

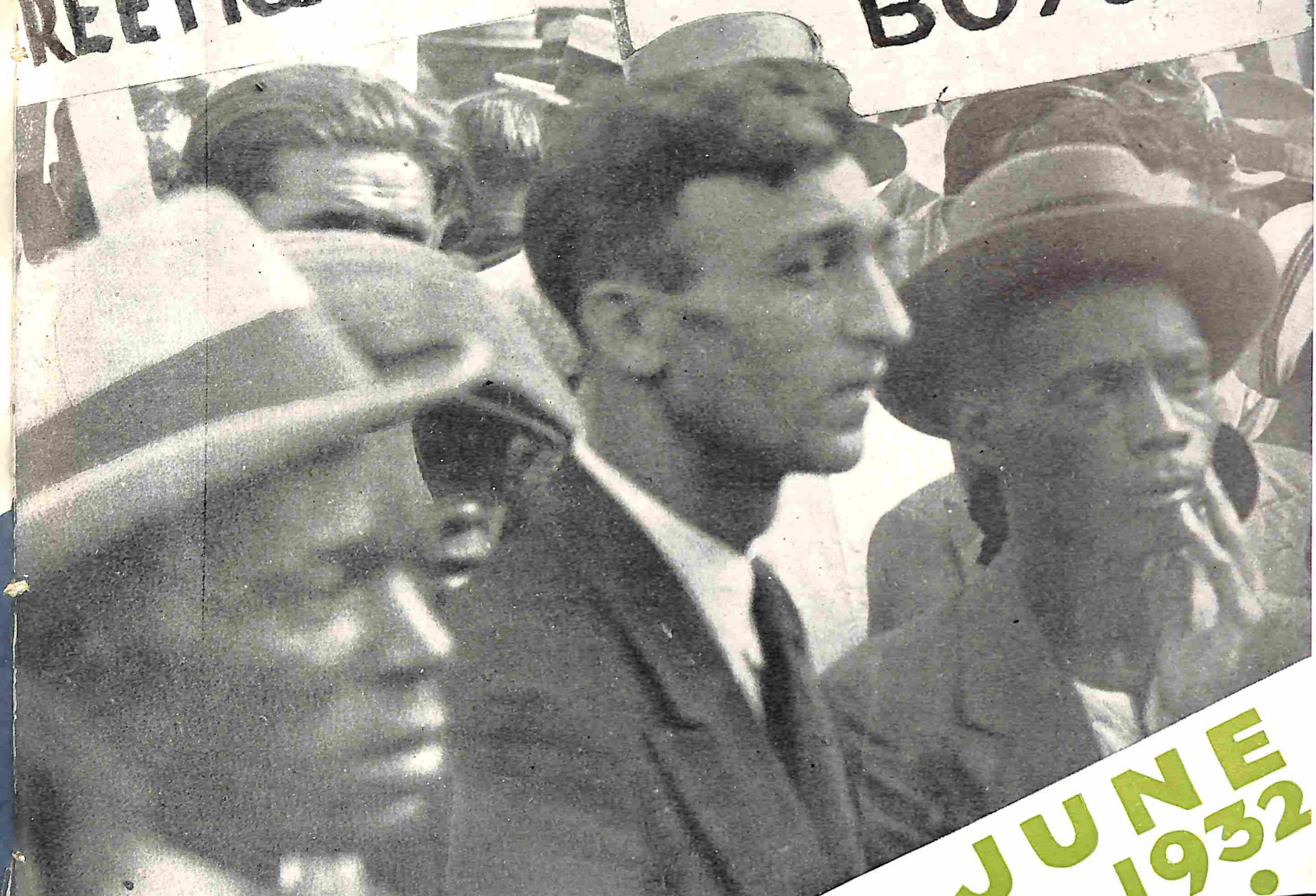
# LABOR DEFENDER

10¢

NEGRO  
and  
WHITE  
WORKERS!  
FREE MOONEY

SAVE  
THE  
NINE NEGRO  
SCOTTSBORO  
BOYS!

H. W. L.  
17 AUG. 1932



JUNE  
1932



# LABOR DEFENDER

10c







# A CALL TO MILLIONS

(On the eve of the bosses planned execution of the Scottsboro boys, June 24)

By EUGENE GORDON

(Well known Negro writer)

**F**ELLOW workers, the challenge has been thrown into our teeth by the bloodthirsty attorney general of Alabama. The face of the working class of the world has been slapped and spit upon by this arrogant member of the Alabama ruling class. The working class of the United States and of the world has been defied: its protests have been ignored, its petitions have been sneered at, its cries of horror at the threatened killing of nine boys on June 24th, as if they were nine hogs or steers or rats, have been deafened in the shouts of the lynchers chanting for the blood of workers. The attorney general of Alabama has sworn that the nine Scottsboro victims will be burned to death as soon as their latest appeal has been denied. He takes the denial of this appeal as an assured fact. You see, he *knows* the working of ruling-class justice. But he reckons without his host. He gloats and slobbers in his glee at seeing workers burned to death like waste, like rubbish, like so many sacrificial beasts. He gloats and slobbers because these boys are

workers, and he defies the working class because these boys are black workers. He thinks of and longs for the time when black men and women and children were the property of those who today scorn them because they struggle against the barbarous oppression of their former owners. He would make an example of these working class boys for black workers of the world to heed.

Fellow workers of America, shall we let this thing be done? Is there a white worker within the United States who feels himself secure so long as any worker, white or black, is murdered as an example to teach YOU your place? For it is an attempt to teach you and me our place. The attorney general of Alabama hopes that no power on earth can halt him in carrying out the ruling class will to burn these boys. At the same time he knows that if the masses raised their clenched hands in one giant fist they can force him to release the 9 Negro boys. He is hiding behind the forces of ruling-class law but he shivers in dread of the masses. (Continued on page 116)



# LABOR DEFENDER

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## SCOTTSBORO AND BEYOND

By HARRY HAYWOOD

In the midst of the intense, world-wide fight for the freedom of the Scottsboro victims, it is well to get a perspective view of the larger issue involved in the case. The Scottsboro frame-up is not an isolated instance of persecution; it is part and parcel of a huge, cold-blooded system of oppression and terrorization of millions of Negro toilers—a system that has been well-nigh reduced to a science by the boss class that imposes it.

This boss terror against an oppressed National minority finds its most open and violent expression in lynching, an institution which is rooted deeply in the damnable economic system which gives it birth and nourishes it. The present economic crisis, the growing capitalist offensive against the mounting struggle of the workers of all races reveals more clearly than ever before this economic class basis of Negro lynching. It can no longer be denied that lynching and lynch frame-ups are invariably the direct result of developing class struggles. Lynch Law is the threat facing the Negro workers who attempt or dare to struggle against wage cuts and evictions or for unemployment insurance; the Negro share cropper or farm laborer who protests against the virtual peonage imposed upon him by landlords and loan-sharks. These lynchings of recent occurrences, chosen at random, amply illustrate the class background of the infamous practice:

The murder of Ralph Gray at Camp Hill, Alabama, by a posse of sheriffs and landlords, for his activity in the organization of the Croppers Union.

The lynch frame-up of Willie Peterson, disabled and unemployed Negro war veteran, avowedly as part of the reign of terror intended to suppress the forward movement toward organization among the Negro and white workers and share croppers of Alabama.

The murder of three Negro workers in Chicago and of two in Cleveland shot down by policemen in connection with the struggle against evictions.

Added to these instances are the wanton murders of individual Negro unemployed workers by sheriffs and police in every part of the country for non-payment of rent. Recently a large number of destitute workers suffering from cold and starvation were shot down by company detectives in various

towns for picking up coal or fuel along railroad tracks.

Two tendencies are evident in this systematic persecution of Negro workers. First, we find that more and more the boss class is supplementing open lynching—i.e., with rope, faggot and gun, etc.—with its newly—perfected device of “legal lynching”—i.e., lynching by “due process of (capitalist) law” legal lynching is just as effective as stringing the victim up a tree, the capitalists think. It is safer, less “scandalous,” being covered by the respectable cloak of capitalist “justice” and is invariably accom-



panied by the praises and thanks of such bootlicking, reformist organizations as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The Scottsboro case, the most outstanding example of legal lynching contains all the typical elements of the damnable frame-up system—the trumped-up charges and lying testimony of State witnesses, the speedy mockery of a trial in a carefully whipped-up atmosphere of lynch mania, the hand-picked jury and prejudiced judge, denial of the most elemental rights to the Negro victims who are doomed to death in advance, etc.

Other notable examples of the legal lynching system are the cases of Euel Lee (Orphan Jones) in Maryland, Willie Brown in Philadelphia, Willie Peterson in Birmingham, Jess Hollins in Oklahoma and Bonny Lee Ross in Texas. In refusing to grant a stay of execution to young Ross, who was railroaded to the electric chair,

Governor Ross Sterling of Texas brazenly admitted the role of lynching as a weapon in the boss campaign of suppression of the Negro masses in stating that, “it may be that this man is innocent, but it is sometimes necessary to burn a house in order to save a village.”

Another dangerous trend in the present growth of boss-inspired lynch mania is the passing from the stage of individual lynchings to armed terroristic attacks against whole communities by organized bands of fascist lynchers—Ku Kluxers, Black Shirts, Legionnaires, etc. This tendency was apparent in the mass slaughter and disarming of Negroes in the Birmingham district at the time of the Willie Peterson frame-up and in the ruthless terrorization of Negro comrades along the Eastern Shore of Maryland during the recent lynch-fever, particularly in connection with the lynching of Matthew Williams in Salisbury, which was accompanied by a series of the most provocative acts against the Negro masses in that vicinity. In this instance, the body of the dying Williams was dragged through the streets of the Negro neighborhood, his fingers and toes were cut off and thrown on the porches of Negro houses and the lynchers shouted threats to the whole Negro population.

The contemptible Ku Klux practice of “night-riding” has been resumed in some parts of the south, as illustrated in the very recent incident at Greenfield, Tenn., where a band of cowardly fascists rode down on a Negro community during the night, hurling threats at the workers and burning several shacks.

The ruling class has a two-fold purpose in fostering this vicious campaign of terror against the Negro toilers—(1) by whipping up lynch hysteria, it aims to divide the workers, and thus to weaken them; (2) it aims by this means to keep in terrorized subjection the Negro masses who constitute a great portion of the American working-class.

Against this growing lynch terror, the American workers, Negro and white, must carry on a wide relentless struggle. It is absolutely essential for all workers to realize that the sharpening of the lynch terror is an integral factor in the general campaign of capitalist reaction against the toilers as a whole, aimed particularly to strike at the growing unity of Negro and white workers.



