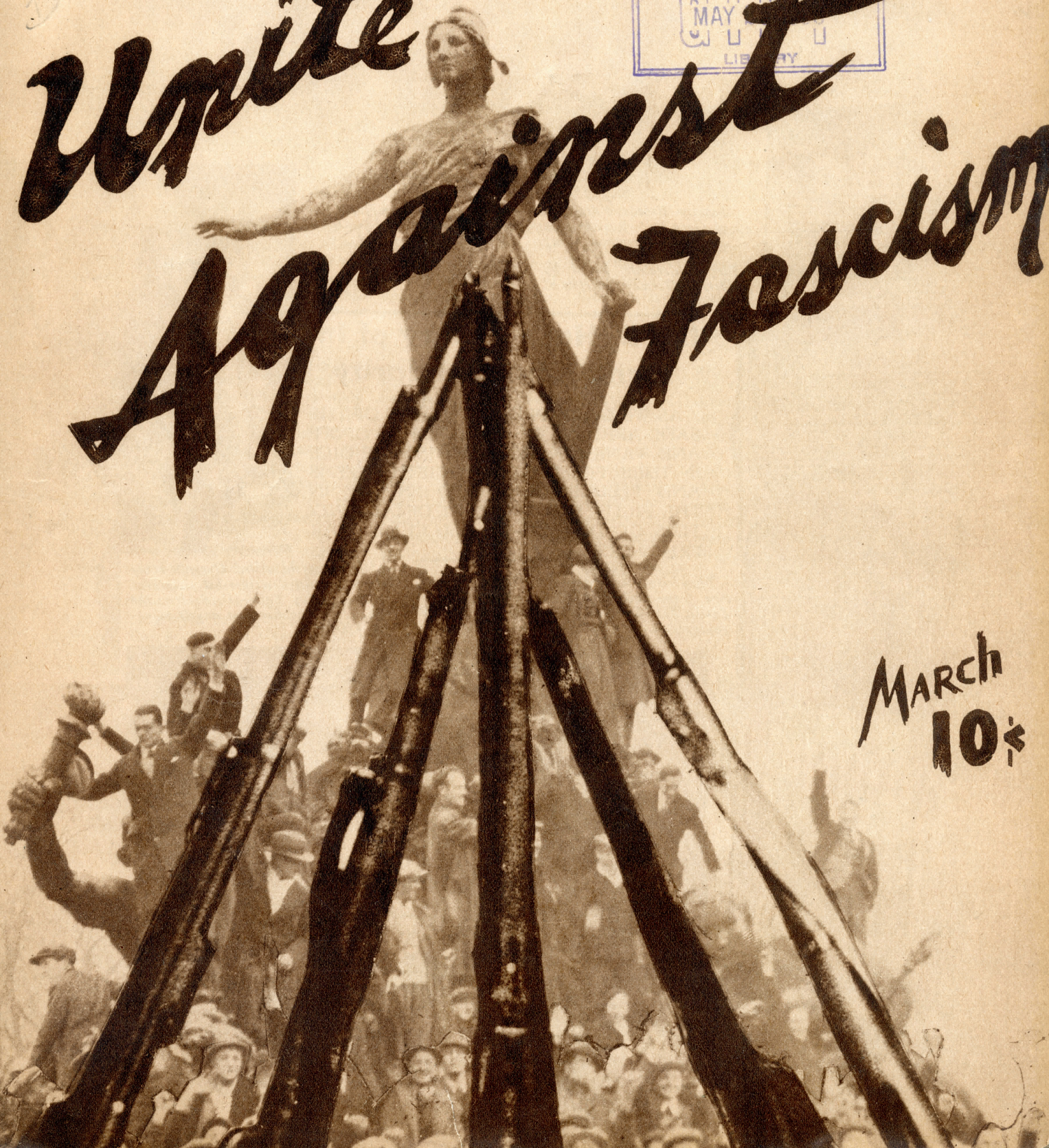


LABOR DEFENDER

*Unite
Against
Fascism*



*MARCH
10¢*





Fascism Breeds War. Hitler militarized the unemployed of Germany. Roosevelt has begun it here with the youth in the Conservation Camps. Fight against Fascism!

