

LABOR DEFENDER

OCT 9 '32

MARCH
1932

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**HARRY
SIMMS
• 19 •**

**MURDERED BY KENTUCKY
COAL BOSSES !**

In this Issue
TOM MOONEY - WALDO FRANK



Views of the Month

(1) Working-class women of San Francisco marching in an unemployment demonstration. On March 8 they will march again on International Women's Day.

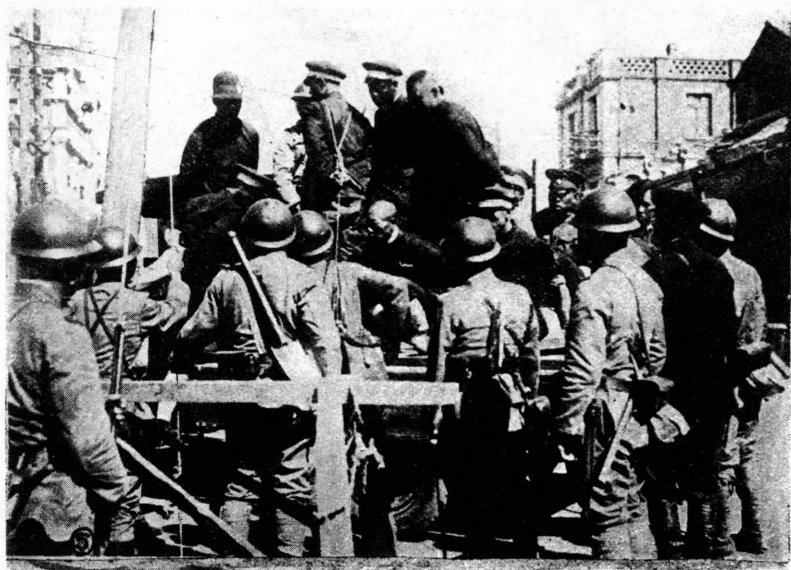
(2) This is Hunger Hoover's pal—Gifford—in charge of the fake unemployment relief commission. He cuts wages of his own employees while pretending to do something about the hunger raging thru the country.

(3) Harlan miners, white and Negro, discussing defense of their comrades.

(4) February 4 in McKeesport, Pa. Thousands of workers refused to starve silently in spite of tear gas bombs, as shown above.

(5) The bosses of the world are attacking China in order to try to halt the victorious march of Soviet China. Japanese soldiers leading Chinese workers to execution is the scene in this picture.

(6) The police attacking a rent strike in the Bronx, N. Y. Despite the cops the tenants won a great victory: reduction in rent, repairs, and even the cost of the strike was repaid them by the landlord.



LABOR DEFENDER

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I AWAIT THE DAY

By TOM MOONEY

California State Prison,
San Quentin, California,
February 15, 1932.

National Mooney Day Demonstration,
Auspices International Labor Defense,
80 East 11th Street,
New York City.

Comrades, Friends and Fellow-Unionists:

From behind the bars where the Plunderbund of California have kept me rotting for sixteen years because of the militant fight I made on behalf of Labor, I greet your demonstration. It is a highly significant and a source of untold satisfaction to me that today, February 24th, has been declared National Mooney Day. Fifteen years ago today I was sentenced to die on the gallows. The militant workers of Russia by their demonstration in my behalf saved my life at that time. The militant and revolutionary workers of the world must today demand my unconditional pardon.

Right after my conviction, the militant workers rallied to my defense. Even before they knew the facts of my frame-up, they instinctively felt that I was not a criminal but was being framed because I was a fighter for Labor.

The news that the bosses of California were going to legally lynch a militant worker soon spread around the world. In far-off Petrograd (now Leningrad), the workers had revolted against hunger, war, and unbearable oppression. Their vision of freedom was not a local one; it was as wide as the world itself. They heard about my case, went to the American Embassy, and demonstrated for my freedom. This demonstration brought home to

President Wilson the international significance of my case. As a result of the pressure exercised by President Woodrow Wilson upon Governor Stephens, on November 29, 1918, my sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. The action of the Russian workers at that time forced the California Plunderbund to call off their executioners and stopped the hangman's hand.

For 16 years I have rotted in prison in spite of the fact that every brick used in constructing the frame-up against me long ago crumbled to dust. The liars, living and dead, who so foully swore away the life of a fellowman for a few pieces of silver, have either confessed their heinous crimes or have been convicted of perjury by irrefutable facts and sentenced to eternal infamy before the bar of public opinion.

For 15 years I fought for a public hearing. At last, on December 1, 1931, there came a hearing before Governor James Rolph, Jr., of California. It was brought about by the cumulative effect of constant agitation. The cry "Freedom for Tom Mooney" came from millions of throats in San Francisco and New York, London, Berlin and Paris, Moscow and Tokyo. The voice of indignant Americans was augmented by a symphony of voices from every land.

In spite of the indisputable facts proving my innocence, in spite of the Wickersham Report on the Mooney Case, which again exposed the unholy alliance of perjured witnesses, conniving officials and bloodthirsty plutocrats, there is nothing to indicate that Governor Rolph will act favorably on my case.

Comrades, friends and fellow unionists! You must not forget that I am the symbol of the whole *frame-up system*—that my pardon, as a result of your demands, will strike a blow at the entire system of frame-ups and terror which is used in an increased degree against the workers in this country. Are not the captains of finance and industry who tried to murder me in 1917, now murdering workers in Harlan, who are facing life imprisonment, if not death, must stir you to determined action. The legal murder of the eight Scottsboro boys must be prevented. You must increase your militant efforts. You must acquaint an ever-larger number of workers with the facts of the frame-up system and its significance to the cause of labor.

Let the plunderbund feel your power. Let the ruling class know that militant workers will never rest until every class war prisoner is granted complete and unconditional freedom.

You workers in New York who are striking against intolerable conditions in the dress industry must not waver for a moment. By your firm action you must inspire the striking miners in the coal fields who are fighting against such terrible odds.

COMRADES, FRIENDS AND FELLOW-UNIONISTS! The dawn of a new day is on the horizon. Every day brings new evidence that the old system of exploitation and degradation, unemployment and starvation for the workingclass, is approaching its climax. The hope for the final triumph of the toilers of the world has sustained me during my long years in prison. I await the day when the doors to the dungeons and bastiles of Capitalism will be opened to release fighters and martyrs for Labor.

TOM MOONEY, 31921.

And They Call It Democracy—



One thousand feet below; Harlan miners who face death for striking against starvation wages. Workers throughout America must protest and save them.

By WALDO FRANK

The writer of this article, Waldo Frank, is a famous critic, chairman of the committee which went to Kentucky to investigate the terrorism upon which the capitalist press had put a very soft pedal. The committee came, saw and was given a taste of the treatment miners get every day. Frank and Allen Taub, attorney for the I.L.D. were beaten by coal thugs who wielded an automobile jack. Frank was accompanied by a group of writers including Charles R. Walker, Malcolm Cowley, Mary Heaton Vorse, Quincy Howe, Edmund Wilson, John Henry Hammond, Jr., Adelaide Stearns, and Polly Boyden, who has an article on the opposite page which describes the last few minutes of Harry Simms' life.

THE condition of my head does not permit me to write a real article just now; but I want the readers of the LABOR DEFENDER to know how I feel about the little crusade of our Committee into the Kentucky coal fields. It was a useful crusade, if only because it brought out in salient colors certain basic facts. It would be a mistake to believe that what is happening today in Kentucky, where men and women and children are being starved and terrorized into submission, could happen nowhere else in the Union. Possibly in the more "cultivated" regions of the East, the

behavior of the ruling oligarchy and of their judicial and political henchmen would be a little less crude in a crisis, a little more veiled and subtle. But possibly, also, Kentucky, is merely "ahead of the times." We were given a chance to see in action, there, forces of cynical lawlessness and cruelty against the oppressed humanity, which are



Scene in a textile strike in Lawrence, Mass.

smouldering everywhere in the United States.

We saw that the Constitutional rights of the American citizen mean nothing, at just such times when they are most needed: when they come in conflict with the "right's" of the ruling class. We saw how

perfectly judges and police and public officers flout the oldest prerogatives of justice, when property rights—the true cornerstone of our system—are menaced. We saw how swiftly and terribly mob-violence and thug-rule can break through the veneer of civil order, in a typical American town.

Above all, we saw that the class-war exists today in the United States. We saw that cruel discrimination is by no means confined to the Negro or to other minority groups; but that descendants of Daniel Boone—the purest racial strain in the country—can be treated as Mexican peons used to be treated, when the crisis of the "Dollar" calls for such treatment.

It would be folly to blame what happened to us, what is happening today to the striking miners in the Southern coal fields, on the "backward state" of Kentucky. All Americans should squarely and bravely face the potential ugliness that MUST underly our dollar civilization—in every nook and cranny of the land; and prepare to take sides, for the Dollar or for humanity.

February 18, 1932.