# Peoples of the World! On Guard Against the War

By **ROMAIN ROLLAND**

(World Famous Writer)

In the name of besieged China—in the name of the menaced Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—in the name of the peoples of the earth—in the name of the great hopes of humanity which the awakening of the oppressed races of Asia and the heroic reconstruction of proletarian Russia arouse and sustain in us: I cry help! Down with the assassins! And I denounce to all the world, the ignoble lies of the governments of Europe and America especially that of France, whose handful of adventurers in the service of the war mongers stretch out their rapacious hands over the earth and use the Japanese imperialism as the executioner's axe to sever the heads of the revolution. And I denounce the treason of that intellectual class which formerly was the look-out at the mast of the ship to guide it through storms—which today basely purchases its peace and comfort by its silence or its servile flattery which serves the interests of the moneyed and privileged classes. And I denounce the farce of Geneva and the folly of the League of Nations.

I appeal to the sleeping conscience of the best forces of Europe and America. I appeal to the consciousness of colossal power as yet unrealized in all the people of the world, to cut the serpents' knot of all the plutocratic and military Fascisms which tomorrow will encircle the globe,—to crush the new-born conspiracy and to seal the union of the working masses of all free peoples.

ROMAIN ROLLAND

## EDITORIAL NOTE

The degenerate naval quartette that lynched Joseph Kahahawai in Hawaii is today scott free by decree of the Hawaiian governor, Lawrence M. Judd, lackey of Wall Street imperialism. The verdict of the jury, which defied the lynch gang and repudiated the contemptible trickery of Clarence Darrow, is set aside. The Washington society leader, Mrs. Granville Fortescue; her son-in-law Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, and two navy enlisted men, Albert O. Jones and E. J. Lord, comprise the murder band, and Clarence Darrow—a member of the legal staff of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People—are the idols of the hour of the naval and military colony of Yankee imperialism in the islands. . . . (Darrow who refused to defend the Scottsboro Negro boys eagerly took the side of the ruling-class lynchers—and this man is the "idol" of the N. A. A. C. P.)

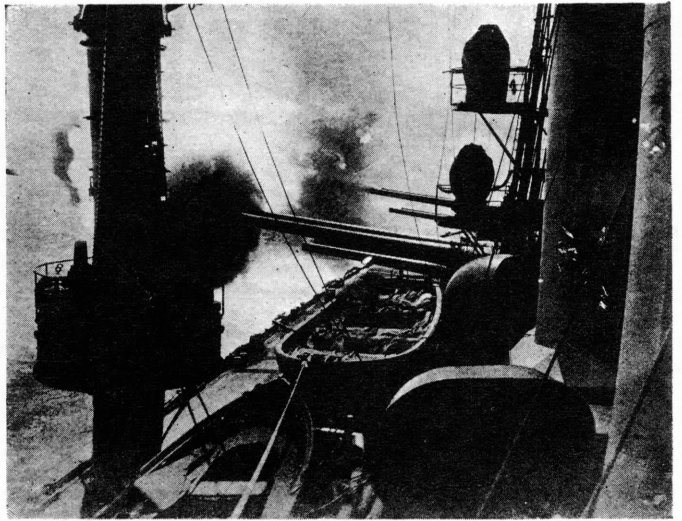
There cannot be the slightest doubt that Judd, the Hawaiian governor, appointed by the United States imperialist government, acted under orders from Washington, which is determined to establish lynch law in the Islands as a prelude to and accompaniment of complete military rule. For war is near—the bosses' are about to launch their attack on the Soviet Union.

The attempt to establish lynching as a government institution in Hawaii is a part of the intensified drive of Yankee-tyranny against the colonies and semi-colonies, as part of its war preparations and mobilization. The methods of lynch law that are used against Negro workers on the mainland of the United States are applied today in Hawaii and for the same purpose. It is not accidental that the Massie lynch case in Hawaii co-incides with the increase of lynching, legal and "illegal" in the States, co-incides with the Scottsboro case and the scores or other frame-ups on Negro workers in the U. S. A.

## TEN YEARS ADVANCE

Millions of workers in the defense movement the world over are preparing for the celebration of the tenth year of the International Red Aid, of which the International Labor Defense is the American section.

Delegations of workers from the mines, shops, factories and fields are being chosen from regions as far apart as Spitzbergen and Capetown in South Africa.



The American workers must begin to choose their delegates, (they will be entitled to five), who will attend the International Congress of the Red Aid. In the 65 other countries of the world in which IRA sections exist, workers' delegations are the order of the day. We must get on the job here immediately.

Capitalist hostility to the Soviet Union has already reached the stage of armed intervention; terror has been unleashed in unparalleled volume against the workers of every country in the world; the slightest resistance of the working-class against starvation, wage-cuts, and war preparations is met with fierce repression.

In America, the machine-gun has practically become the official symbol of capitalist industry, as a more and more furious hail of bullets is directed at the militant masses. All the legal machinery and power of the capitalist government stands behind the military repression of the workers which the bosses have prepared. Scottsboro, Mooney, Imperial Valley, Tampa, Kentucky, Dearborn, Melrose Park and Berkman are the type-cases from which the agents of Wall Street and the Hoover-Doak government draw their cues.

In the ten years since the establishment of the IRA, a militant, world-wide mass organization has been built to fight against the repression of workers which has been determined on by the capitalist governments of the world as the only way out of the contradictions of their system of ownership and exploitation.

In the face of the sharpening struggle, the tenth anniversary conference must be prepared on a basis of mass struggle firmly linked with our task of setting our roots into the factories, among the youth, the poor farmers. Our preparations must be made hand in hand with our task of winning the organized and unorganized masses in every activity, to the revolutionary struggle.

Prepare now for the International Congress in the fall!

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*Pageants for War: Mayor Walker and Red Baiter Whalen at George Washington pageant in New York, trying to whip up "patriotic" hysteria to prepare for coming war. Note the relationship between high silk hats and war plans. For imperialist war is the boss plan to emerge from the crisis.*

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# WHY I AM ON HUNGER STRIKE

By EDITH BERKMAN

(Since this article was written, thousands of workers urged Edith Berkman to abandon the hunger-strike which might have resulted fatally. She finally agreed—after 12 days—on the basis of preserving her strength in order to continue the fight when the working-class gains her release. Intensify the fight to free her—and to halt the deportation terror!)

May 10, 1932

Massachusetts Memorial Hospital,  
Boston, Mass.

Today I enter the third day of my hunger strike.

I ask that this statement be printed in the press so that the working-people of Massachusetts and the U. S. A. may be correctly informed as to my condition and the reason for my hunger strike, so that they will bring their influence to bear upon the immigration authorities who are illegally holding me and also upon the U. S. Circuit Court whose decision in my case is being delayed; that my unconditional release be immediately effected. (ED.—The U. S. Circuit Court has since decided against Edith Berkman. The I. L. D. will fight the case to the Supreme Court.)

I was arrested in Lawrence, Mass., on February, 1931, because of my leadership of the textile strike against inhuman speed-up.

I was released on \$5000 bail. In October, 1931, at the outbreak of the second Lawrence textile strike of which I was again an active participant, this bail was revoked on the ground that "bail is a privilege" and my continued activity in the labor movement was an "abuse of this privilege." For no other reason than that, I was confined at the Immigration Station in Boston and held for deportation to Fascist Poland. It was there I contracted tuberculosis and was transferred to the Massachusetts Memorial Hospital where I am at this time.

Since October 9, I have been kept in the immigration station without bail. We appealed against this decision to a higher court but bail was denied. Bail was denied me

because I was an organizer of the National Textile Workers Union, because our union has proved that it sincerely leads the workers in the struggle for better conditions.

As Mr. Chase, the inspector sent by Doak himself to Lawrence, said when he took me to Boston, "Edith, if you were organizer of the United Textile Workers Union, you would be the best known girl in the country now. You would be much better liked than Anna Weinstock. She was a union organizer, too, but because she knew how to act, now she is a conciliator for the government itself." I was arrested because the American Federation of Labor leaders sell strikes, and I was an organizer of the National Textile Workers Union, refused to be bought off.

For that crime I am to be deported. But there are technical grounds upon which the government cannot deport me, even though they wish to deport foreign-born workers

for taking part in the struggle for better conditions.

I left Poland in 1920, at the age of 18. I arrived in this country in January, 1921. After I left Poland, a treaty was signed between Poland and Russia, according to which any person who left Poland and did not apply for citizenship either to Russia or Poland was not given a passport to return. The Department of Labor, with Mr. Doak as secretary, had to release from the East Boston Immigration Station, Sivasky in 1930, and Shik in March, 1931, both Polish workers, because of this treaty. What holds good for these two should hold good for me, but the labor department is continuing to keep me in prison without bail.

I am being held illegally. The Polish law of 1921 demands that Polish emigrants who did not re-state their adherence to the Polish Government up to 1921 are excluded from all citizenship rights and are, therefore, non-deportable. I am in this non-deportable class.

Both Mrs. Tillinghast, Commissioner of Immigration in Massachusetts and Secretary of Labor Doak know this. Knowing this, they still refuse to release me. This illegal detention must be ended. Today a representative delegation is appearing before Secretary of Labor Doak in Washington, D. C. demanding that I be immediately released.

This morning a delegation went to see Mrs. Tillinghast and were refused admittance.