Illegal literature issued by anti-fascist fighters in Germany in spite of Nazi terror.

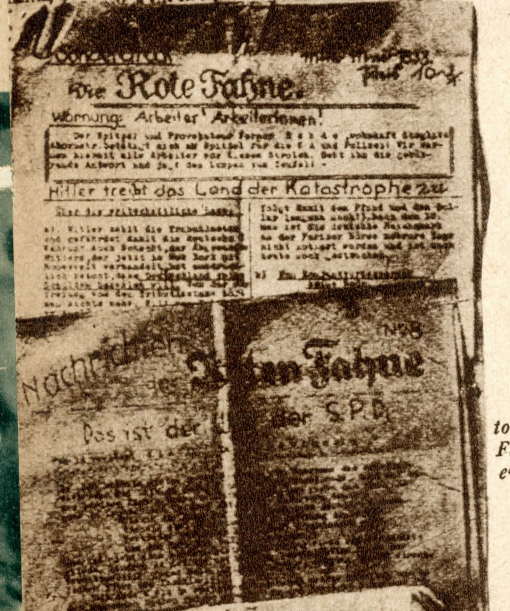


John Hartfeld exiled German revolutionary artist describes his picture as "Hitler's Fairy Tale—His Soldiers, he says, are not soldiers but angels bringing peace!"

I. L. D. Hails Victory of International Solidarity

AS WE GO TO PRESS WE LEARN OF THE SAFE ARRIVAL OF DIMITROFF, POPOFF AND TANEV IN MOSCOW. WE REJOICE IN THEIR FREEDOM AS SOVIET CITIZENS AND PLEDGE REDOUBLED ENERGY IN THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM OF ALL VICTIMS OF TERROR—OF ALL CLASS WAR PRISONERS!

They ought to know—This banner was torn from Philadelphia workers in Anti-Fascist demonstration. The cops held it as evidence in the trial that followed.



LABOR DEFENDER

Editors: WM. L. PATTERSON, SASHA SMALL

Associate Editor: LOUIS COLMAN

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS: Henri Barbusse — Albert Deutsch — R. Doonping — John Dos Passos — Robert W. Dunn — Maxim Gorki — Eugene Gordon — Alfred Hirsch — Hans Hoffman — Grace Hutchins — Philip Jaffe — M. Kamman — Conrad Komorowski — H. Kravif — Melvin P. Levy — Joseph Pess — Paul Peters — Ludwig Renn — Lincoln Steffens

Lessons from Austria

"Democracy stands above classes." "Justice stands above classes." In 1918 with these and similar words the leaders of Austrian social-democracy led the oppressed workers and toiling masses on the land away from the struggle for the establishment of their own government. How similar are these arguments today to the arguments made to the American working class. In the Scottsboro struggle, leaders of the American Socialist Party together with the leaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) said there was no need for the development of a mass movement to force a favorable decision for these innocent boys. Justice stands above classes; the courts will give justice if the facts proved the innocence of the defendants, so said our friends. The leadership of the Socialist Party rejects the policy of mass pressure in defense struggles of the working class.

Under the leadership of social-democracy, the Austrian workers had marched to the imperialist "war-to-end-wars," under the illusion that they were fighting for their fatherland. In defeat, Austria was torn apart by the ruthless, victorious, blood-merchants of Western imperialism, united in the League of Nations and supported by Wall Street. Death was the lot of tens of thousands of Austrian workers whom social-democracy had led to "glory" and the defense of the state and of "their" government. Europe was seething with revolt. The revolt against the horrors of war brought workers and peasants of Russia under the leadership of the Party of Lenin into the control of their government. The blazing of a road to socialism was begun in the Soviet Union.

Compare the position today of the Russian workers with that of the Austrian workers.

The streets of Vienna run blood. Thousands are starving and homeless. The gallows stand waiting for them at every corner.