We Blame Rockefeller and Morgan

Harry Simms, 19-year-old organizer for the National Miners Union, was murdered by a thug of the southeastern Kentucky coal companies. These mines are owned by Morgan and Rockefeller interests. The death of Simms is the fault of the multi-millionaires. Workers throughout America are holding protest meetings; rushing wires of protest against the terror in Kentucky to the governor of that state; swearing to avenge his death by building a stronger workers' movement for which Simms gave his life.

By POLLY BOYDEN

PINEVILLE, Ky.—After our 3 truckloads of relief had been distributed and we had visited Doris Parks and Harold Hickerson at the Pineville Jail, we assembled in our committee room to discuss plans for the next day.

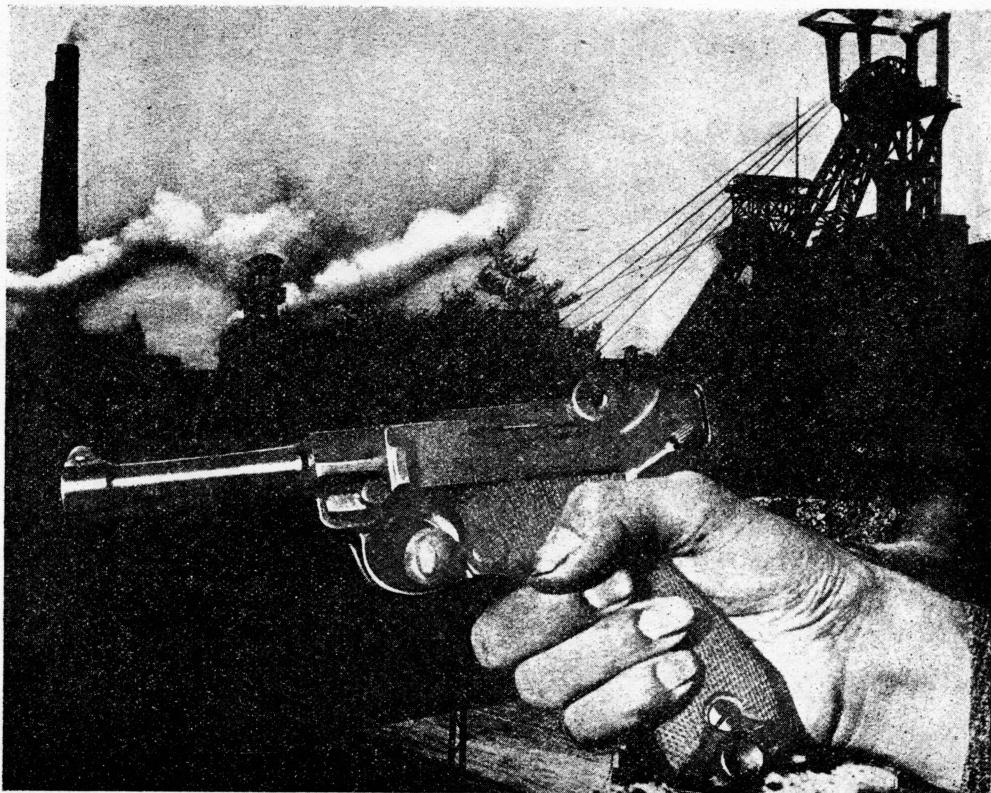
Almost immediately, a striking miner named Frank Mason, was introduced by Liston Oak. Oak said that he was sending Mason in a taxi to the Barbourville Hospital, where Harry Simms was then dying. The condition of Simms was so critical that it was considered inadvisable to wait until the morning. Alen Max and myself volunteered to accompany Mason on the visit. Mary Heaton Vorse also wanted to go, but Waldo Frank prevailed upon her to remain at the meeting as there were very important decisions to be made.

In the lobby of the Pineville Hotel, Mason left us a moment to collect a couple of other miners who were friends of Simms. As the night was warm, Max and myself waited for him on a bench outside, against the brick wall of the hotel. Several men were hanging around the entrance. Among them we recognized County Attorney Smith and C. K. Calvert, coal operator.

A few minutes later, Mason came back alone. Fifteen miners found near the relief warehouse had just been jailed. Mason could find no one to go to Barbourville with us.

Mason, Max and myself left immediately in a taxi owned by a striking miner. As it was quite possible that we would be followed, Mason instructed the driver to let no cars pass. I guess the only reason we weren't followed was that the worthy citizens of Pineville had other things on their minds that night.

On the 19-mile drive to the hospital, Mason told us the story of the shooting. Between 7 and 7:30 that morning, Harry Simms and Green Lawson, National Min-



The mines in Ky. are controlled by Rockefeller and Morgan interests. Their gunmen killed 19-year-old Harry Simms.

ers Union member, were walking up the railroad track to Gatliff, where they were going to collect a crowd of Brush Creek miners and march with them down to Pineville to welcome our delegation. There was no road up Brush Creek and even a wagon could not get over.

Arlin Miller and Red Davis, both gun thugs in the employ of the coal companies, passed the boys on a gasoline track car. They stopped the car, backed it up to where Simms and Lawson were standing. Miller drew his pistol and shot Simms in the stomach. Davis covered Lawson, searched him and found a 45-automatic. Both boys were put on the track car and taken to Barbourville, a distance of some 8 miles. Lawson was immediately clapped into jail on the charge of carrying concealed weapons, but *Simms had to sit on a rock outside the Barbourville Hospital with a bullet in his stomach. for about an hour*, because nobody could be found to stand his bill. A crowd gathered around him sitting there and finally the father of Red Davis, who lived in Barbourville, agreed to stand the bill.

Simms was operated on that morning. Jim Garland, who spoke at the mass funeral here last Wednesday, saw him later while he was still conscious. The first thing

Simms said to Garland was that he was glad the rest of them were all safe. He said he felt sleepy and that there was a bad pain in his side. Just before he drifted back to sleep again he said, so low that Garland had to bend down to hear him: "Just a little bit lucky that I wasn't killed."

When Max and Mason and myself arrived at his bedside he was lying in a heavy but unquiet sleep, his fine young head thrown back, his body with its bullet wound stirring restlessly under the sheet, one hand straying back and forth across his stomach.

There was nothing that we could do except receive the image of him lying there and then when we got back to New York to tell the workers of the world what we had seen.

Outside in the corridor, the nurse asked us if we knew anything about the special nurse who was coming from Knoxville. Several telephone calls from her had been received at the hospital that afternoon. We didn't know anything about this at the time, but I hear later that it was Dorothy Wilkes of the New York Workers International Relief, who rushed to his deathbed in defiance of the night riders.

HOW SLAVERY BEGAN—



Protesting Scottsboro in South Africa; the Negro speaker, Gomas, is one of the outstanding workers' leaders.

By FRANK ELLIOTT

ALTHOUGH slavery as an institution goes back to very ancient times and in most early instances is not connected with the Negro race (Athens, Egypt, Rome, etc.), its modern development has been in the main limited to the enslavement of the black peoples.

The colonial expansion of the Western powers from the end of the 15th century, was immediately followed by the importation of black slaves to do the heavy labor that was killing off the native Indians. In the case of Haiti which when discovered by the Spaniards (1492) had a population of 1,000,000—15 years of brutal exploitation reduced the natives to 60,000 with the result that Bartolomeo de las Casas, a missionary bishop, petitioned Charles V. of Spain to replace the dying native people with Negro slaves. In 1516, Charles gave the monopoly for supplying 4,000 slaves annually to the West Indies, to a favorite who promptly sold his share in the black gold profits to a group of Genoese traders for 25,000 ducats. These last carried on the traffic buying their merchandise from the pioneers of the slave trade, the Portuguese. This was the beginning of the slave trade with the New World.

An example of what was not unusual in the lengthy string of horrors perpetrated by the slavers occurred in the early

19th century. The "slaver" Brillante, Captain Homans, was sighted late one afternoon by four British naval vessels approaching from different quarters. If slaves were found aboard his ship, Capt. Homans knew that it would mean confiscation of his ship besides a severe sentence for him as Britain, from 1807, had forbidden the slave traffic (because of economic reasons). Before the Brillante could be overtaken, darkness set in. This gave Homans his chance to avoid the penalty for slaving (according to British law, a captain could not be held for slaving if no slaves were found on board.) The 600 slaves were brought up on deck and each one was tied by his manacles to the anchor chain and, just as the British boats were heard nearing the vessel, the anchor was thrown overboard. The British officers, who arrived a few minutes later, had heard the shrieks of the drowning slaves and smelled the terrific stench characteristic of the crowded slave ship but as no slaves were found on the vessel, Homans was allowed to go unmolested. This was not exceptional in the cruel history of a trade, founded for profit and nourished by the terrible suffering of an entire race.

The manual labor, such as was required to build this "glorious" country, was too hard for the degenerate and pampered elements that formed the Virginian settlements, and when a Dutch slaver cast anchor off Jamestown in 1619, its cargo

of slaves found a prompt market. What could not be done with the voluntary and involuntary labor of whites (for there was a species of white slavery in Virginia called indentured servants) was effected by black slave labor. The rapid spread and development of the plantation system throughout the South was made possible by the ruthless exploitation of Negro slaves. By 1790, there were 200,000 slaves in Virginia alone.