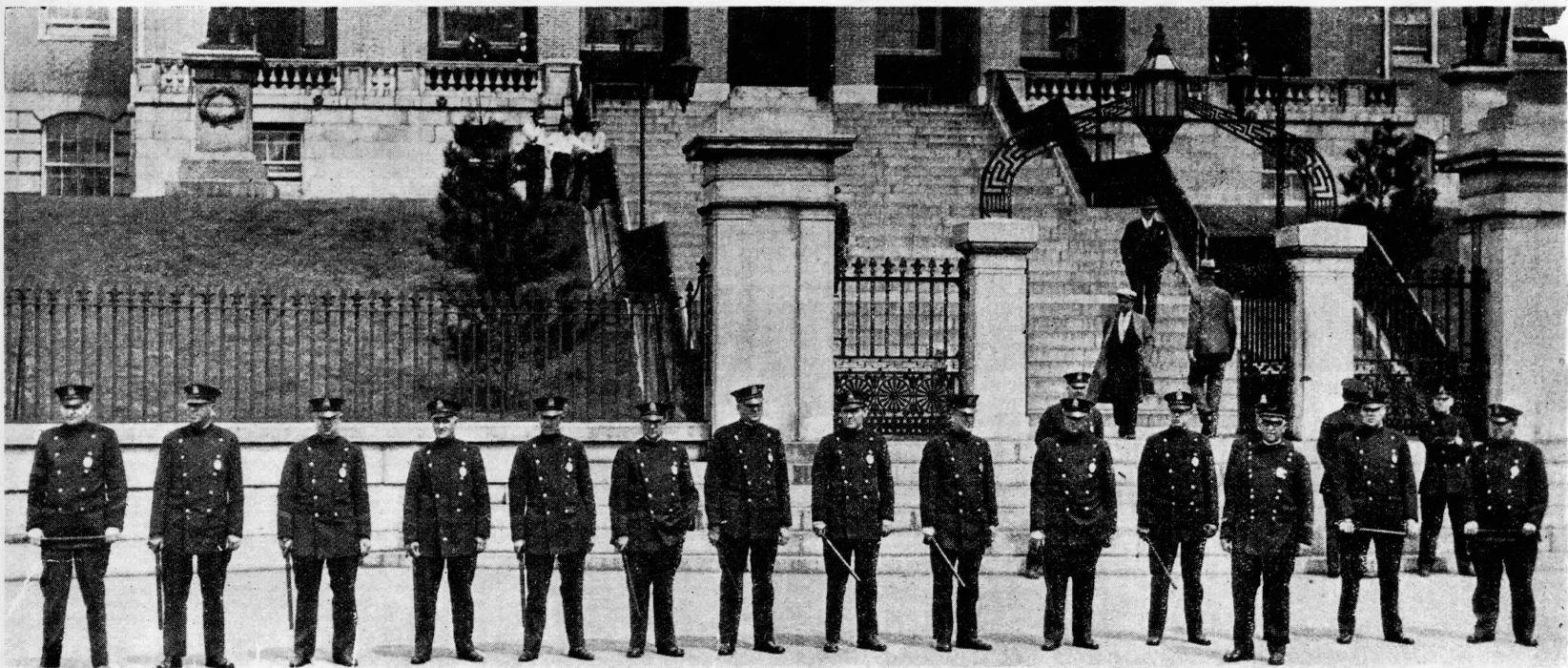
I have gone on my hunger strike knowing that it may still further undermine my health. I have taken this extreme measure to bring the urgency of my case before the people of the United States.

The principle involved in this case is the right of workers, native and foreign born to participate in organizing militant unions to fight for the betterment of their living conditions. Demand that this right be affirmed by the U. S. Circuit Court and my release be effected.

(signed) EDITH BERKMAN.



**Edith Berkman, brave fighter for the working-class. She appeared thus before going on hunger strike. Below: Massachusetts cops lined up before capitol, when Hunger Marchers arrived demanding Berkman's freedom.**





# That Working-Man's Leader— Mooney: Why He is in Prison

(A Short History of the Mooney Case)

By MAX BEDACHT

Governor Rolph of California followed his predecessors and refused to pardon Thomas Mooney. Rolph based this refusal on a reassertion of Mooney's guilt. The facts of the Mooney case, however, challenge Rolph's assertions. These facts are so irrefutable, that they brand Rolph as a member of the frame-up gang, which attempted to have Mooney executed. The whole Mooney case is characterized by perjured witnesses, and concealed, and falsified evidence that any reassertion of Mooney's guilt cannot establish Mooney's guilt; it can only fortify what has been proved abundantly, that the prosecution of Mooney was a frame-up and that Mooney is kept in prison today by the framers.

Let us review the case sketchily:

The Southern Pacific Railroad, with Leland Stanford and Huntington leading, had made out of the State of California an empire for their private exploitation. Other capitalists or capitalist groups could horn in on the juicy California profit melon only through bribery. The monopoly on the government machinery by the Southern Pacific determined a high price of corruption. Only Tammany could compete with California in systematic corruption.

When part of the bourgeoisie and the petty bourgeoisie revolted against this Southern Pacific monopoly they initiated a reform movement. In this reform movement Hiram Johnson earned himself an inexpensive reputation as reformer.

This reform struggle, however, was only ostensibly directed against corruption. In reality it aimed at breaking the monopoly on the government by the Southern Pacific and the related public service corporations, such as the Pacific Light and Power Company. It aimed at establishing cheaper political favors. It aimed to place ordinary capitalist corruption in place of the extraordinary specific Southern Pacific corruption. It aimed at replacing the Southern Pacific group of capitalists by a larger section of the capitalist class as the ruler of California.

In San Francisco this struggle led to the downfall of the rule of Abe Ruef, political corruptionist par excellence, and his puppet "Labor" Mayor Schmitz.

With the defeat of Ruef and Schmitz the ardor of the reformers cooled down considerably. Ruef and Schmitz had only been tools. The higher-ups were the big boys of the public service corporations. At the head of them was Pat Calhoun of the San Francisco Street Railway corporation. These big boys were flesh of the flesh of the reformers. The reformers became afraid of their own reforms. It was one thing to defeat a competitor; but it was quite another thing to attack the very foundation of capitalism, the right to graft and corruption.

Thus it came about that the powers, friend and foe of reformers, united to stop the reform wave. This unity made



*Tom Mooney, as he looked when arrested, 16 years ago.*

Charles M. Fickert, district attorney of the city and county of San Francisco. Fickert had been and was a tool of the Pacific Light and Power Co. The Southern Pacific Railway company turned out to be as powerful within the ruling class of California as it had been before the reform as the ruling group over the capitalist class.

The first action of Fickert as District Attorney was to move and obtain the dismissal of all indictments against the higher-ups who had been proven corrupters or corruptionists.

Fickert's next act was to kill once and for all if he could, all efforts to organize the workers of the civil service corporations. The corrupt A. F. or L. machine, as represented by the arch corruptionist P. H. McCarthy, president of the San Francisco Building Trades Council and one time "Labor" Mayor of San Francisco, was perfectly kosher for the corporations. These labor leaders conspired with the corporations to paralyze and destroy the labor unions. But there was a left wing in the labor movement. This left wing knew something about the rules of the class struggle. It knew that fighting the bosses was the only means of obtaining and maintaining decent wages and living conditions. It also knew that a maximum fighting strength could be developed by the workers only through organization.

For years the workers in California and especially in San Francisco found themselves in exceptionally favorable circumstances. Because of its geographical remoteness from the population centers of the country the influx of labor hardly kept pace with the growth of industry. This condi-



*Virginia State Police attack workers delegation at Governor's conference in Norfolk when demand was raised for Mooney's release.*



tion was intensified by the destruction of a large part of San Francisco by the earthquake and fire in April, 1906. As a result the industrial reserve army in California, the surplus of necessary labor, was too small to be a very effective factor in determining low wages. Comparatively high wages, therefore, prevailed. The labor unions apparently had great influence.

The Panama Pacific Exposition in San Francisco, in 1915, was used systematically by the bosses to break this influence. P. H. McCarthy and other "leaders" of the A. F. of L. in California helped them. As president of the Building Trades Council. P. H. McCarthy signed a contract with himself in his capacity as a director of the Exposition, which contract sanctioned the use of non-union labor in the building of the Exposition. The bosses then began a systematic luring of workers from all over the country to the labor paradise California. The industrial reserve army was swelled. The wages went down; the unions were smashed.

But this development did not take place without resistance on the part of the left wing in the labor movement. Tom Mooney was a most active element in this left wing. He was especially active in efforts to organize the totally unorganized workers of the public service corporations. Out of these efforts on Mooney's part to organize the workers of the Pacific Light and Power and the Spring Valley Water Companies grew the first frame-up against Mooney for dynamiting. This first frame-up is now cited by Rolph to prove Mooney guilty of the crime charged in the second frame-up.

The dynamite frame-up did not eliminate Mooney as an active force in the left wing of the San Francisco workers. Mooney attracted the special hatred of the San Francisco Street Railway Company through his tireless efforts to organize the street car men in San Francisco for a struggle against the miserable wages paid them.

The capitalist corrupters and corruptionists called upon their Fickert with instructions to "get" Mooney.

## II

Into this situation the bomb exploded, on Stuart and Market Streets, San Francisco, on June 22, 1916, when the lines formed for a "preparedness parade." The very

preparations for this "preparedness parade" showed that the parade was directed against the workers. The anti-war sentiment of the masses had to be crushed. A lynch atmosphere had to be created so that the American Capitalists could go through with their imperialist program of coining dollars out of the blood and limbs of the workers. All of these circumstances make it extremely likely that the bomb was part of the preparations of the instigators of the "preparedness parade."

But be that as it may—the fact is, that the Pacific Light and Power Company sent its private detective Swanson to Fickert with the order to arrest Mooney as the bomber. The bombing during the parade supplied the occasion, Swanson supplied the plot and Fickert supplied the legal trimmings of the plan of the Pacific Light and Power Company to "get" Mooney.

Mooney was arrested and convicted. With Mooney were arrested Billings who was charged with actual participation in the placing of the bomb. Even during their trials the frame-up was evident. Only police characters testified against Mooney. The prostitute Ethel Smith, the dope fiend and human derelict John MacDonald were the chief prosecutors witnesses. The weakness of these witnesses was so glaring that Fickert had to work overtime to save his face. He tried to do that with an "honest" cattleman from Oregon, a certain Oxman. The "honesty" of Oxman had to silence the question of how it could ever happen that the jitney of Weinberg with Weinberg, Tom Mooney, Billings and Rena Mooney in it, and with the suitcase containing the bomb on the running board, could ever break unnoticed and unstopped through the police cordon which had closed to traffic both approaches to the bombing place, lower Market and Mission, and

Stuart Streets. The honesty of Oxman had to silence the question how it could happen that the bombers were not noticed in a big crowd of people by anyone but a prostitute and a dope fiend.

In spite of the evident weakness of the case a verdict of guilty was obtained. How was that possible?

For years a system of professional jurors had been practiced on the courts of San Francisco. Regular courtroom habitués, retired grocers, saloonkeepers, etc. who had formed the habit of regular courtroom attendance to tickle their petty bourgeois nerves on the trials of poor devils, had made their habit profitable by serving on the juries. They were continuous jury candidates on the sheriffs list of veniremen. This could only develop with the knowledge and approval of the District Attorney's office. The District Attorney in fact maintained this system. The earnings of these perpetual veniremen depended upon the good will of the District Attorney. "Good jurymen" got more jobs; jurymen with a mind of their own were dropped from the list.

(To be continued next issue)



At right: Famous picture showing Mooney on roof miles from the scene when the explosion occurred

Lower: May Day demonstration in N. Y. demanding Mooney's freedom.







