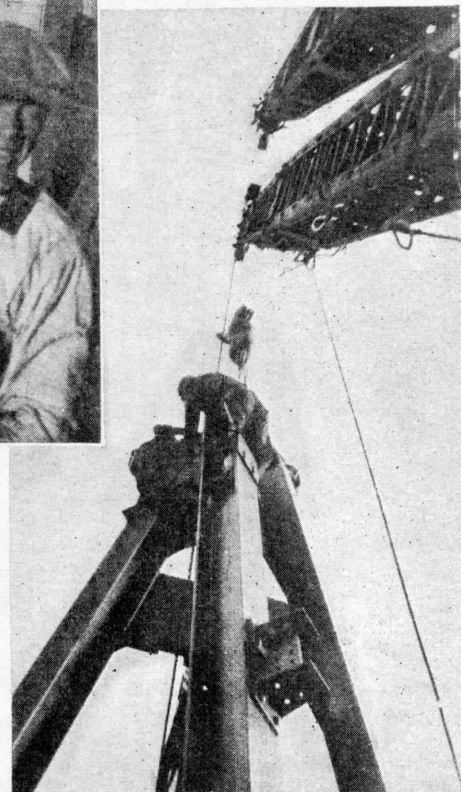
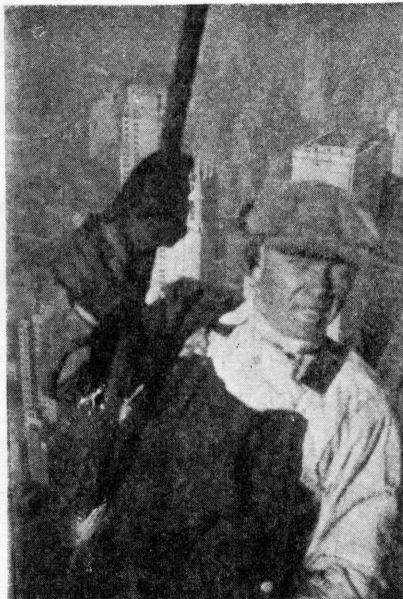
A group of militant seamen in a German port. The sign reads, "Seamen of all countries, unite."

Building Skyscrapers

By WORKER-PHOTOGRAPHER C. FROTHE

A construction worker hanging on a cable 800 feet above the street level on the new Chrysler Building in New York City. This skyscraper will be even taller than the Woolworth Building—at the cost of workers killed and maimed.

(Below) Riveting at the very top of the skyscraper, on a very dangerous foothold. 201 workers were killed in industry in October, 1929, in New York State, most of them on construction work.



Just a slip and this worker is doomed to death in a 800-foot plunge. These photos were taken by a worker on the Chrysler Building. Photos were also received from C. Nelson and from Horace Riggs, but too late for the events they pictured. Do not hesitate to send in your photos promptly, workers.

LABOR DEFENDER

SUB DRIVE



THE LABOR DEFENDER enters upon its fifth year. Its first number, January 1926, was printed in about 8,000 copies. The high mark in 1929 was reached with the November number which sold 30,000 copies. That shows growth.

But not sufficient. As the official organ of the International Labor Defense and the outstanding labor pictorial in America, the goal of 100,000 copies per month sold should not be far off. The achievement of this goal depends directly upon the present members of the I. L. D., how well and how far they can broaden their activities in defense of the class-war fighters and prisoners.

As it enters its fifth year, the LABOR DEFENDER finds itself declared "seditious literature" in New Orleans, because it told so powerfully about the Soviet Union in its November issue. Four comrade seamen are arrested and go on trial for sedition in New Orleans, for carrying on such effective work in spreading the LABOR DEFENDER in that port.

Comrades, are we going to allow this to go by unchallenged? Are we not going to triple our efforts to build the LABOR DEFENDER? One of the ways of defending our comrades in New Orleans as well as all our other class fighters, is by building our mass defense organ.