During this golden age of the slave trade, British, French, Dutch, Danish and Portuguese "slavers" (slave ships) reaped a rich harvest due to the ever-growing demand for more slaves. As a natural result, there grew up the widespread plantation system of the South built on the operation of immense farms, worked by Negroes under white overseers (the word "slavedriver" (overseer) has come to mean a person who exploits to the utmost those who are economically dependent upon him (foreman, boss, officer, etc.)

Although chattel slavery in its pure form was "abolished" after the Civil War by the 15th amendment to the Constitution, practically, it still exists in the South. A cropper or tenant farmer, if he fails to pay the amounts "loaned" from the landlord (to be paid for from the harvest sales), can be imprisoned, not for debt (that is unconstitutional) but because the law in several southern states (Georgia, Florida, Alabama, etc.) assume that the failure to pay his debts is sufficient evidence of the cropper's intent to defraud the landlord. As the great majority of croppers and tenants (white as well as Negro) are constantly in debt due to the infamous conditions that they are forced to work under, a cropper can not refuse to work for the landlord unless he wants to go to jail. Thus, it can be seen, slavery exists in the south in fact if not in a technical sense. This is admitted by many eminent southerners. The club of legal (and illegal) terror is used by the plantation owners to keep the croppers and tenants in the state of subjection that will allow of easy and unhampered exploitation. Any resistance of the workers against the inhuman conditions existing is

(Continued on page 58)

EIGHT WHO LIE IN THE DEATH HOUSE



By PAUL PETERS

1. The Death Pen

This pen, walled in by solid concrete and steel bars, is the death house. There is no sound here except the rattle of the warden's keys and the clump of the guards' boots behind you.

Cell doors are triple-barred, wire fenced. Through them you catch blurs of human beings, prowling back and forth like captive animals. A heaviness presses down on your lungs. A sickness gnaws at your stomach.

The warden swings open a door. "Andy Wright," he says. It is hard to think of anything to say as you stare at this young black boy in his death-house uniform, sad-eyed and stony-faced. But you do manage a little conversation, just enough to get a feeling of the boy's spirit in spite of ten months in that cell. He tells you what the fight made to free them means to *him*. In a moment the door is clanged shut; and all you see is the staring black face, a checkered blur against the wire fencing.

One by one the death-house cells are flung open. For a moment, one by one, you meet a young boy's troubled glance. Ozie Powell, Olen Montgomery, Charlie Weems, Clarence Norris, Willie Robinson, Heywood Patterson, Eugene Williams—a flash of death-house uniform, a pair of questioning child's eyes, that look that makes it hard for you to talk—then the clang of the door and the rattle of the key.

The warden and the guards march you down the long concrete halls, out of the death pen, out of Kilby prison, into the warm Alabama sunlight.

* * *

"Making an Example of Somebody"

It is a strange, unheard-of sight to see, here,

in the "Cradle of the Confederacy," five lawyers from the International Labor Defense stand up and argue that eight young Negro boys have been railroaded to a savage death sentence in a Southern court.

George W. Chamlee is a southerner from Tennessee, widely known, four times a public official, eight years attorney general for his state; a man who has the looks and the accent of the South. Here, in this high Alabama courtroom, he recites again the story of Scottsboro. . . .

"Symbol of Pure White Womanhood"

Irving Schwab, second attorney for the International Labor Defense, now analyzes the story. Lies, perjuries, contradictions, faked testimony, one by one he rips them open. Both girls are known prostitutes. Both have been seen time and again drunk in Chattanooga brothels. One has a long police record in Huntsville, Ala.

But the Scottsboro court barred this information. The judge said it was not "permissible" to discuss the character of the girls. To seal the doom of the boys it was necessary to paint as "victims" two pure young virgins, symbols of unapproachable white southern womanhood, broken by a horrible crime.

Why were the seven *white* boys held in Scottsboro jail never allowed on the witness stand? (Those who were thrown off the train in the fight with colored boys.) Because they would not bolster the flimsy frame-up of the girls? And what about the fireman of the train, who swore that he saw the girls leap from a boxcar and run to escape the posse? Why was Orville Gilley not put on the stand? Orville Gilley, the white boy supposed to have been held prisoner by the Negroes, while the girls were raped. Would he have said, as he told a newspaper reporter, that there was no rape? As this earnest young I. L. D. lawyer

speaks, the whole case against the Negro lads collapses like a house of cards.

Joseph R. Brodsky of New York makes the final argument. A large, powerful man, he speaks eloquently, with a drive and plunge of energy. The court is electrified as he describes the hysteria surrounding the Scottsboro trial; argues on the exclusion of Negroes from the jury; tells how some of the boys, juveniles under 16, were ruthlessly raced through to death sentences in a court with no jurisdiction to try them at all.

When the hearing is over, the Negroes outside the courtroom follow the International Labor Defense group down the street. They stop at corners and shake the lawyers' hands. This is a new thing in their lives.

Opening the Prison Doors

What will the Alabama Supreme Court decide? April 6 is execution day. Will the Scottsboro boys be given a new trial? Or will the court say they got a fair and impartial judgment at Scottsboro?

In any case, there is a long fight ahead. If a new trial, it will be more bitter, more difficult, more expensive than any in which Negro workers have even before been involved.

If the lynch verdict of the lower court is upheld, an appeal will be made to the highest court of the land in Washington.

If protest abates, the boys are lost!

Funds are needed at once to conduct the next legal steps in these cases. Without this money, nine Negro boys—and with them, the whole campaign for the rights of Negro workers in the South—will be retarded.

Help them! Raise a roar of protest!

Help them! Raise funds for their defense!

(From the pamphlet to be issued by the I. L. D.)

The Commune and the N. Y. Times



The last stand of the Communards—from a picture in the New York Times of June 18, 1871.

By ALBERT DEUTSCH

The proclamation of the Commune by the workers of Paris threw consternation into capitalists everywhere. A paroxysm of fear shook them, the seats of the "mighty" trembled. When, with the passing of days, the workers proved conclusively that they were not only capable of setting up their own government, but could run it with far more efficiency than their predecessors had shown, the trepidation of the bourgeoisie reached panic proportions. What if the working class of their own countries should follow the example of their Paris comrades; what if the vile revolutionary disease spread and infect the world proletariat? The Commune must be crushed at once; and for this purpose the capitalist nations all join hands. The paid press, ever ready to do the bidding of the master class, immediately raised a thick barrage of smoke intended to screen the achievements and purposes of the Commune from the workers of the world. This chorus of calumny against the first workers' republic was surpassed only by that raised against the Soviet Union, after the cumulative experience of fifty years of vicious lying had added fresh materials to their store of slander. The American press was not to be outdone by the rest; it did itself proud in perverting truth and inventing falsehoods. A brief survey of the news regarding the Commune are reported in the pages of the two most important American newspapers of the day, the *New York Times* and the *New York Herald*—will clearly illustrate their work.

The first days of the Commune found the press either predicting its approaching downfall, or baldly stating that it had already fallen. But as it became clear that the proletarians of Paris were solidly behind the Commune,

the full flood of vituperation was let loose by the penny-a-liners. The Communards, who had accomplished a practically bloodless revolution, and who had acted with the most extreme moderation toward their enemies, were characterized as "fiends," "assassins," "rabble," "bloodthirsty" and "fierce" reds. Although only two executions of reactionaries occurred in a period of two months—that of general Lecomte, who had been shot by his own soldiers after he had ordered them to fire on an unarmed gathering; and that of General Thomas, who was recognized as a chief participant in the massacre of workers in June, 1848—and although the Commune had permitted all its enemies to depart from Paris with their belongings, its rule was nevertheless described in the *Times* and *Herald* in such headlines as "Reign of Capitol Terror," "Anarchy in Paris," "Ferocity of the Paris Mob," "Insurgents Thirst for Blood," etc. The same timework canards about "The Sacking and Pillaging of Churches and Convents," "The Insulting of Priests," etc., repeated against every revolutionary movement, were resurrected against the Commune. Shedding crocodile tears, the newspapers placed the headings "Pitiable Scenes—Destruction of Churches," over the horrifying news that "Two beautiful churches were turned into political (read "workers'") clubrooms."