*Kentucky coal strikers meeting in the woods. They set guards against the gun-thugs of the bosses.*

# A NIGHT IN A KENTUCKY PRISON

By JULIA PARKER

*(Recently released after three months imprisonment)*

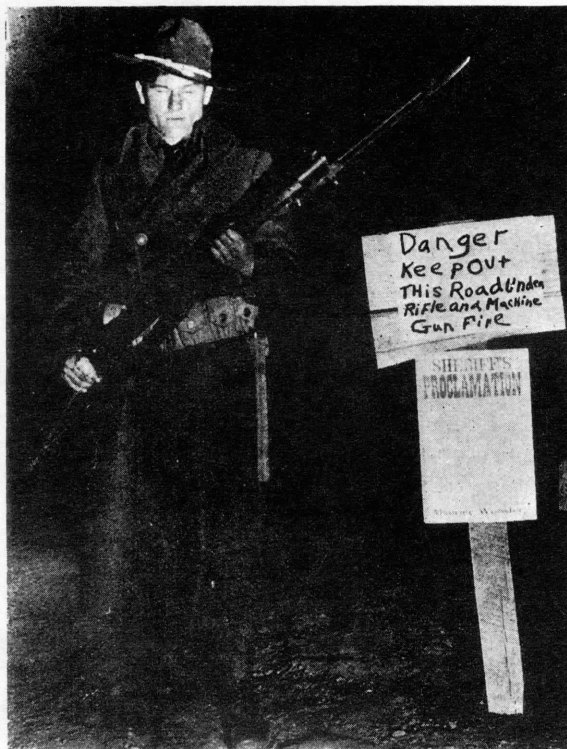
There were many nights during our three months in the Pineville jail when we felt the terror that stalked around the walls outside, reach its claws into our narrow, crowded cells. The terror in a Kentucky jail is not a terror of solitude. We knew all the time what plans were being made for the prisoners. The jailers themselves would tell us what was being prepared. And our own people would send word that they would throw a guard of miners around to protect us.

Monday night, the week the writers were coming in, we heard rumors of what was going to happen. Word trickled down through devious channels, from the "law." If we would not consent to leave, we would be taken for a ride. So far as we could see, the first proposition might merely be a trick to get us out, so the second could be carried out more easily.

The deputies—Harlan county gunmen, killers taken out of penitentiaries to swell the ranks of the operators' army, to shoot it out if the union got too strong—were being primed with liquor.

The law was holding conferences. There were suggestions and counter-suggestions. Some of the operators thought we should not be taken for a ride. The publicity would be bad. The others held out for the original plan. Meanwhile we waited, and in the jail-yard drunken Harlan gangsters, deputies, milled about, impatient for the final order.

We couldn't see why we should get undressed. We figured they'd be coming for us any minute. Somebody knocked on the door. It was barricaded with a bedspring. We had been sleeping on the floor. The bedspring had a better use than that for which it was intended. It was our own



*Scene at the Eastern Ohio coal strike where two were killed.*

people this time, members of the central strike committee. Two-thirty a. m. They had come to the jail to make sure the prisoners were safe.

"Miners are around the jail protecting you," they said. "You can go to sleep."

The night June Croll and Harold Hickerson were arrested. Clarina Michaelson had a fever of 104. We kept the door barricaded. The terror was raging in the town, in the whole county. We could hear the deputies milling and cursing in the jail-yard every once in a while. They were raiding,

shooting, wrecking. The turnkey suggested we put a blanket over the window.

"Don't open the door unless you see me," he said.

And what would that mean, even if we did see him?

Cars roared past the jail. Many slowed down and stopped. We heard drunken cursing and babbling. We lay on the earthen floor, the rats running all around us, scuffling about, picking up our shoes, dropping them again, squealing. Six weeks had gone by since we came in here. We didn't mind the rats any more. They didn't even divert us. They were familiar things, like the walls around us, the vermin on which they fed, and which fed on us in turn.

We had all the lights on. Then we hurriedly put them out. People were tramping heavily outside the window. We couldn't put up that blanket. Clarina was deathly sick.

Two a. m. A knock. It was the doctor, sent from Knoxville. He examined Clarina, and left for Knoxville to get a prescription filled. You couldn't trust a Pineville druggist.

Four a. m. Things quieted down outside. We turned on the light and slept.

In the morning, we heard Harry Simms was shot. We all loved him. The miners growled when they came to see that we were safe. They loved him too.

We just wondered what would happen next. So far as we were concerned, we didn't have any feelings on the matter.

The central strike committee came to see us. Harry Simms was dead.

"Don't worry too much Comrades," they growled. They were real mad. "There'll be an armed guard of miners around you nights. You can sleep."



# WORDS OF BLOOD UPON THE WALL

By L. VIVALDI

The night before he was led to the firing squad, Juan P. Wainwright, leader of the workers in Guatemala, opened a vein in his wrist, and wrote upon his cell wall. When morning came the guards found the worker defiant before the blood-red letters, "Long Live The Communist International!"

The morning of February 25th. Juan Wainwright stood before the muzzles of the firing-squad, calm, awaiting the volley. As the captain's sword cleaved the air, giving the signal to fire, he shouted, "Long Live the Workers' and Peasants' Revolution." The burst of bullets followed.

Eight others were condemned to die that day; but the rulers of Guatemala were fearful to go too far. Protest mounted; the Caribbeans thundered with the cries of the masses. Demonstrations had taken place in Mexico City, the Honduras, and other of the lands lining the peaceful blue waters of the Caribbeans, demanding a halt to wholesale murder. President Ubico was forced to stay the sentences of these militant workers.

The wave of terror mounts high in the Caribbeans. Reinforced by Yankee imperialism, the native governments have become more savage in their disregard of the rights of the workers and peasants. Murder, torture and prison is the byword of the Wall Street-Latin American administrations.

The daily worsening crisis has plunged the workers and peons into untold starvation. While their masters are frantically preparing their robber wars in China and against the worker's fatherland, the Soviet Union, the little servants are doing their utmost to obey Yankee imperialism's orders—hence the violently repressive measures now used.

In that neighboring "republic" El Salvador, murder and torture flower under the tropical sun to an unequalled extent. Conditions had reached a stage where the toil-

ing masses could endure no more. They arose with a tremendous cry of revolt. The government assisted by the experienced forces of Wall Street—and Canadian gunboats came on the scene this time—and let loose a hail of death; mass murder, execution, hangings in such numbers that the trees flourished with human bodies—mutilation of women and children was the order



*In Salvador: A mass grave for some of the 8,000 murdered workers.*

*Below: Scene in Peru, after sailors revolted against misery, 8 leaders were afterward shot.*

of the day. The merest suspicion that a worker owns or receives revolutionary literature is enough to execute him.

More than 8,000 workers and peasants have been assassinated in El Salvador to date. More than 3,000 lie rotting in the dungeons. The murderous government of Martinez does not let up. Augustin F. Marti, the Caribbean Secretariat representative of the International Red Aid in El Salvador, together with the student editors of "opinion Estudianti" Zapata and Luna were executed February 1, in the Genfal Cemetery. The disappearance of 80 other revolutionary leaders can be traced to the arch-butcher of El Salvador.

The reverberations were felt in Guatemala where the Communist Party issued a leaflet condemning the ruthless crushing of the El Salvadorean peasants' and workers' revolution. The bosses immediately raised the hue and cry of a plot to overthrow their own (the Guatemalan) government. The press—the clergy spread the lie and urged the government to take instant steps to "rescue the land from the Red Menace." The police needed but the loosening of the leash. The jails were filled with workers, "charged with treason and attempting to injure the President of the Republic." Alberto del Pianl, Rafael Will, Pablo Ligorria, Juan Pablo Wainwright, and several others received the death sentence. The story of Wainwright has been told—how he earned the undying love of the masses thru his true revolutionary heroism.

In the Honduras a strike was raging. The inhuman policy of the United Fruit Company, a Wall Street concern, had passed the breaking point. Workers, stimulated by the struggles of their comrades in El Salvador and Guatemala, reinforced their ranks and declared their solidarity with the workers and peasants of those two countries, foreign  
(Continued on page 114)





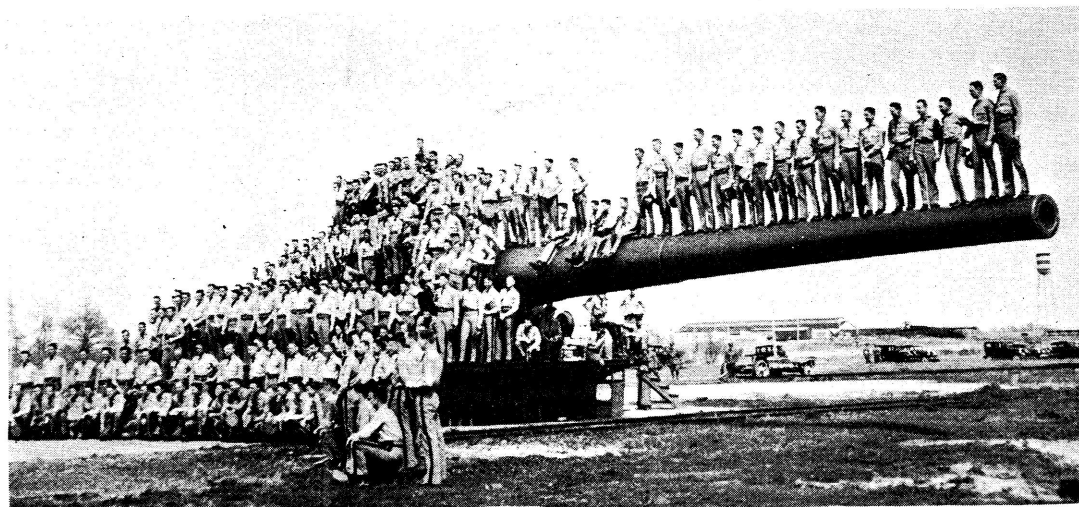
# THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE FIGHTS POLICE TERROR ON ALL FRONTS

Demand the Immediate Freedom of Tom Mooney, the Nine Negro Scottsboro Boys, the Tampa and All Other Class-War Prisoners

## HALT BOSS TERROR!



Workers Rest Home—in the Soviet Union. The Japanese bosses, encouraged by the other capitalist powers, are speeding war plans to try to destroy workers and farmers government. Defend the Soviet Union!