The goal we have set in our special proletarian competitive drive is only 50,000 readers by March 18, 1930, 25,000 of whom are to be subscribers. That should not be a difficult task. How easy it is to obtain subscriptions, even with the slightest effort, is shown in a letter from Raymond Bascom, LABOR DEFENDER agent for the Michigan district. He writes:

"The sub campaign is beginning to take even me by surprise. In one evening and the next day sixteen subs rolled into this office." And then at the end of the letter he writes: "Subs are rolling in fast now, seven of them came in before this letter was finished."

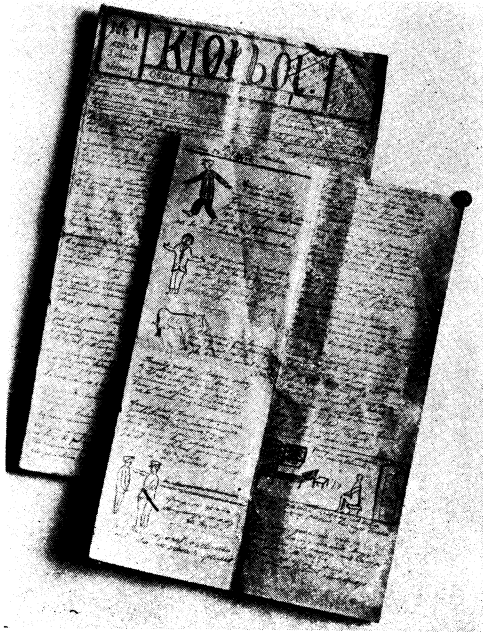
"Tell the other districts to give us some competition, since we need the spur of socialist rivalry as well as anyone else."

The Tom Mooney Branch of Detroit, leads all I. L. D. branches throughout the country, with 25 subs to its credit up to December 10. Kas-mansky of the Tom Mooney Branch leads the country with 13 subs to his credit up to December 10.

Among the others who are doing good work are: Gosman, Xedes and Grosberg, of Detroit; N. Glass of Youngstown, Ohio; W. Walter, of Canton, Ohio; Jennie Fornan, of Wilmington, Del., and Esther Decovney, of Philadelphia.



Voices FROM Prison



An illegal paper issued by the political prisoners in a jail in Upper Silesia, Poland

FROM AN EX-SOLDIER

Alcatraz, Calif.

Please accept this letter as an acknowledgement that I am receiving my supplies.

My silence by no means should be a sign of my breaking down in spirit, for that can never happen. I am determined to carry thru to the end. This sentence has not suppressed my fighting spirit, but instead has made me a better fighter. In a short time I will be free to better shoulder to shoulder with my comrades for the emancipation of the toiling masses.

My best regards and class greetings to the militant fighters in Gastonia and to all the workers. Excuse the brevity of this letter and the lack of spirit, for I want to insure the safety of its deliverance. I know that you will understand.

John Porter.

LOOKING TO TOMORROW

San Quentin, Calif.

Wishing to inform you that I have received word that mother received the check that was mailed to her. She wishes to send her sincere thanks to all the dear brothers and sisters of the I. L. D.

Mother is still confined in the hospital and will be for many more months. She has just this last week been operated on, for her eyes have been failing her badly. With her eyes failing her and her broken hip I can see that she is in a pretty bad fix for one as old as she is now.

Everything here is as it was yesterday. None of us seem to be interested in what took place yesterday, but are all waiting to see what is to take place tomorrow. We have hopes and we still can think of many things that are sure to come tomorrow. One of those things are sure to be more hopes and still more and more.

John J. Cornelison.

Moundsville, W. Va.

I am taking this opportunity to express my thanks to my fellow-workers for the check just received, also for their good work in regard to the Gastonia workers.

I am hopeful, dear fellow-workers, that you will be successful in getting 50,000 new members and only wish that I could be of some benefit in this membership drive.

LAWRENCE ALLEN.

ON THE LABOR DEFENDER

Comstock, N. Y.