The magnanimous action of the Commune in allowing its most deadly enemies to leave Paris to reorganize their forces at Versailles proved a fatal error. Arrived at Versailles, the infamous Thiers, buttressed by the support of the world bourgeoisie, immediately commenced counter-revolutionary activities. His troops, augmented by thousands of prisoners released by the Prussian minister Bis-

marck, to combat the Commune, were hurled on the city. Against these insuperable forces, the heroic workers of Paris defended themselves behind hastily-built barricades in the streets of the city, determined to fight to the last drop of blood. The gallant resistance of the Communards in the face of certain defeat marks one of the most inspiring events in working class annals—an undying example of how workers can fight for their class. The kept press was of course forced to make some mention of this unequalled bravery on the part of the Commune. But how did they? The courage of the Communards was referred to in the *Times* as the "insanity of the insurgents"; the men "fought like desperadoes," while according to the *Herald*, "the women fought like fiends at the barricades." For these same working-class women who proved for all time the militant, class-conscious spirit of their sex, the *Herald* reserved its politest phrases, gently describing them as "the loose women of Paris, those debased and debauched creatures, the very outcasts of society, who have largely conducted to give strength and virulence to this whole rising." When Thiers from his lie-factory at Versailles, that hourly supplied eagerly awaited fabrications to the capitalist press in all countries, issued a circular accusing the revolutionists of "having collected a large quantity of poisonous liquid for use against the government troops," the lie proved too tame for the *Herald*, which headlined the canard thusly: "Poisonous Liquids Used Against Versailles." (These same falsehoods, these same perversions of truth, do we not meet with them daily in the filthy sheets of the present-day bourgeois press as a part of their never-ending attack on the Soviet Union?)

Despite the great stand of the Commune, it slowly gave way before insurmountable odds. With its fall, there began the white terror, accompanied by a wholesale massacre of men, women and children unparalleled in modern history. Defenseless prisoners, without regard to age or sex, were herded together by the fifties and hundreds, and mowed down by the murderous *mitrailleuses* (machine guns) of the Thiers troops. (In one week alone—the last "Bloody Week" of May—it is estimated that 40,000 workers were murdered). The dead and wounded were often thrown into the same graves—how many were thus buried alive will never be known, but investigation uncovered numerous instances of this horror. Thousands who escaped the slaughter survived only to be sentenced to a life of hard labor under the burning sun of New Caledonia.

But the heritage of the Communards has not been lost by the world proletariat; its invaluable lessons have not gone unlearned. Its experiences—its victories and defeats—were utilized on a wide scale by Lenin in the Bolshevik Revolution, and played an important part in the permanent success of the latter. And so on the ashes of the Commune, Phoenix-like, rose the greater, infinitely more enduring, proletarian republic, the Soviet Union—the fatherland of an awakened working class.



Yankee troops in Shanghai, equipped with the most deadly weapons to use upon the Chinese workers and peasants! Halt this war upon the working class of China and the Soviet Union.

AGAINST BOSS WAR!

By J. LOUIS ENGDAHL

THIS is being written (February 17) as the Japanese war lords have rushed sixteen more transports in 48 hours, burdened down with troops, munitions, tanks, heavy artillery, bombs, poison gas, for "the new drive!" on the Shanghai front.

At Geneva, in Switzerland, the Council of Twelve of the League of Nations has sent another note — this time 1,000 words—hypocritically appealing, in the words of the *New York Times* correspondent, to the "chivalry and honor" of Japan that massacres by the tens of thousands, Chinese men, women and children of the working class.

In reply to the "non-resistance" policy of the Chiang Kai Shek Kuomintang traitors, that opened up Manchuria and the Yangtse Valley to the Japanese imperialist invasion, and greeted the armed forces of the United States, Great Britain, France and Italy, the workers and peasants are themselves mobilizing for the struggle under the slogans: "Organize National Revolutionary War of Armed

People Against the Japanese and Other Imperialists and Their Watch Dog, the Kuomintang."

Militantly carrying through this struggle, another signal triumph has been won in the capture by the Red Army of Soviet China of Nanchang, the capital of Kiangsi Province. This gives Soviet China almost complete control of this province at a time when the Red Army is ready to take over Hankow and Wuchang. These events take place in China while worker-peasant resistance to the Japanese invasion develops in Manchuria, when the struggle against Japanese oppression grows in Korea, and the anti-war movement in Japan itself (Tokio, Osaka), crystallizing in mighty demonstrations at the moment when the Whaley-Eaton service to American bankers and executives in New York City declares:

"Intimate reports are that if Japan is not able quickly to accomplish her objective in China proper, she may be faced with a Communist uprising at home."

In this situation the main objective of world imperialism—attack on Soviet Chi-

na and inauguration of war against the Soviet Union—is again clearly stated by Hallett Abend, the Shanghai correspondent of the *New York Times*, as follows:

"The situation around Hankow and Wuchang is growing increasingly perilous as the Reds draw the surrounding net closer and closer. Intimations from high Japanese official circles indicated yesterday the hope that this revival of a Communist threat of domination of the interior Yangtse Valley might provoke *intervention by the treaty powers in an effort to check the 'Red Menace.'*

Within the past six months the Chinese Section of the International Red Aid has nearly doubled its membership, from 800,000 to 1,500,000. It took a leading part in organizing and carrying through demonstrations in Shanghai against the Japanese invasion, and organizes energetically for resistance to the growing imperialist terror, the barbarous slaughters (Chapei), and the mass executions.

Our American Section of the International Red Aid, I.L.D. (Next page)



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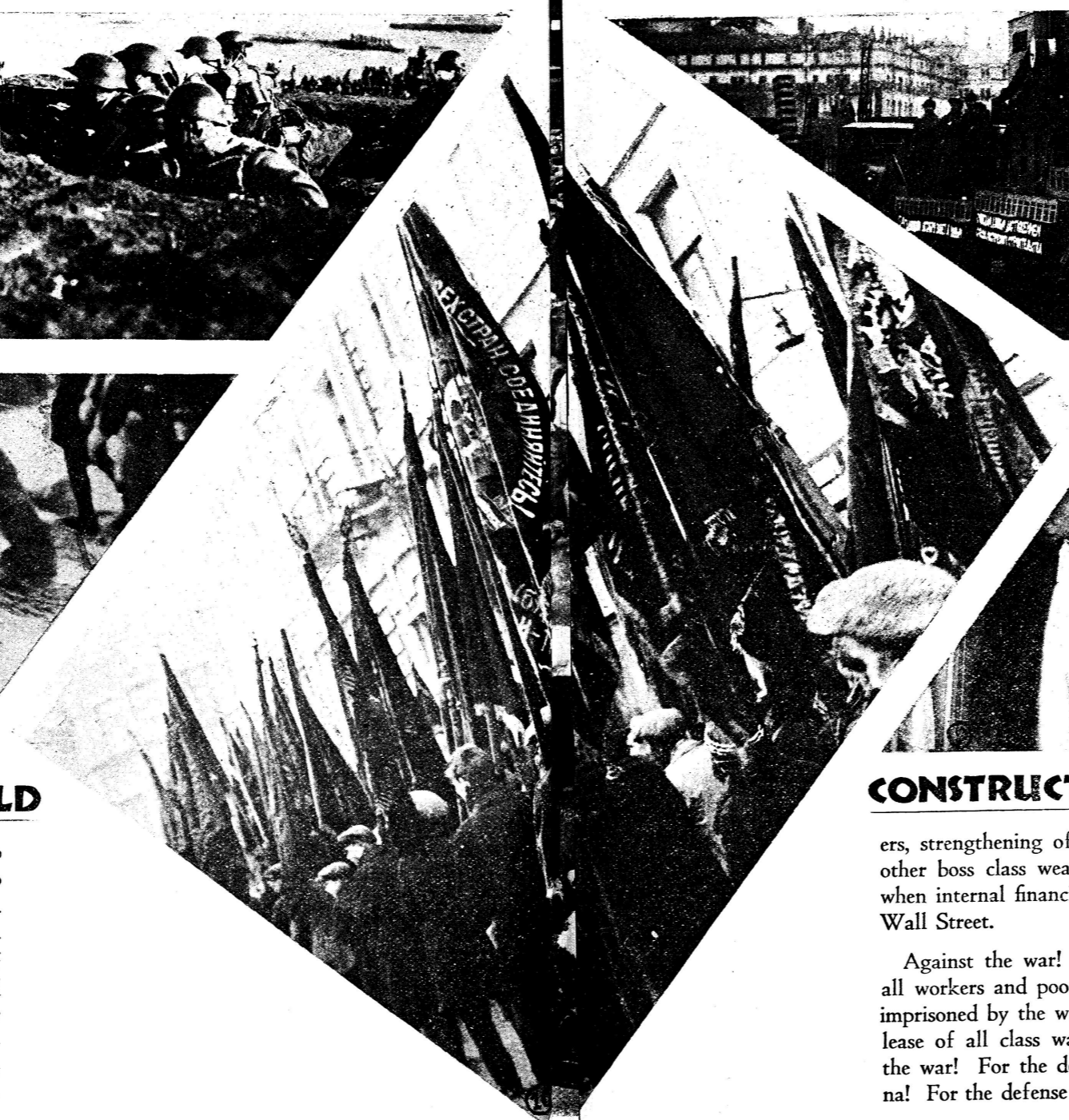
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CONSTRUCTION IN THE WORKERS' WORLD - U. S. S. R.

ers, strengthening of anti-labor laws and other boss class weapons at the moment when internal financial collapse confronts Wall Street.