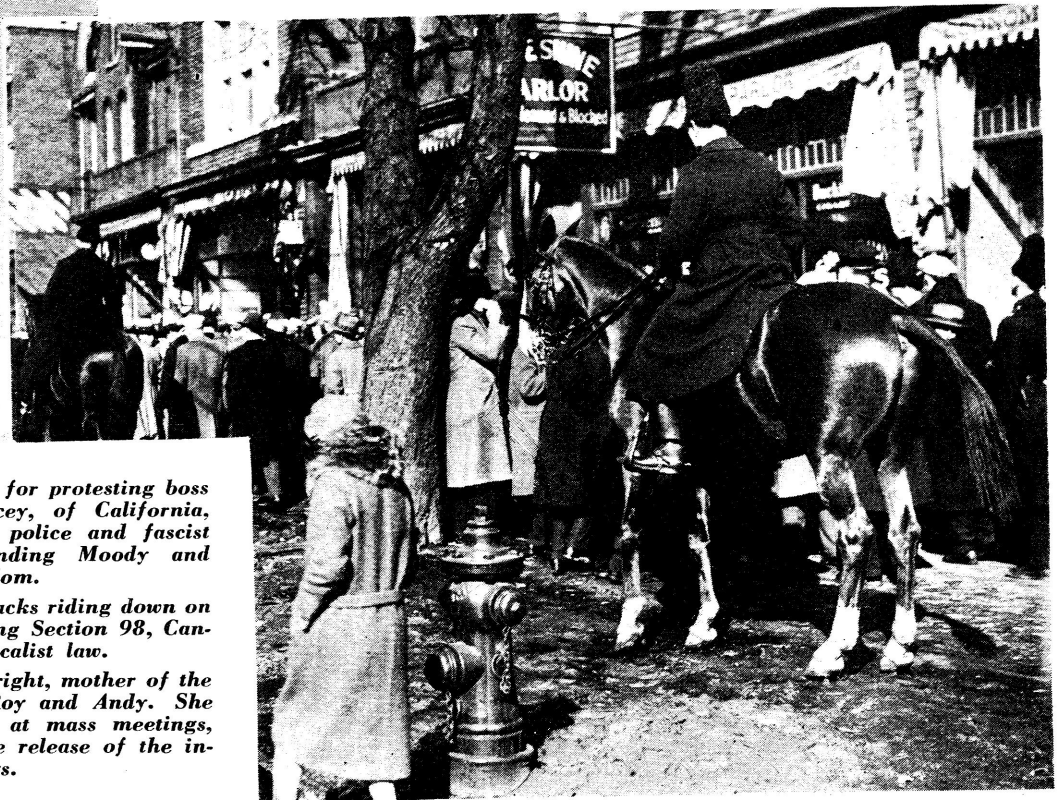
Left: One of the biggest cannons in the world. West Point cadets are ready to use it on the workers. All boss plans are for war. Only the working-class mass pressure can hold the boss governments from plunging the world into another bloody holocaust. Demand all war funds for the unemployed!



Tarred and Feathered for protesting boss terror—Comrade Stacey, of California, taken for a ride by police and fascist gangsters for demanding Moody and Scottsboro boys freedom.

Right: Canadian Cossacks riding down on demonstrators opposing Section 98, Canadian Criminal Syndicalist law.

In Oval: Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of the 2 Scottsboro boys, Roy and Andy. She is now in Germany, at mass meetings, demanding immediate release of the innocent Scottsboro boys.



Beer Parade in New York: While 1,000,000 workers in the world's richest city are starving to death, Jimmy Walker stages "beer parade" to try to draw attention from demands for unemployment insurance! We want bread! workers demand.

Below: New York cossacks arresting young worker after slugging him for demanding jobless relief and insurance before the City Hall. Police brutality is the bosses' reply to mass hunger and the fight for relief. Join the I.L.D. and enter the counter offensive against the boss class attack on the workers! Fight for the rights to demonstrate; to meet; to have free speech; free press; right to organize!



Breadlines and breadlines, from East to West. And cops on hand to try to terrorize. Workers demand bread, unemployment insurance, but bosses give them "beer parades" to try to confuse them.

Left: K.K.K. burning cross in Birmingham, Ala., to try to halt growing unity of white and Negro workers. More than 100 Negro workers were shot down in Birmingham this winter in bosses' hopes to scare them from organizing.

Right: The dragon of capitalism! In May Day demonstration. Greatest demonstration on May Day since 1886 when May Day began.





# CAPONE-LAND ANSWERS HUNGER'S CRY

By WILLIAM BOWERS

*Despite official terrorism, May Day, 1932, found more than a million workers marching through the cities of the U. S. A. The police attacks failed to stem the counter-offensive of the working class. What happened in Chicago is herein described.*

Chicago — Two hundred unemployed were lined against a factory wall in Melrose Park, a suburb of this city, on May 6. The machine-guns of the American Can Com-

pany barked. When the smoke cleared, nine workers lay wounded on the ground, three perhaps fatally; the others probably crippled for life. Of the survivors, fifty-two were arrested, thrown into jail on charges of rioting, and mercilessly tortured and beaten.

Henry Ford gave the signal at River Rouge, and the machine-guns of his brother capitalists are answering that they have understood.

The massacre at Melrose Park was carefully planned, and came as the culmination of an intensified campaign of terror.

On May Day, the workers of the suburb, which is owned by American Can, held a demonstration. The village authorities collected together the Legionnaires, gangsters, and other hoodlums of the town and smashed it. A dozen workers were arrested, taken for a ride, and beaten.

Three days later the village president, Dr. Edward G. Brust, called his gangsters together for a meeting, handed them guns and machine-guns, and gave them instructions on how to greet the protest meeting which was called for the next Friday. The secret instructions to the Illinois National Guard, for dealing with workers, are to shoot low and use ball cartridge. Dr. Brust had evidently learned from them.

The meeting was called to be held in a local hall, but at the last minute this was closed by the police. The workers gathered in a vacant lot close by. Then the police

set up their machine-guns. They aimed them at a factory wall, and tried to pick out the leaders of the workers. But the workers crowded around and protected each other. So with their rifles, shotguns and pistols, the police hoodlums forced them all to line against the wall. The man behind the machine-gun took careful aim. The police fell back and stood in a ring behind him. The machine-gun barked.

The workers broke and fled, trying to drag their wounded comrades with them, but the police opened a pot-shot fire and felled even more. They charged on them, beat them and clubbed them, "mopping up" after the machine-gun fire. Sixty-one were dragged away, the more seriously wounded to be put in a hospital, where some may die. The rest were taken to jail where the police gangsters could have them at their mercy to practice their fiendish third degree.

The public officials of Melrose Park take their orders from the American Can Co., a huge concern that makes about half the tin cans used in the country. It has plants in 19 states. And in 1930 reported \$23,000,000 profits.

A typical plant which operated a couple of years ago with 2,800 workers now gets out more cans than ever with only 800. In the Melrose Park plants where a couple of years ago 35,000 units were produced daily, changes in machinery and speed-up now produce 1,200,000 units with no increase in the working force when the factories are working full time.

Already many workers' organizations have sent protest wires to Melrose Village President E. Brust, President Whealan of the Cook County Board, and Governor Emerson of Illinois. Continue the protest! Put an end to the Al Capone style of handling demands for unemployment relief.



**Left: One of the 9 workers shot in Melrose Park, Chicago, being carried from the scene.**

**Lower: A woman worker coming to the aid of 3 of those shot, after a machine-gun fusillade.**





# UNDER ARREST! WE DEFEND OURSELVES!

By MARTIN BANK

A DARK robe and a stern, trying-to-be-dignified face poking from the top of it—that is the judge. A quiet hush-hush, large room with a feeling as though you were in a straight-jacket—that is a capitalist court. A procedure that is pompous, strange, confusing, takes place—everything seeming to move on rubber heels. This is what confronts militant workers when arrested.

The judge might be a grafter, a racketeer, but there he sits delivering sermons and decisions against the interests of the workers. And often workers who display Spartan courage in the streets, demonstrating against war and hunger, fighting on the picket line, when arrested—become paralyzed before the theatrical furnishings of the court, and the “mysterious” behavior of this same corrupt judge.

But workers are beginning to understand all the clap-trappery of the capitalist court. They are learning that the class-struggle goes on in the court-room as well as in the shops and picket lines. The worker is now carrying into the court-room the same militancy which brought him there. The courts, say the workers, serve not them, but the bosses.

Because the workers used to be frightened by the court ceremonials, they depended a great deal upon lawyers to try their cases. But today, when mass arrests occur week after week, it becomes impossible to furnish enough lawyers. Indeed, it has been proven that workers can adequately defend themselves when properly instructed.

When Nessin, Stone and Robert Lealess, members of the New York Unemployed

delegation of October 16, 1930, truthfully told Mayor Walker that he and his outfit were grafters, they were brutally beaten and arrested. At the trial, the workers decided to defend themselves without a lawyer. When the court spoke in technical phrases the workers said: “We are workers. We do not know the technicalities of the court. We want to get at the truth.” They forced the court to be clear. Then the workers exposed Mayor Walker, the court, the judge and the reason why the unemployed were not getting relief. Because of their brave self-defense and because of mass pressure both in and outside the courtroom, the workers were dismissed.

A case proving the effectiveness of workers’ self-defense in the courts, was held recently in Long Beach, California. Sam Darcy, editor of the *Western Worker*, for attempting to lecture on the economic crisis, was arrested along with 45 other workers. Darcy tried his own case. Despite the terror, workers packed the courtroom, demonstrating their anger against the arrests.

Darcy cleverly exposed the net-work of lies around the case. He read in full the constitutions of the International Labor Defense, the Trade Union Unity League, and Friends of the Soviet Union. He

quoted Lenin and read the program of the Communist International. Darcy made a forum of the court. Many workers who came only to witness a trial got a good education. Darcy and the 45 workers—because of the fighting spirit by both the masses and the defendants, were set free.

(Continued on page 117)



**Right: Rockefeller, richest man in the world, whose word is the law. (Enjoying a game of golf at the age of 91.)**

**Below: They suffered boss-class justice. The Imperial Valley prisoners, Eduardo Herrerra, Orosco, Roxas, Emery, Spector, Erickson, Gonzales, sentenced to long terms—but mass pressure gained freedom for Spector. Read “Free the Imperial Valley Prisoners”**





# POLAND—Land of Torture

(Translated from the German)

It was on the afternoon of September 14, 1930. The West Ukrainian village Hrusiatycze lay quiet and peaceful under the autumn sun. It was a Sunday and men and women were resting from the hard work of the week. From the fields a soft wind was blowing, and from the other side the faintly audible whispering of the forest, while in front of the village school peasant Kuriwec and schoolmaster Basarab were arguing with each other.