I have today received this month's issue (December) of the Labor Defender, and I must say that if it is going to be as good as this in the future, no one will be able to keep the circulation down below the 50,000 mark in the next few months of the drive. But I disagree with you on the limit. Instead of 50,000 it should be 100,000.

I am also glad to hear that F. Beal and the others are out. And I want you to convey my best comradely regards to them and tell them for me that while they are out they should try their best in bringing the mass to the I. L. D. ranks and make it an organization as solid as the iron bars are here in prison.

M. L. MALKIN.

ADOPT A PRISONER

All branches of the I.L.D. have been asked to adopt one of our class-war prisoners and contribute regularly to the pledge fund for prisoners and dependents' relief.

Along with this they should also enter into a regular correspondence with our comrades in jail, to help brighten their cells and keep them informed of what the labor movement is doing.

Branches are urged to act immediately.

A VISIT TO TOM MOONEY IN SAN QUENTIN

(Continued from page 3)

of men. Detectives, paid by the bosses, were always at his heels.

On July 20, 1916, the nationalist bands demonstrated in a great parade for the entry of the United States into the war. A bomb exploded on Market and Stewart Streets. Ten people were killed.

McDonald reported a few days after the bombing that he had seen Tom Mooney near the place. When Mooney learned that he was suspected of having thrown the bomb, he was not in San Francisco. He immediately went there and reported to the police. Tom Mooney was arrested and sentenced to life imprisonment in a farce trial. His proof of innocence was to no avail. The witnesses for the defense were discredited by the prosecuting attorney, and even press photos which showed Tom Mooney on the balcony of a house far away from the scene of the bombing did not help. He was sentenced.

A short time after the trial, on enlarging the photo, a street clock was discovered on it with its hands pointing to 1:58 o'clock, and it was proven that it was impossible for Mooney to have thrown the bomb, since it was out of the question that he could have run from the house where he was to the scene of bombing in six minutes. This reliable evidence was also to no avail.

In America there began a movement to release Mooney. Committees were formed. Progressive and radical papers fought for him, and when documents were found from which it was proven that the state witness McDonald had been bought and had perjured himself, the judge and a few jurymen, who had sentenced him, declared that they no longer believed him guilty. But Tom Mooney remained in prison, and with him the socialist Billings, who was just as innocent as he.

Ever louder grew the call for justice. His own judge, Franklin A. Griffin, spoke at large meetings and demanded that the governor of California set him free. Three governors followed each other. Tom Mooney remained in

prison.

Six years ago a man named Smith swore on his death bed that he had thrown the bomb, that Mooney and Billings had nothing whatsoever to do with the bombing. Tom Mooney remained in prison.

As he shook my hand, I thought: "There is a fine fellow."

"What do you demand of me?" he said. "Shall I prove that another had done the bombing and not I? Is it my duty to prove who the bomber is? I have nothing to do with that. Now they take this confession of a dead man, which has been known for the last six years, and want to investigate it and see if it is true. Years can pass doing that. I do not demand any more than that they investigate to see if the trial by which I was sentenced to a life term, was carried out according to justice and law, if the documents which I had presented as proof of my innocence, lied. If the governor comes to a negative decision, and he must come to a negative decision, his duty is to set me free. At least a new trial is due me. The course, however, is closed by American law. To ask for mercy, which would uphold the fiction of my guilt, I refuse to do. I have been in prison for thirteen years, and if I must remain here that many years more I will not cease to demand my right."

I told Mooney that his and Billings' case were also known in Germany; that there, too, the scandal of their imprisonment is pointed out.

"Greet all the comrades in Germany." I thanked him.

"What do you do here?"

"I must peel potatoes."

"I have also visited Russian prisons," I told him. "There the prisoners may visit their families once a year."

"Listen to that, will you?" Mooney called to the guard. "That's the way it is in barbaric Russia. Would you not like to have it the same here?"

The guard murmured a few denying words.

We took our leave.