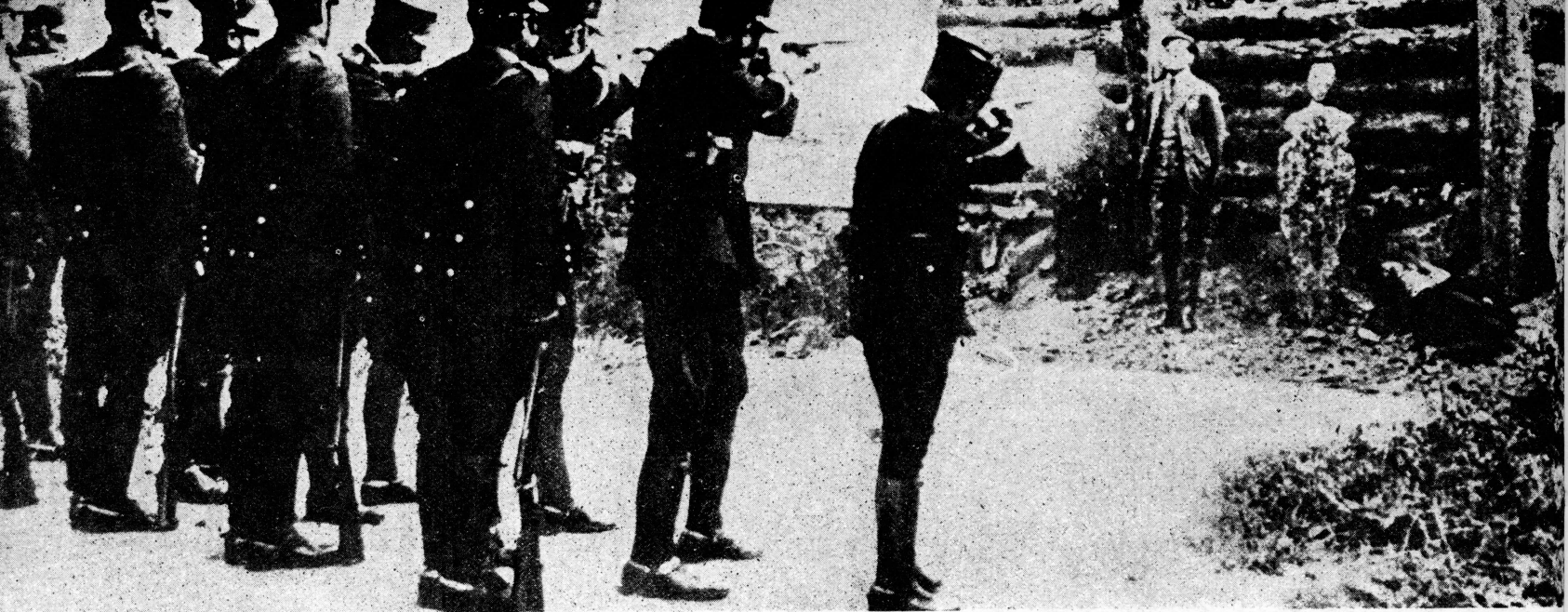
Against the war! For the defense of all workers and poor farmers persecuted, imprisoned by the war lords! For the release of all class war prisoners! Against the war! For the defense of Soviet China! For the defense of the Soviet Union!

(1) Consul at Shanghai for Great Britain, G. R. Cunningham, in high silk hat and fancy suit, reviewing the British cavalry in the British concession. It shows that the army is under the control of the high silk hats. (2) Workers demonstrate for work; and get clobbers. In the control of the high silk hats. (3) And in China; some of the millions starving to death. (4) Jap troops already in the trenches. War has broken out in the bosses' world. They aim at the destruction of the Soviet Union, where the workers and farmers are enjoying the fruits of their labor. (5) A Chinese worker; shot dead near Harbin, where the Jap imperialist troops aim to spring off toward the Soviet Union. (6) No war, hunger or misery in Soviet Russia! Boys and girls in a technical school near Moscow, learning how to put together a radio. (7) A demonstration of workers in Moscow. The float represents the Five Year Plan which the Red Army and the workers are ready to defend with their lives! (8) In the Stalingrad tractor plant. Workers examining a new technical device. They plan to "catch up and surpass the capitalist countries" before the end of the Second Five Year Plan. (9) Everything the workers' children need is given them in the Soviet Union. Scene in a nursery attached to a textile factory at Ivanovo-Vosnessensk. (10) Part of the 160,000,000 workers and farmers of the U.S.S.R., marching to show their endorsement of the program of the Soviets. In this picture are workers in the I.L.D. (MOPR) section of the demonstration.

MISERY AND WAR IN THE BOSSES' WORLD

does not yet sufficiently arouse the poor workers and farmers of the United States to the meaning of the rapidly developing war against Soviet China and the Soviet Union. Especially the Wall Street Hoover-Hunger government, in preparing for war, carries through its naval and military maneuvers in the Hawaiian Islands, increases its persecution of

the Filipino masses, and tightens its grip on the Latin-American peoples. It is also in this sense that we must view the Scottsboro persecution at home of the nine Negro boys, the continued imprisonment of Tom Mooney, Warren K. Billings and the other class war prisoners, the bloody attacks and wholesale imprisonments carried through in an effort to break the heroic struggle of the Kentucky coal min-



A working-class leader murdered by the firing squad in Salvador. 3,000 workers and peasants were shot to death last month after their valiant struggle against starvation. Protest this terror!

THE IRON HEEL IN SALVADOR

By LEON VIVALDI

At the south of Mexico and Guatemala, with its coast line bordering the Pacific Ocean, lies El Salvador, the smallest country of Central America; the only one without a coast line in the Caribbean Sea. El Salvador's territory ends at the north of the Fonseca Gulf, a very important strategic point for naval as well as military defense. In width it averages about 60 miles, and the coast line is 160 miles long; with an area about the same as Maryland.

El Salvador is a one-crop country. Her economic life depends exclusively on the crop of 150,000 acres of coffee plantations controlled by the imperialist force of Wall Street. Most of the properties are in the hands of a very small group of national bourgeoisie and landowners. Being an agricultural country with semi-feudal production methods, there is an agricultural and industrial proletariat of more than 200,000 of a total population of 2,000,000 inhabitants. The last census of October 15, 1929, showed that in San Salvador (the capital city), of 95,692 inhabitants, there were only 4,698 who own property

The coffee pickers receive a payment of six cents for every basket they pick. At the beginning of the picking season they are able to pick 5 and six baskets daily, but toward the end of the season they can pick only one-half or one basket a day. Those who work for a daily salary receive an average payment of 19 cents for a full day of work from 7 A. M. until 6 P. M. and during the summer time up to 8 P. M.

Besides the exploitation of the agricultural masses, there is no chance to get a job in the cities; unemployment is spread all over the country, and especially in the most important cities, in a monstrous way. At the beginning of 1930, of 90,000 inhabitants in San Salvador City, there were 15,000 unemployed

workers. There were more than 100,000 workers without a job in the republic.

Workers and peasants were massacred in Santa Teole, December 21, 1930. In Sonsonate, May 17, 1931, and in Asuchillo, September 22, 1931, the results were 25 deaths, 60 wounded and 160 arrested. But the worker and peasant masses were not cowed; on the contrary, with every attack of terror there was an increase of forces into the movement, and the revolutionary mass organizations grew. After the Asuchillo massacre, in that department alone (Department of La Libertad) 500 new members joined the International Red Aid. The military *coup d'etat* of December 5, 1931, that overthrew President Araujo and put General Martinez at the head of the government, took place amid most violent agitation, mass struggle against hunger and the terror. A few days after the *coup d'etat*, at the end of December, great strikes started throughout the coffee plantations. In the Department of La Libertad there were 12 important strikes of which 10 were won immediately.

The masses started their armed struggle on the 23rd of January against the system of oppression and murder, of hunger and terror. Three days before the 23rd a state of siege had been declared, and martial law applied in the departments of Santa Ana, Sonsonate, Ahuachapan, La Libertad, Chalatenango, and San Salvador. These measures were taken in order to prevent the revolutionary movement of the masses, and soon were applied all over the country. The reactionary Martinez government mobilized all the troops and organized armed fascist bands in order to attack the rebellious masses. The reactionary government issued an appeal in the following wire:

"The government is calling upon all the true patriots *who have interests to defend*, to take up arms as authentic soldiers of the country, which is today in danger." (My emphasis.) The imperialist powers of the United States,

England and Canada immediately sent their warships to the ports of El Salvador in order to help the Martinez regime to crush the mass movement.

The most violent measures of repression were taken; the most unspeakable crimes, mass murders, the firing squad, and every other form of terror was used by the puppet Martinez government and by his supporters—the native exploiters and the bourgeoisie backed up by the imperialist forces, ready to land at the first call of Martinez, in order to check and crush the revolutionary struggle of the oppressed masses. But the masses answered with courage and heroism and in a struggle marked by many sacrifices they faced the joint attack of the reactionary forces and fascist bands. More than 3,000 workers and peasants have been murdered, three of their leaders, Marti, Zapata and Luna, faced the firing squad and were executed.