"Kuriwec, you are an ass," said the old man, "you are always afraid to think your thoughts to a conclusion. If the Poles oppress us and the landlords of our own nationality make their peace with the oppressors, then, my friend, then nothing is left for us except to look where the peasants and races are free—that is over there . . . . . ." He swung his arms to the east, to the land of the Soviets.

"Well . . . . . yes," moaned the peasant, "it is hard for us . . . . . and God too does not help . . . . ."

They stood silent and looked at the children who were playing and dancing alongside the road. The joyful melody of an old Ukrainian folk-song came to the two men's ears. Suddenly Basarab made a step forward and with a hand shielding his eyes looked down the highway. Kuriwec did the same and exclaimed.

"Riders! . . . . . do you hear the hoofs?"

"A large group . . . . . they are soldiers," answered the schoolmaster.

Just then a cry, a cry that pierced through

the huts of the peasants and called men, women and children to the outside, a cry of extreme fear.

"The Ulans . . . . . The Ulans!"

And then the terrible happened; it was a section of the 14th Polish Ulan Regiment that entered the village like a horde of huns and fell upon the peasants. They stopped in front of the schoolhouse.

"Hey you dogs," cried the commanding officer to the schoolmaster and peasant Kuriwec, "down on your knees before the Polish Ulans!"

Basarab turned white. The peasant said:

"But sir, we didn't do anything wrong, we . . . . ."

Before he could finish, the Polish fascist had already hit him across the face with a whip; "There you swine of a bolshevik, there, you didn't do anything, eh?" And repeatedly he whipped Kuriwec in the face which was soon a stream of blood. The victim saw no more, he tried to escape, he fell and before he could get up again half a dozen Ulans were clubbing him with the butt-end of their guns. Once more he cried out—once more he gave voice to the terrible pain, then his mind left him. When they let go of him, his body was a mass of blood.

Basarab had stood as if of stone, when the band fell on him. The officer gave the word: "What, not yet on your knees? Give it to him!" The ghastly cries of the tortured man echoed through the village which was terrified.

Following the bloody ordeal the Ulans called together the inhabitants of the village. "You have dared to rise against the landlord, and you shall pay the price!" The burgess and a number of peasants were selected from the group and each given 50 lashes on his naked seat. The girls and women cried out loud, they got on their knees and begged the soldiers to let go the mistreated men, but the more the men moaned and cried, the greater seemed the joy of the soldiers.

"This will teach you miserable Ukrainians to forget to cast eyes to the Bolsheviki."

A few boys had tried to escape, but they were easily captured and driven back with the guns of the captors, everyone of the young group was left bloody.

"You do not love Poland, so you will learn to fear it."

Then the village was ransacked, within two hours the villagers had to bring to their tormentors 2500 pounds of oats, 3000 pounds of potatoes, 100 loaves of bread,



**Revolvers in hand, with armored vests, these are political police in Poland, used against strikers and demonstrators.**

100 quarts of milk, 1200 eggs, 30 lbs. of vegetables, 2 pigs each weighing more than 200 lbs, and other things more. When the soldiers had filled their stomachs they loaded the remainder of the forced contributions on their wagons and the peasants were told by the commanding officer:

"Payment for the contributions you can try and get from the Bolsheviki."

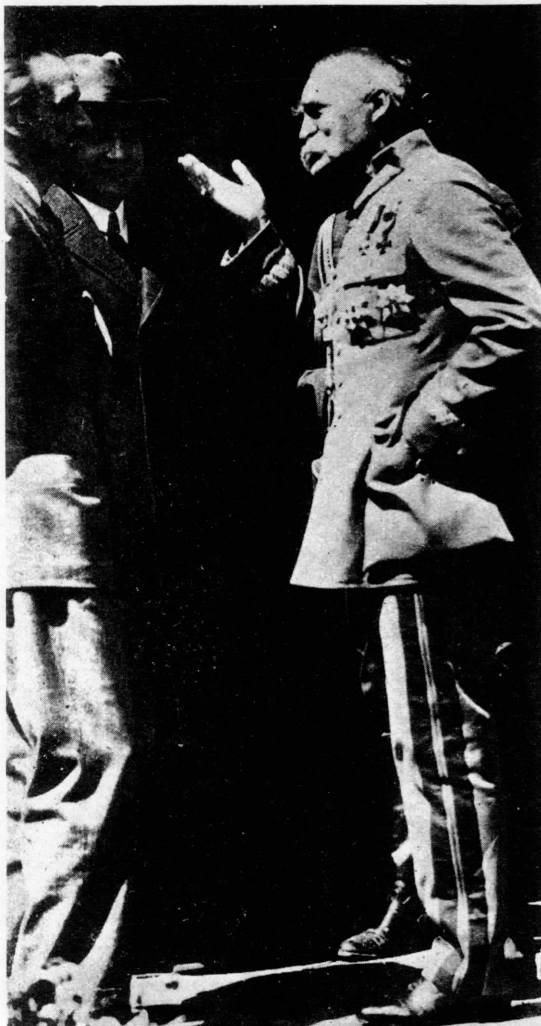
Under the cries and moans of the maltreated men, and accompanied by the laments and wails of the women and children the band left the village. But before that, they had to put on their Sunday dress and form rows on both sides of the street and cheer: "Long live Poland!"

It sounded like suppressed curses, a curse of suffering and of hate.

(To be continued in the July issue)

(Continued from page 109)

and native. Martial law was declared throughout the banana plantation area. Wholesale arrests followed; the best known of the strike leaders were viciously treated. Five were deported to El Salvador, by way of company airplane. Calix Herrera, one of the most militant fighters, after passing thru all sorts of mutilation and torture, was sent to the fever infested Island of Roatan in the Caribbean Sea. The flame of terror has reached Cuba, Columbia, Mexico. Frantically imperialism tries to preserve itself on the blood of the workers. Wall Street answers with murder the request for bread. But the fight is not halted by Wall Street's bloody reply. Juan Wainwright proved that: his message written in life's blood before his death.



**Fascist to Fascist; Men whose hands are bloody with murder of workers. Pilsudski, of Poland, to Grandi of Italy. Organize against terror! Join the I. L. D.**



# DUNGEONS FOR WORKERS IN SUNNY FLORIDA

By ALBERT DEUTSCH

From the prison hell-holes of Florida in which 14 worker-victims of the vicious Tampa frame-up are entombed, come pictures of horrible suffering. The class war prisoners have just been visited by several delegations of workers, one of which included Bernard Ades, the International Labor Defense attorney who is preparing an appeal in the case. What the visiting delegation found is thus described by Ades in a report to the International Labor Defense:

"We tried to take a picture of the Raiford group (in Raiford prison, Florida) but were stopped by Warden Chapman because the picture might be used to 'inflammate the whole Country.' The prisoners wear striped suits. Last week two of them had to wear chains on their feet even while they slept, because they had not turned out all the work expected of them. One prisoner was forced to work in the field while sick until he collapsed. McDonald, who is serving a ten-year sentence, was worked so hard that they were finally forced to put him in the group of semi-invalids. Semi-invalids also work and McDonald is now in a steam shovel squad. Before he went to prison he was a huge healthy person but he isn't now. Angel Cabrera is one of the two working in the disease-breeding swamps of the Everglades with a road gang. He has eczema on his hand so that they are always bleeding, but he has to work anyway. The prisoners in the Hillsboro County Jail are in very unhealthy condition so that they are always getting fevers and usually two or more are sick. Two road gang prisoners are Angel Cabrera and Ismael Cruz. They are at Indian Town, Florida, in charge of Capt. Peter Thomas Ello."

The frequent outbreaks of prisoners in the jails throughout the United States is an impressive index to abominable prison conditions in this country. Florida in particular has long been notorious as having the worst prison system in all the states. Prisoners in Florida live under the most unsanitary conditions imaginable. They are driven to work till the breaking-point and beyond, beneath a white-hot sun, literally under the lash of brutal task masters. They are fed nothing but beans or gritz and coffee and very little at that, and are herded together in crowded pens with little or no ventilation. They are brutalized and terrorized by guards who are especially selected for their cold-bloodedness and cruelty. There are scores of authenticated cases of prisoners who have been beaten to death because of their inability to do the amount of work required of them. Such are the conditions under which the Tampa prisoners slave.

But despite the indescribable tortures to which they are being subjected, the 14 are unshaken in their solidarity with and con-

fidence in the workers' struggle for the liberation of all class war prisoners in America. To their fellow-workers they send the following expression of solidarity:

*"From the Florida State Penitentiary we send to you fraternal greetings. Greetings and congratulations for the working class solidarity, shown in defense of we seventh of November prisoners and in the fight against deportation of foreign born workers in Tampa in spite of the terroristic methods of oppression on the part of the bosses. Your continued solidarity and support is our hope for freedom. Down with terrorism in Tampa.*

*"Carry on the fight against deportation of foreign born workers—against unemployment and hunger—for the release of political prisoners and for the defense of the Soviet Union against imperialist aggression."*

Workers of America! What is our answer to the Tampa manifesto? We must fight for their unconditional release! Only mass pressure can free them! We must carry on the struggle against the terror which keeps them enchained! Organize and protest against their continued imprisonment! Get behind the International Labor Defense's fight for these 14 and all the class war prisoners.

\*Read and spread among the masses: "The Story of Seven Young Workers In Tampa, Fla." by David Lowy. Issued by the National Youth Committee of the I.L.D. Youth Pamphlet Series. 3 cents each: 2c in quantities.

## WORKERS

*Funds are urgently needed by the I. L. D. to fight for the class-war prisoners—Mooney, Scottsboro, Tampa, Kentucky and hundreds more. Raise funds! Rush them to I. L. D., 80 E. 11th St., Room 430, N. Y. C.*

*Upper: Chinese worker murdered by the garrote, which chokes them to death. Almost as bad in Florida jails.*

*Second: Two Bulgarian workers shot down by Fascists.*

*Third: Scene in our own Washington, D. C., when workers demonstrated against Japanese preparations for war on U.S.S.R.*

*Bottom: Arrested in Berlin, Germany, at Scottsboro demonstration.*





# Voices from Prison

## FROM A SCOTTSBORO BOY'S MOTHER TO MOTHER MOONEY

Atlanta, Ga.

My Dear Friend:

Mrs. Mooney I am ritten you a few line to let you hear from me and my little girl Mary Alice. This leves us both well hope you are the same. I mento have rote you be fore now but just ben pretty-bizy. I am making some pillow so if I have to go back north I can take them with me and give them to the comrades to raffil off to help make money for the prisoners. They are mity pretty I think. I do hope I will get to come out there where you are. I sure do think of you often. Not meny days pass I dont think of you.