*An illegal paper issued by the political prisoners
in a jail in Upper Silesia, Poland*

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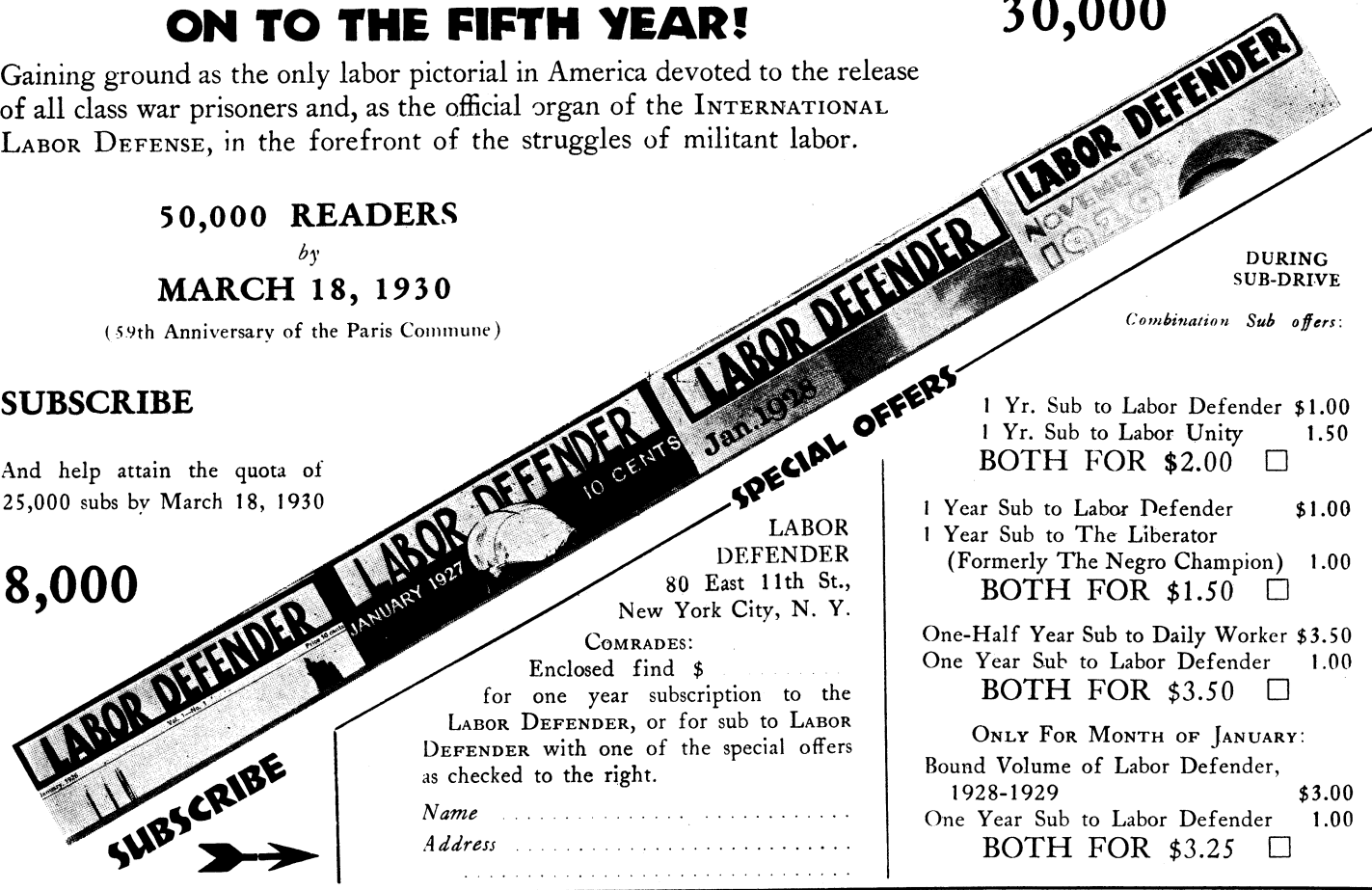
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