The guns of the imperialist warships and the rifles of their landing troops, backed up and give an impetus to the wave of crimes and murders. Although the imperialist powers did not lend any troops, although their warships have gone from the El Salvador ports; their presence there for some time has shown once more the intention of the imperialist governments to use armed intervention in the colonial and semi-colonial countries in order to insure their investments and the further exploitation of the colonial masses, as they did yesterday in Haiti and Mexico, as they do today in Nicaragua, in China and El Salvador.

In this movement of hard struggles the workers and peasants of El Salvador must not be left alone under the blows of the reaction and the white terror wave. The widest possible international class solidarity must be developed in order to back up the revolutionary class struggle. The proletariat of the capitalist countries as well as the masses of the colonies must respond to this revolutionary duty immediately.

WE FIGHT THE GAG-LAWS

By FRED BELL

(Organizer, Pittsburgh District, I. L. D.)

PETE MUSELIN, TOM ZIMA released from the Blawnox Penitentiary on February 3! A victory for the working class gained after four years of unending struggle!

Ten thousand workers fight McKeesport police insisting on their right to the streets. With a result that for the first time in the history of McKeesport the police authorities are forced to grant a permit for the open demonstration of the workers.

The coal and steel workers of Western Pennsylvania are not content any more to accept the bosses' justice handed out by the Mellon interests and Governor Pinchot's demagogues. Twelve hundred workers were arrested during the last miners' strike of western Pennsylvania, east Ohio and West Virginia. Some of the most militant leaders, such as Tom Myerscough, Leo Tompson, Adam Ghetto, Stella Rasefsky, Will McQueen and others thrown into prison for exposing before the workers the hypocritical role played by Governor Pinchot and other capitalist liberals. In the Blawnox Penitentiary there are at present 30 of our most militant fighters serving sentences to an aggregate of 500 months, averaging 17 months each.

The Flynn sedition law under which Pete Muselin and Tom Zima were railroaded to a five-year sentence in the penitentiary, is one of the worst acts among the sedition laws. This act is worded in such a way that the coal and steel owners can railroad the workers any time a worker dares to say anything against the interest of the coal barons. This act defines sedition as follows: "Any writing, publication, printing, utterance or conduct either individually or in combination with any other person or persons the intent of which is to cause any outbreak or demonstration of violence against this state or the United States."

Another section of the law defines sedition: "To incite or encourage any person or persons to commit any overt act with a view to bringing the government of this state or of the United States into hatred or contempt." This law was enacted during the war history of 1919 and



Just as in Pennsylvania—scene in London, fighting against reduction in wages and living standards.

can sentence any worker to jail who in any way expresses himself against the state or federal government.

Many towns in the mining and steel districts in Pennsylvania are the private property of corporations. The workers have no right whatsoever. The streets, school, post office are directly owned by the company. No outsider can enter the towns without the permission of the company. The company can issue direct orders prohibiting any meetings or gatherings.

The treatment of workers who are arrested is the most brutal imaginable. In the Blawnox Penitentiary, political prisoners are treated worse than criminals. They are allowed only one visit a month. Recently Tom Myerscough's son came especially from New York to see his father. Only after a long fight was he allowed to see him for ten minutes. The prisoners are allowed to send only one letter a month and these are closely censored. They are not allowed to receive working class papers or magazines. They are put into solitary confinement on any pretense. Leo Tompson had his "privileges" taken away because he sent a personal note to Stella Rasefski.

During the last election many workers were misled by the fake promises made by Governor Pinchot and his gang that he

would abolish the state militia; that he would do away with injunctions; that he was for free speech. Like all promises made by capitalist politicians these promises were meant to lull the workers to sleep so that the bosses can continue their attacks upon us. The mine and the steel workers of Pennsylvania are determined not to depend any more on any capitalist politicians, but be militant in a struggle to fight and win the right to free speech, assemblage, strike and picket and fight against wage cuts, starvation conditions, for unemployment insurance.

On April 11 the workers of Pennsylvania will gather in a mass conference in Harrisburg and serve notice upon Governor Pinchot and his bosses that they cannot fool the workers any more, that we demand immediate release of all working class prisoners, that we demand the repeal of the Flynn sedition law and other anti-labor laws.

On April 11 the workers in Pennsylvania will serve notice upon the bosses and their government that we will not stand for the deportation of foreign-born and will intensify the campaign against the deportation of Philip Giambiatista, Mike Marenesh, Mike Baich, Steve Perlach and the other workers held for deportation only because they fought side by side with the American workers.



A woman worker, Clara Speer leads demonstration in Kansas City. Many more women will participate in the March 8th demonstrations.

The American Woman Worker Fights

By RUTH SHAW

MARCH 8, 1932—International Women's Day—comes when hunger gnaws at the bones of millions of workers. The bitter winds of the third winter of the capitalist crisis clutch at the throats of the great mass of working men and women and their children. Chinese and Japanese workers are being killed in a war to bring wealth to Japanese capitalists and the machine guns of Japanese imperialism are pointed at the only land where there is no unemployment and no wage cuts—the Soviet Union.

The 11,000,000 women who work in the mills and factories of the United States are having their lives sweated out of them. Their wages go steadily lower and, even when added to their husband's scant earnings, barely cover rent and gas.

The women whose job it is to stay at home to care for their families are in an even worse plight. Their kitchens are empty of food, their children sickly and shoeless. In the coal regions of Pennsylvania and Kentucky women have seen their husbands go to work with empty dinner pails.

This is the world that women everywhere—except in the Soviet Union—face on March 8, 1932.

In the year since March 8, 1931, women in the United States have taken part in many battles of the workers against the bosses.

In the lonely valleys of Harlan and Bell

counties, Kentucky, they are marching on the picket line. They have learned that their husbands' fight against the coal barons is their fight, too.

A few hundred miles across the mountains 35,000 women learned how to fight last summer. Out of the company shacks of the Pennsylvania coal towns they came when 45,000 miners were on strike. Some-

have known too much of care and worry, the hands still red from the dishpan. But the women, Negro and white, were marching with their husbands, their sons, their brothers.

Ever since 1850 it has been women, in the main, who supplied the cotton and woolen goods to the country. From young girlhood to old age, women can be found spinning and weaving the cloth they cannot afford to buy. It is no wonder that women took leading parts in the strikes in Lawrence in 1912 and 1919, in Passaic in 1928, and in Gastonia in 1929. Over half of the 23,000 textile strikers in Lawrence last October were women.

Now the dressmakers in New York City are girded for battle. Forty thousand Italian, Jewish, Latin-American, and Negro workers are having their lives sweated out of them. Their wages are as low as \$6 a week in some places. Already thousands have come out on strike and probably 10,000 women will be among those who know that strong militant unionism means an end of speed-up, long hours, and wages at hunger rates.

International Women's Day must bring the women out of the kitchens and the shops. It is the answer of the workers to the misery piled high by the bosses and it is the pledge of women workers that they are with the men workers to stamp out this misery, the hand-maiden of capitalism.



White and Negro women workers in Kentucky. Tents to live in.

times the children tagged at the skirts or were carried on the arm. Sometimes the aprons were still strapped over backs that

Away with that Little Penitentiary!

By GRACE HUTCHINS

IT was in the Rosa Luxemburg state tobacco factory at Rostov-on-Don that we saw Margaret Dennis, maker of cigarette boxes. She was an English girl who had worked in the Soviet Union ever since her father and mother died on ship board at the Soviet port.

"I never want to go back to England," she exclaimed, "For a visit perhaps yes, but not to stay. I want to work in the Soviet Union; it is better here."

A club of women tobacco workers had adopted her, she told us, and arranged for her schooling and then for her work in the big factory. Why was it better than the England she remembered as a young girl?

First and best of all, she was sure of a job. None of the haunting anxiety that had sent her father and mother out of jobless England in search of work somewhere else in the world. Literally and truly there is no unemployment in the Soviet Union.

By a carefully worked out plan, great numbers of new workers are taken into industry each year. So, for example, this year 1931 calls for 2,000,000 more women in industry. In the tremendous plans of construction, 2,000,000 more women will step out into the new life, free from



Daughter teaching mother to read—in Soviet Russia.

household drudgery, to take their share in building Socialism.

But factory work is drudgery too, isn't it? Not in the Soviet Union. 7 hours only each day, and in a tobacco factory like the Rosa Luxemburg where the to-



Women workers and Red Army soldiers work in the fields of Soviet Russia—side by side.

bacco makes a special health hazard, it is only a 6-hour day.

Across the factory yard, now a garden with grass and cherry trees and flowers, we entered another spacious house, formerly the general manager's. It is now the day nursery of that factory and so clean and modern that the visitor must put on a big white apron over street clothes before coming near the children. Here is where the mothers come during the morning and afternoon to nurse their babies.