I sure did hate to read that your son was turn down in getting his pardon. I just get so mad I get sick to think how mean some people are. I am gonter ask the comrades to send me out there some time this summer. I sure wood like to be with you one more time in life and if you feel like it you and I can make a few more trips together. I believe I and you could do good work this summer. See I will leave my little girl here so you think that over. I dont see nothing else for you and I to do but continue the fight until your son Tom and the Scottsboro boys are free.

So I will come to a close, hopen to here from you-all soon, give my love your sun Tom all so Mrs. Anna hope to here from you soon, from a true friend.

A Scottsboro Mother

(Signed) Mrs. Viola Montgomery  
701½ McDounagh Blve.  
So. Atlanta, Ga.

### Reply from Mother Mooney

134 Clipper Street,  
San Francisco, Calif.,

Mrs. Viola Montgomery,  
701½ McDounagh Blvd.,  
So. Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mother Montgomery:

I was sure glad to hear from you and your little girl, Mary Alice.

Sure, I was just speaking of you the night before I received your letter and was going to write to get your address. I hope we can both do something for our boys and to work together again to help them.

Last Sunday was May Day and we had a fine parade here. Faith, and I led the parade, wearing the banner, "MY SON IS INNOCENT." They had trucks in the parade, showing an electric chair, the kind they want to use on the Scottsboro boys,

and a cell, showing the governor keeping my boy in jail. Thousands of workers were there cheering for Tom and the Scottsboro boys.

Keep cheerful, Mother Montgomery, and keep up the fight as I have for the last sixteen years. I am starting out pretty soon on a new trip with the International Labor



**Capitalist Civilization! Whipping a Prisoner in Delaware, U. S. A.**

Defense. We mothers can do a lot to help our sons. With millions of workers behind us, black and white and all other kinds, ready to fight for your boy and my boy and all other victims of the bosses, we will win this fight yet.

I remain your friend,  
MARY MOONEY.

**This letter, although winning the prize offered last month on the question "What I Should Do When Arrested," shows that the worker must read "Under Arrest: Workers' Self Defense in Courts," to effectively beat back the bosses' legal attacks.**

May 6, 1932.

Always when we workers go on picket lines or demonstrations the spectre rises before us of arrest and trial before a capitalist court. We know that when we are arrested we are helpless in the enemies camp. However, we should not fear as the class

struggle has reached such a point that the master class are the ones that fear us far more than we do them.

In court we should come out boldly with our purposes and beliefs. We should boldly say "Yes I did go on strike or demonstration, because I am a class conscious worker engaged in the class war. I shall continue to fight until the ruling is vanquished and the proletariat is free from the bondage of wage slavery. I am a prisoner here but I know that my comrades outside will fight for my release. I demand my immediate release."

After viewing the mass May Day parade in New York, one can see to what a large extent the masses of workers are awakened. One can see that the downfall of capitalism is not far off. The Tammany police were obscured and hidden by masses of marchers, men, women and children. When workers go out in such masses the opposition of the master class is helpless and therefore does not assume any aggressive measures.

So should workers act in all their struggles. Picketing, strikes and demonstrations should always be in masses. In court at the time of the trial, workers should pack the court and demand the release of the arrested.

The method of fight, workers should follow is mass action, mass organization, mass picketing and mass demonstration. The master class stands helpless before the massed organized attack of the proletariat.

J. GOLDBERG,  
LAWRENCE EMERY, BR. I. L. D.  
Brooklyn.

(Continued from page 102)

**His boast is a lie; his arrogance is a flimsy cloak to hide the yellow stripes along his spine.**

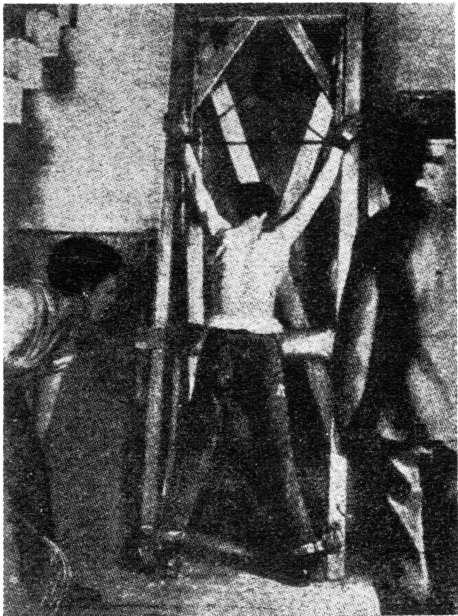
Fellow workers, let us justify his fear. It is in our power to save those boys. It is mass protest that the ruling class dreads and fears. It is the mass shouts of anger that make them cringe. It is mass contempt for their ruling-class arrogance that turns that arrogance into whimpers.

Let us demonstrate our determination to save our working-class comrades.

**They must be released.  
They must not die!**

**We only can release them. It is our job as workers. It is a task that must be done!**





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***Capitalist Civilization! Whipping a Prisoner  
in Delaware, U. S. A.***

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# WHAT WORKERS ARE READING

## Introducing Our New Literature Section

Can you imagine what an effect it would have if, for instance, 75,000 pamphlets on the Scottsboro case were sold in the Harlem Negro section in New York? What a tremendous leverage that would be for arousing opinion and attracting members into the I. L. D.?

Can you imagine what help it would be for the growth of the I. L. D., if the branches would canvass house-to-house with the Tom Mooney pamphlet in their vicinity—especially now when the name of Tom Mooney is on the lips of every worker, when every capitalist paper is carrying news about his case?

When the comrades in the branches of the I. L. D. will realize that the selling of literature, (the LABOR DEFENDER, pamphlets, etc.) is one of the most important organizational tasks that the I. L. D. has, then the sales of literature will go up very, very fast, and the membership will increase.

The purpose of this new page of the LABOR DEFENDER, which will become a regular feature from now on, is not only to describe pamphlets and books, but also to give methods of literature and specifically, LABOR DEFENDER distribution which will help in organizational work and agitational activity.

When we try to organize members into the I. L. D. we have speakers, we have meetings, we canvass, etc. But still we have not enough forces to reach the tremendous mass of workers beyond our immediate contact. Literature can do the job for us—and it must be a real mass distribution of literature. *Literature Editor.*

We urge all comrades to write in about any successes they have so that comrades elsewhere can benefit from these experiences by reading about them on this page. And if you make bad mistakes—let us know about that too, so that comrades elsewhere can be warned and avoid them.

## Planting the Seed

One worker, selling ten pamphlets on Scottsboro, has sown ten seeds into ten minds of ten workers as to capitalist "justice" and capitalist attempts to suppress the Negro. These pamphlets—or any other pamphlets on any other campaign for that matter—will give, in a clearcut and direct way the truth of the particular case. And when read by the worker by himself, when he can think over the statements made in the pamphlet, when he can begin to judge the truth of what is written in the pamphlet, when he can refer again and again to it in order to get arguments in his dis-

cussions with others—this certainly will do a whole lot to pave the way for further work on this worker, to mobilize him into our activities, and to win him into our ranks.

ROBERT FRANKLIN.

## Fighting Two Deadly Weapons of the Boss

THE YELLOW DOG CONTRACT, by Elliot E. Cohen, *International Pamphlets No. 21*—5c.

THE INJUNCTION MENACE, by Charlotte Todes, *International Pamphlets, No. 22*—5c.

Two of the deadliest weapons of the bosses to keep the workers from organizing into effective militant unions, are the yellow dog contract (where the worker is forced to pledge himself not to join a union), and the injunction. In the struggle against these two weapons, thousands of workers are thrown into jail. Members of the I. L. D. should be particularly interested in studying the details of the use by the employers of these methods in these two pamphlets.

Here you learn how the federal and local courts connive with the employers to prevent the organization of the workers; how these methods began to be used as soon as the workers started organizing on a mass scale; how the workers defied them; how teeth were put into them by the courts as a result.

The workers continue to defy them, as the Food Workers section in the New York May Day Parade vividly showed. Mass picketing breaks injunctions. Organization of revolutionary unions in spite of the yellow dog contract breaks it down. Hence a new anti-injunction bill has been passed to permit the use of the yellow dog and the injunction in a more indirect way. This new bill is picked to pieces in "The Injunction Menace," and the A. F. of L. leaders who hail this bill as a victory, are exposed as the traitors to labor. The pamphlets both show that only by mass action can these deadly weapons be defeated.

Therefore the need for a strong and mass labor defense to back up the struggle for organization. These pamphlets are valuable weapons which should be used by every member of the International Labor Defense in his agitational and organizational work.

## The Conditions Underlying the Scottsboro Case

THE AMERICAN NEGRO, by J. S. Allen, *International Pamphlets, No. 18*—10c.

We have had pamphlets which explain the issues and take up the struggle for Negro rights around one particular case, such as the Scottsboro Case ("They Shall Not Die"—2c), or the Yokinen white chau-

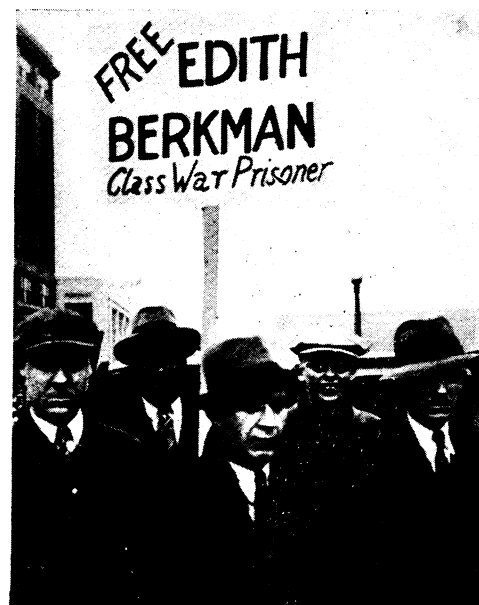
vinism trial ("Race Hatred on Trial"—10c). But "The American Negro" is the first pamphlet which presents a systematic picture of the economic and social conditions of the Negro masses in America, and gives the whole setting of the conditions of exploitation and oppression of the Negro Nation. Much space is given in this pamphlet to the conditions in the South, where 9,500,000 Negroes live. The system of share-cropping and the Camp Hill, Ala., struggle, the important part played by Negro workers in labor struggles, the system of jim-crowism and persecution, how the bosses use the idea of "white superiority" to divide the workers, and the main outlines of the struggle for liberation of the Negro nation are discussed and explained. The pamphlet should be widely distributed especially in connection with the Scottsboro Case.

## Under Arrest! We Defend Ourselves

(Continued from page 113)

These facts prove that with good instructions, workers do not need lawyers to defend them. But where to get these instructions? For just that reason the I. L. D. has published a pamphlet called "Under Arrest!"—Workers Self-Defense in the courts. It states clearly what must be done from the moment arrested until the hour of trial. Workers should read and study this pamphlet seriously.

Write for these pamphlets to International Labor Defense, 80 East 11th Street, Room 430, New York City.



Thousands More Like Them—Fight to Free Edith Berkman!



**FREE EDITH  
BERKMAN**  
*Class War Prisoner*



---

*Thousands More Like Them—Fight to Free  
Edith Berkman!*

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# LABOR DEFENDER



## SUB DRIVE



Speed! Faster tempo, fellow-workers, much faster tempo! The sub drive up to May 17th has netted us the following:

1,392½ yearly subs.

This amounts to exactly 27% of our quota. Only a little more than a quarter achieved.

Comrades, we cannot allow this to continue! We must double and triple our efforts. The LABOR DEFENDER can be built in this period to a real mass circulation. But it takes energy, comrades. It takes perseverance, planned work, and incessant activity.

We must broaden out: into the A. F. of L. unions: before factory gates: workers' fraternal organizations, during the summer at workers' picnics: open air meetings, etc., etc.

Remember, the winner goes to the Soviet Union for the great November 7th demonstrations in Moscow. Read the cablegram on this page sent by the present winner of the sub drive, Sam Gerber, of Los Angeles, now in the Soviet Union.

The subs sent in by the districts to May 17th are as follows:

Boston	60
New York	273½
Philadelphia	153
Buffalo	45
Pittsburgh	64½
Detroit	83
Cleveland	67½
Cleveland	67½
Chicago	190
Minneapolis	25
Kansas City	20
Seattle	32½
Los Angeles	88½
San Francisco	33½
Connecticut	19½
South	7
Denver	9
Organizations	73
Foreign	18½
Unorganized Territory	29½
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,392½</b>

SPEED UP, COMRADES! FASTER TEMPO! MUCH FASTER! MAKE YOUR AIM 50,000 CIRCULATION BY AUGUST 1: 75,000 BY OCTOBER!

5,000 NEW SUBS BY OCTOBER 1ST!

### Correction

Referring to the International Labor Defense Financial Statement published in our May issue (pages 95 and 96) the following corrections are necessary:

The third item under "Income" is "Donations Bail Fund—\$1,023.50."

The last part of the accountant's certificate should read: . . . "reflects the true financial condition of this organization as of December 31, 1931." C. DIRBA.

### A Letter from Germany

Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of 2 of the Scottsboro boys, and J. Louis Engdahl, general secretary of the I. L. D., are touring European industrial centers on behalf of the Scottsboro boys. Hundreds of thousands of workers are greeting them with thunderous applause.

By J. LOUIS ENGDahl

Dortmund, Germany (By Mail).—Ada Wright, mother of the two Scottsboro prisoners, Roy and Andy, raised her voice for the first time in Germany in the great Fre-

denbaumsaal here jammed to the doors with thousands of coal miners and metal workers from this great industrial district of the Ruhr.

It was such massed protest alone that forced permission to hold the meeting, and for Ada Wright to speak, from the Socialist police president of Dortmund, Zoergiebel, formerly Socialist police head of Berlin and leader of the blood bath carried through in the nation's capital against the workers on International May Day, 1929, when more than a score of workers were murdered by the Socialist-led police in the streets of Berlin. Zoergiebel was in the city but did not come to the meeting. He was well represented by his Schutz Polizei (Schupo).

Ada Wright was greeted with tremendous enthusiasm and when she finished with her pledge, "Whether my boys live or die, I will remain in the fight of my class as long as I live," a storm of applause swept the great auditorium.

An effort had been made by the Dortmund Nazis (Hitlerites) to organize a counter-demonstration against the Scottsboro demonstration, but so great was the outpouring of workers to hear the Negro Mother from the United States that the Hitler effort did not materialize. Obuch told of the class justice that favored the Nazis against the workers, relating the facts of the Nazi attack in Hagen against unarmed workers, murdering three and wounding twenty. In the resulting trials the Hitlerites were freed of any charge of murder, with only one month prison sentences inflicted for carrying arms, which is supposed to be forbidden. On the other hand pointed out that workers in Essen had been condemned to prison for eight and ten years for defending themselves against the Nazis, and in spite of the fact that one of them had been killed.

These facts were brought forward to show the workings of capitalist class justice in Germany as well as in the United States, as revealed in the Scottsboro persecution and the continued imprisonment of Tom Mooney.

Cablegram from Sam Gerber, who won Labor Defender subdrive. He is now in Moscow.

# RADIOGRAM

Via RCA
WORLD WIDE WIRELESS
Via RCA

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 IN SUBDRIVE NOT MISS OPPORTUNITY SEE SOVIET UNION STOP  
 MOPR GIVING EVERY POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY SEE EVERYTHING  
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# On May Day We Workers Pledged to Build the I. L. D.

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# WE GREET THE LABOR DEFENDER

May Day Greetings from the **Czecho-Slovak Branch No. 9, C. L. D. L.**, 347 E. 72nd St., New York City.

Greetings from the **Yorkville Workers Athletic Club**, 347 E. 72nd St., New York City.

May Day Greetings from the **West Allis Jugo Slav Branch of the I. L. D.** meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 8 P. M., at 6323 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis, Wisconsin.

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May Day Greetings from the **English Branch of the I. L. D.**, Toledo, Ohio

HEARTIEST GREETINGS TO ALL CLASS WAR prisoners on International May Day, 1932. Demand release of Tom Mooney, Scottsboro Boys, Edith Berkman, Irving Keith & Others! Build the I. L. D..

**John Reed Branch of Roxbury, Mass.**

Heartiest revolutionary May Day Greetings to the LABOR DEFENDER on our international workers holiday, from A. M. Kuntz, of Bronx, N. Y.

Greeting from the **Red Star Youth Branch of the I. L. D.**, meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday, Cleveland, Ohio.

May Day Greetings from the **Rasfske Branch of the I. L. D.**, of Sunnyside, L. I.

Greetings from Andrew Carlsen, Delicatessen and Fancy Groceries, Scandinavian Products, 4223 Eighth Avenue, Cor. 43rd Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

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Revolutionary May Day Greetings from the **East Bay Section of the I. L. D.**, Oakland, California.

May Day Greetings from the **Russian-Ukrainian Branch of the I. L. D.**, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

May Day Greetings from the **Rose Luxemburg Branch No. 301 of the I. W. O.**, St. Louis, Missouri.

May Day Greetings from the **East Side Hungarian Working Women's Club**, 11123 Buckeye Rd., Cleveland, Ohio.

Greetings from the **Hungarian Working Men's**, 11123 Buckeye Rd., Cleveland, Ohio.

May Day Greetings from the **East Side Hungarian Dramatic Club**, 11123 Buckeye Rd., Cleveland, Ohio.

May Day Greetings from the **City Central Committee of the I. L. D.**, Muskegon, Mich. May Day Greetings from the **Lithuanian Branch of the I. L. D.**, 29 Lawrence St., Hartford, Conn.

Greetings from the **International Labor Defense Branch No. 13.**

May Day Greetings from the **American Lithuanian Workers' Literature Society, Branch 11.**

## PRISONERS WANT TO READ

A special book committee was recently organized for the purpose of collecting and sending books to political prisoners. There are over 140 political prisoners in the United States, now serving sentence for their participation in the labor movement. The monotony of their lives in jail is almost unbearable and it is the purpose of this committee to try to better their conditions somewhat by sending them books to read.

We ask everyone to help in this work. There is no specific demand for any particular type of book. If you have any books which you are willing to contribute for this purpose, please send them at once to Mr. George Novack, E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc., 300 Fourth Avenue, New York City, or to the Prisoners Relief Fund of T. L. D., Room 430, 80 East 11th Street, New York City.

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May Day Greetings of Solidarity from Wm. P. Smith, of Frazee, Minnesota.

Greetings from Harry Kessler, New York City. Long Live The Labor Defender!

HARRY STOLPER

Optometrist

73 Christie Street, New York City

May Day Greetings from the **Lithuanian Women's Association of America, Branch No. 2.**

May Day Greetings from F. Balciunas. May Day Greetings from the **Fort Bragg, I. L. D. Branch**, Fort Bragg, Calif.

May Day Greetings from the **I. L. D. Lithuanian Branch, No. 30**, Waterbury, Conn.

May Day Greetings from the **Milan Resetar Branch of the I. L. D.**, Pittsburgh, Pa.

May Day Greetings from the **Verona Branch of the I. L. D.**, Pittsburgh, Pa.

May Day Greetings from **I. L. D. Branch No. 141**, 366 Marmion St., Youngstown, Ohio.

May Day Greetings from the **International Labor Defense Branch** of Euclid, Ohio.

May Day Greetings from Grant Miller, of Pontiac, Mich.

May Day Greetings from Mike Stycoff, of Pontiac, Mich.

May Day Greetings from the **Workingmen's Sick Benefit and Educational Federation No. 11**, 1537 N. Damen Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

May Day Greetings from the **Russian Literary Club**, 59 Seward Avenue, Grand Rapids, Mich.

May Day Greetings from the **Morris Winchevsky Branch No. 21 of the I. W. O.**, Minneapolis, Minn.

May Day Greetings from the **Cloquet Naisjaosto**, Cloquet, Minnesota.

May Day Greetings from **Finnish Workingmen's Assn.**, 37 Chapel Court, Norwood, Mass. May Day Greetings from the **Lithuanian Branch No. 31, I. L. D.**, Chicago, Ill.

Greetings from **The Zaporogian Sick**, 222 Lafayette Street, New Haven, Conn.

Greetings from the **A L. L. D. Branch No. 225**, R. F. D. No. 2, Southbury, Conn

May Day Greetings from the **Finnish Working Women's Club**, of Gardner, Mass.

May Day Greetings from the World Radio, 11 W. Lynde St., Gardner, Mass.

May Day Greetings from **Farmers Espelinge**, 174 West St., Gardner, Mass.

May Day Greetings from Charr City Steam Bath, cor. West St. and Fass Rd., Gardner, Mass.

Revolutionary May Day Greetings from Ida Keijo and John Sucmela, Gardner, Mass.

May Day Greetings from H. Sandrof, of Gardner, Mass.

May Day Greetings from the **Hamtramck Russian I. L. D. Branch**, 2934 Yemans Ave., Hamtramck, Mich.

**The Russian Mutual Aid Society of Ansonia, Conn.**, donated \$5.00 for the Scottsboro Defense.