What about those difficult months before and after child birth when the working mother in America tries to struggle to her job in deadly fear lest she lose it however? The Soviet mother has two months leave of absence before the baby comes and two months' leave of absence after the baby comes and two months' afterward, more if she needs it, *with full pay*.

The Five Year Plan proposed that 40% of the women in the Soviet Union should have medical care when their babies came, but this was accomplished in *one year*, and the present plan is now to extend such

care to every woman in the Union at the end of 5 years. In the cities and larger towns, about 40% of the little children of pre-school age—that age when they need the most skillful care—are in day nurseries or kindergartens, under the care of trained specialists. Instead of a breathless rush home in the noon hour to cook a hurried meal for her children, the Soviet mother eats her lunch in peace near the factory and knows her children are eating good food at the school. She can spend part of her lunch hour at the workers' club—reading a newspaper or a book to keep up with current events.

And at the end of her 7 hours of work she may eat again at the factory kitchen or with her family at the workers' cooperative dining room.

Away with the old household drudgery, say the new women of the Soviet Union. Away with the loneliness and the miserable humdrum housework where a woman alone tries to practise a half dozen skilled trades at once. Away with the individual kitchen, "that little penitentiary," as the engineer, Ilin, has called it.



Workers in Moscow demanding freedom for Tom Mooney. Above a group of English delegates.

Toward the World Congress--

gates to the Communist Party, Bridgeman, Michigan convention in 1922.

Among organizations active in establishing the International Red Aid were the Society of Old Bolsheviks and the Society of Former Political Prisoners and Exiles of Czarism.

During the nearly ten years that have passed since the International Red Aid was organized, the ruling class terror has sharpened everywhere, but especially during the present deep-going economic and agrarian crisis. It is in this period that the workers and peasants in the Soviet Union are successfully carrying through their planned economy under the Five-Year Plan.

In this historic period, therefore, the World Congress of the International Red Aid takes on tremendous significance. The months of preparation for the Congress itself becomes a period of ever more intensive struggle against the sharpening terror, for the defense of persecuted workers and peasants in the colonial and semi-colonial countries, for increasing activity against the war already raging in China, menacing Soviet China and the Soviet Union. It is in this way that the World Congress must be popularized before the masses, connecting it up in the United States with such major campaigns as the fight to save the lives of the Scottsboro Negro boys and increased struggle against lynchings, to liberate Mooney and Billings and all the class war prisoners, struggle against the terror in Kentucky, for the repeal of the criminal syndicalism laws and all other anti-labor legislation, for the right of political asylum and against deportations and all other persecutions of the foreign-born.

In this sense the Congress becomes a mass manifestation of the international solidarity of the toiling masses, of the workers and peasants of the Soviet Union with the oppressed toilers of the capitalist, colonial and semi-colonial countries; of the Negro workers of Africa with their yellow and brown comrades of

China, India and the Philippines, and the Indians of South America, and all in unity with the white workers and poor farmers in the imperialist home lands.

The International Red Aid began in 1922 with hardly any membership at all. It is now organized the world over with national sections in 67 different countries, 37 of these existing illegally. These sections include about nine millions of individual members with 1,600,000 more members in affiliated organizations.

In 1925 there were records of 120,057 victims of the ruling class terror in all countries. This number had grown to 877, 702 in 1930, a savage repression that increased even more during the year 1931. The number of workers murdered and executed had increased from 11,853 in 1925 to 295,906 in 1930, the blood-bath horror of boss-class "civilization" seeking to perpetrate its social order, its "kultur." Against these persecutions the International Red Aid conducted 55 national and international campaigns in 1925; that increased in 1930 to 170. It must also be remembered, however, that the 1925 campaigns did not reach the tremendous mass proportions achieved in 1930.

The World Congress itself, in building the world mobilization against the ruling class terror, places on its agenda for report and discussion, the international political situation and the position of the International Red Aid; the Ten Years of the I. R. A.; Report of the Executive Committee and the Presidium; The Tasks of the I. R. A.; the work amongst the masses, agitation and organizations.

Discussions on the importance of the World Congress and the tasks in connection with it must be taken up by our whole organization so that all of our day-to-day work will be closely bound up with the Congress which must become a manifestation of international working class solidarity.

The Executive Committee of the International Red Aid (International Labor Defense) has decided to convene a World Congress of all its national sections and fraternal organizations, to be held in Moscow, November 10-25.

November, 1932, marks not only the Tenth Anniversary of the first beginnings of our world organization, but it also witnesses the historic Fifteenth Anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution and the successful carrying through of the Five-Year Plan in four years.

In some countries defense organization had already been established when the first committee was set up and got to work in November, 1922, to build our international organization. This was the case in Germany where the suppression of the Spartacus movement was attempted with the most savage terror. In France, for instance, a committee was organized for the support of political emigrants who included at that time the fighters for the Hungarian Commune and the first victims of Italian fascism. Our International Labor Defense here in the United States, organized in 1925, was preceded, however, ten years ago by the organizations set up to lead the resistance against the Palmer Raids in 1920, the attacks on the Communist and other working class organizations, and especially to carry through the tremendous campaign organized against the raid on and the indictment of scores of dele-

Voices From Prison

From Tom Mooney's Mother

134 Clipper Street,
San Francisco, Calif.,
February 1, 1932.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE
New York

DEAR COMRADES:

Received your letter of December with check enclosed for \$5.00, for which I am very grateful for same.

I have been quite ill, owing to the tremendous strain I have been under the last sixteen years.

I am still very ill.

With fond good wishes to you and your worthy cause, I am always

Gratefully and sincerely yours,
MOTHER MOONEY.

Harlan County Jail

Harlan County Jail,
Jan. 15, 1932.

DEAR FRIEND:

I will write you a few lines to let you know we are well. But we are catching hell. They brought us back to Harlan, Ky., and it is hell up here.

Say, George, I wish you would send us some money for we sure do need it.

Say, friend, you don't know what we have got to put up with here.

There are four of us in here.

So will close. So, answer soon.

From your friend,
OTTO MILLS.

From a Penna. Miner

February 9, 1932
Allegheny County Jail,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

I, L. D.,
50 East 11th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Comrade G. Maurer:

I received your letter with \$1.00 money order, you said that the amount is small. I am glad that the organization is able to send to each political prisoner a \$1.00 under such finance conditions. Also the other comrades here in the jail are glad to get payday of \$1.00 and buy something to smoke. Three of us work for the County here in jail every day, that means they receive not one penny from the County and neither from that slave-drive of

god, but for our work. But the jail preacher tells us every Sunday that god knows everything and god is so good that he will pay everyone. But he did never say when will be the pay day. I do not know what he means. Maybe god is organizing a two billion dollar Finance Corporation too, and with Father James Cox, president of the corporation. Anyhow no one of us knows when the god's pay day going to be. But we know ony that we are receiving a pay day from the I. L. D. every month.

Fraternally yours,
PHIPPIL GIOMBATTISTA.



Behind the bars in Harlan, Ky. 2 strike leaders.

San Quentin, Calif.
January 12, 1932.

R. Rolene,

Dear Comrade:

Some days ago the novel "THE ROAD" arrived here, and after close and careful scrutiny it was discovered to be of highly inflammable nature, so inflammable that I was not allowed to receive it. All attempts on my part to show that it was simply a novel, a romance, a love story, etc. proved of no use. It came from the Red Star Press, and it couldn't come in, and that was all there was to it. I directed that it be returned to the sender at my expense. Please inform me if and when you received it. Naturally, I'm sorry I can't read it (for awhile at least) but if I'm not mistaken I've already been fortunate enough to read part of it under the title of Paris on the Barricades.

Yours for a quick turning in "THE ROAD."

EMERY,
48685.

San Quentin Prison,

MR. GEORGE MAURER,
NEW YORK CITY.

DEAR FRIEND:

Your check arrived safely. Again I can only say thank you and ask you to thank the other members of the Defense Committee for me.

It must be almost impossible to raise any funds in these times. We on the inside are not much worse off than you on the outside, and not much better off either. Seems to be about a stand-off.

It must be a great consolation to the D. A. R. and such outfits that the "Reds" did not succeed in destroying our institutions. Yes, sir! Why if those "Reds" had their way, business would be on the fritz and folks would not know when or where they were to eat their next meal. Why not let the poor nuts in Mattewan have a try at running things? At least some of them are only half-wits. That is better than no wits at all.

My best wishes to the militants on the outside. And my thanks, too.

M. A. SCHMIDT,

From the Wife of a Class War Prisoner

Jan. 28, 1932.

DEAR FRIEND:

Just a few lines to let you know that we are all in the best of health. Dear Friend, could you send us something so we could buy a ton of coal? Gee, we don't have any coal. We will freeze. What is the matter, you don't write, friend? Gee, I hope you send us something. Gee, we're out of coal, and my children will freeze. Well, I haven't anything else to say, so I give my best regards to you. Excuse me for writing.

Your friend, MRS. BENITO,

LABOR DEFENDER:

The Boston Polish Branch at one of its meetings had some difficulty in assigning a comrade to act as Labor Defender agent. Although I found myself unable to take the job, I realized the importance of the work and pledged to do whatever I could.

The next day I went down to the District Office and took 55 calendars and in two days time they were all sold after visiting various organizations and affairs. I returned and got more literature and pledge that our branch will make every attempt to visit organizations and sell literature as much as possible.

We pledge that the Boston Polish Branch, that was so far behind, will be leading in literature and Labor Defender sales for the year
PAUL PROZOWSKI.

LABOR DEFENDER



SUB DRIVE



THE COUNTER-OLYMPICS

By EDWIN ROLFE

Thousands of worker-athletes throughout the United States, Canada, Central and South America are rallying their forces under the banner and program of the Provisional Counter-Olympic Committee against the anti-Soviet military alliance to be staged next summer as the Olympic Games. Conscious of the jingoistic, war motives underlying the Olympic Games' vast preparatory expenditures, the worker-athletes have announced they will hold an International Workers Athletic Meet, counter to the boss games, in Chicago next summer, at which workers of all countries, races and nationalities will compete.

The program of the Counter-Olympic Committee calls for the immediate, unconditional release of Tom Mooney, who has been imprisoned for fifteen years in the labor-hating state of California, where the boss Olympics are to be held. Mooney is honorary chairman of the Provisional Committee. It demands a boycott of the Los Angeles Olympics, and attacks discrimination against Negro athletes and all national minorities. It fights for full equality for Negroes in all sports organizations and athletic meets, and attacks the Amateur Athletic Union for allowing such racial discrimination as occurred in South Africa last summer, when Eddie Tolan, champion American sprinter, while on tour with a delegation of American athletes, was barred from several meets because of his color. Finally, it calls for the international solidarity of all workers against the Olympics sports boycott of the Soviet Union, which was not invited to participate in the Olympic Games, and against the anti-Soviet war preparations underlying the activities of the Los Angeles meet.

The preparations for the International Workers Athletic Meet include a series of athletic events at which different points of the counter-Olympic campaign will be emphasized. The first event will be a series of "Tom Mooney Street Runs" throughout the country, in which the participants will carry on their backs placards demanding the release of Mooney and the nine Scottsboro boys. Further activities will include mass sports meets, pageants and inter-city tournaments.

All working class organizations should elect and send delegates to the Provisional Counter-Olympic Committee, and rally their entire memberships to the struggle. Communications and questions should be addressed to the National Provisional Counter-Olympic Committee at its temporary headquarter, 16 West 21st St., N. Y. City.

On to a successful International Workers Athletic Meet!

LABOR DEFENDER SUB DRIVE
Who will go to the Soviet Union as guest of the Labor Defender?

Sam Gerber, of Los Angeles, who won the sub drive last fall, is going for the May First demonstrations in Moscow. Who will win the present sub drive to accompany Comrade Gerber to the U.S.S.R.?

His ticket is already on hand—all details are arranged for his trip. How about you, comrade?

What district will be the one to come out first in this drive?

Although individual workers are pushing ahead in the Labor Defender drive — some achieving good results — it is not being pushed by the districts. Individual workers participating in the drive are achieving good results but without the stimulus of the district organization. The districts must pay more attention to the drive if we want to accomplish our quota. Good plans for the drive have been worked out in some districts, but the results are not so good as they should be. Chicago district had the best plan worked out for the sub drive.

5,000 Increase in Bundle Orders

In the first six weeks of the last drive we had a solid increase of 5,000 copies in bundle orders. This shows that with a little effort we can increase the sales of the Labor Defender, utilizing the activities of the International Labor Defense, and we can get the workers to subscribe if we go after the subs. Not all districts have as yet elected their Labor Defender agent. This is most important if we want to see the Labor Defender grow. The district Labor Defender agent with a good functioning committee is the first step.

Results on District Challenges

The latest word from Philadelphia is that they accept the challenge of New York district and are ready to take the challenge of any other district.

Let us have more life in the drive. Let us hear from the Labor Defender agents. Send in your suggestions and criticism. Forward with greater speed!

The totals follow:

QUOTAS FOR THE DRIVE FOR 55,000
CIRCULATION OF THE LABOR
DEFENDER BY MAY 1st

Districts	Bundles	Subs	Subs already sent in
Boston	500	250	17
New York	3,000	700	65
Philadelphia	1,000	500	60
Buffalo	300	200	14
Pittsburgh	300	300	17
Detroit	600	500	20
Cleveland	800	500	20
Chicago	1,500	700	65
Minneapolis	350	200	8
Kansas City	175	100	5
Seattle	1,100	200	12
Los Angeles	600	300	18
San Francisco	500	200	10
Connecticut	200	100	7
South	250	100	1
Denver	150	150	5
Organization			10
Foreign			3
Unorganized territory			7
			364

How Slavery Began

(Continued from page 46)

put down by lynching, legal lynching, (Barney Lee Rose, 9 Scottsboro boys, etc.) or general terror (Camp Hill). In spite of this long history of aggression and exploitation by their capitalist white masters, the Negroes of the United States are showing growing appreciation of the value of organization in fighting the slavery of the ruling class. This has been shown by the valiant resistance of the Camp Hill, Alabama Share Croppers' Union to the extreme terroristic attacks made upon them, the mass defense of the nine Scottsboro boys and numerous other struggles in which the Negro workers have united with white to present a united front against the capitalist program of starvation for the masses, profits for the bosses.

HAVE YOU READ ENOUGH ABOUT THE WORKING CLASS

? ? ?

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I want to join the I.L.D. and help the fight for all class war prisoners. Enclosed find my contribution of \$ to help carry on the fight.

Name

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City

Danger Signal

To the branches of the International Labor Defense in Chicago and Cleveland!

Due to the fact that these two districts have fallen behind in payments for Labor Defenders to such an extent that it endangers the appearance of the magazine, we have found it necessary to draw attention to this danger signal.

We must first of all ask the branches of the Chicago district: Are you selling your Labor Defenders? Did you make current and back payments to the district office? Have you a strict check-up on the sales of the Labor Defender? You must bring this question up before the branch meetings and leading committees. For Chicago leads the list of the districts with accumulating debts to the Labor Defender.

The Chicago bill is now \$737.00.

We will be forced to hold the next bundle unless a payment is forthcoming.

Next comes Cleveland: We draw the workers' attention to the same situation in that district. Your bill is now \$516.80.

We must realize that the Labor Defender is not printed by the good graces of the printing establishment. We must pay hard, cold cash—and on time—EACH MONTH. Labor Defender funds must NOT be used for

other expenses—for paying rent, legal fees, telephone bills, etc.

The ledger is not all dark, however. Many other districts are making strenuous efforts to pay up—and are succeeding. These districts are ones that have built up functioning Labor Defender committees, and have responsible Labor Defender agents. How about you?

Chicago and Cleveland—get busy, or the Labor Defender will not come out.

The Class War Prisoner in Court and Jail

By HARRY RAYMOND

The International Labor Defense, in developing a broad educational campaign on how workers should defend themselves in court, and what to do when arrested and questioned, has just issued a 32-page pamphlet, the title of which is *Under Arrest*.

The pamphlet is the result of a year's research and compilation of material. All the terroristic and frame-up tactics that the capitalist police use against workers, also the trumpery of court ceremony, the mazes of legal procedure used to confuse workers, are exposed in plain simple language on the pages of this pamphlet so that any worker can understand.

The role of the I. L. D. in arousing the widest mass protests, as the chief effective method to wrest the class war prisoners from the clutches of the bosses, how to carry on the class struggle in the court room as well as on the picket line, how to make the court a workers' forum—these and many other important questions are answered in *Under Arrest*.

The pamphlet states firmly:

Give no information of any kind whatsoever, either about yourself or your fellow workers, or any organization to which you belong, or in which you are interested. If you are a foreign-born worker, no information of any sort, of the date you landed, the name of the boat, etc. Give your name. That's all.

Under Arrest correctly informs workers while in jail to sign no statement, confession, or any other paper, no matter how innocent it appears.

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NEW YORK

Free the Scottsboro Boys!

From **Atlantic** ^{To} **Pacific**

**In San Quentin Folsom
Kentucky Kilby, Ala.**

In two score prisons throughout the United States more than 150 workers are now waiting for their meagre \$5 a month to buy cigarettes, tobacco, books, newspapers.

And their families await the \$20 a month to scrape along until their breadwinner comes from prison.

Scenes like this below are happening everywhere: workers being deported for their activity in the working-class. Workers being jailed for striking, for speaking, for organizing. Their families starving.



Workers being deported for working class activity in Southern California

WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?

The International Labor Defense is regularly sending, out of its meagre funds, money to prisoners and their families. Winter's bitterest cold will come before the Spring. Money is essential for the wives and children of these prisoners who face hunger, eviction, cold. Money is needed for BREAD and COAL and RENT for them.

RUSH YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO

PRISONERS' WINTER AID CAMPAIGN

80 EAST ELEVENTH STREET, Room 430, NEW YORK CITY