The Russian workers have defeated unemployment, hunger and misery. In solid phalanx they go forward, building socialism and a classless fatherland.

The Austrian workers were ready and eager for the same steps. The social-democratic leadership denied the necessity of armed struggle for power. The state can be won peacefully, they said.

Vienna, the dream city of social-democracy, became the tomb of thousands of militant workers. Social democracy had painted it a socialist paradise, a secure fortress, an asylum of peace—the peace of death. Even before the crisis, masses of starving Austrian workers, their wives and children, walked its streets. Thousands of them were homeless. Thousands were without food and work. The forces of developing fascism aided by social democratic betrayal answered their demand for work and bread with armed force and ruthless terror. Still social-democracy held them back from the struggle. The forces of production, the factories, the transport facilities were all left in the hands of a ruthless and murderous bourgeoisie. Social-democracy paid tribute to finance capital from the sweat and toil of trusting workers.

Then, faced with starvation or struggle, the Austrian workers, despite the betrayal of their leadership, attempted a working class way out of their misery. The streets of the dream city, a defenseless island within the sea of savage capitalism, ran red with their blood. They were "storming the heavens." Left unprepared by the continuous policy of betrayal of their leaders, they desperately and heroically battled against the united forces of Austrian and German fascism. They lost. The

When this picture was taken, international protest had not yet saved Dimitroff and Tanev. Dimitroff's mother (center) his sister (right) and Tanev's wife (left) were active in organizing the defense. They are smiling now but they call on YOU not to forget the thousands who are still victims of Hitler terror.



handicap of social-democratic betrayal was too great.

The Austrian workers, our brothers in arms, are defeated, but only momentarily. They will re-organize their heroic forces. They will mobilize again for the struggle. The lesson they have paid for with their blood will be well learned. They will return to the struggle, determined and prepared to wrest the reins of government from the fascist butchers. They will repudiate and outcast the leadership of death.

For us the struggle of the Austrian and German working class is a tremendous lesson. In the defense struggles of the International Labor Defense, class collaboration can have no place. Our defense struggles are struggles of class against class. The policy that declares "democracy is above class," "justice is above class," is a policy of ruin and must be rejected.

We must rally to the support of the Austrian workers. The struggle of the working class is an international struggle. The defeat on one field of working class struggle is reflected on another. International working class solidarity is the only weapon that guarantees success. Into our hands history has placed the task of mobilizing every force for the support of the struggles of the Austrian working class. We must rally to our task, fully realizing that our greatest, most concrete support lies in an intensified struggle against American imperialism.

Wm. L. Patterson

COMMUNE OF PARIS

COMMITTEE
OF PUBLIC SAFETY

All good citizens must arise!

To the barricades! The enemy is
within our walls!

No hesitation!

Forward for the Republic, for the
Commune, and for Liberty!

TO ARMS!

Paris, May 22, 1871.

In the early dawn of March 18, 1871, the workers in the section of Paris called Montmartre were awakened by the beating of drums. The men, most of them members of the National Guard, pulled on their shabby uniforms, grasped their guns and rushed out. The women went with them. On the ramparts of Montmartre cannon were posted. Cannon paid for by the workers of the National Guard. Beside the cannon there now stood the snappily uniformed officers and soldiers of the regular army of Versailles. They were dismantling the cannon—stealing them at the orders of Adolph Thiers, the Hitler of those days, whom Karl Marx called that monstrous gnome. The workers defended their guns. They called on the soldiers to come over on their side—on the side of the workers where they belonged. The women threw themselves before the cannon and defied the Versailles to move them. And when the officers ordered their soldiers to fire upon the workers they refused. General Lecomte four times ordered his men to "shoot the dogs." After the fourth order the men turned their guns against the General and shot him.

At that moment the Paris Commune



"Vive la Commune. Shoot when you're ready," cried this communard family. Such scenes were repeated by the hundred during the Commune.

"Vive la Commune!"

by SASHA SMALL

was born. It was elected and officially proclaimed on March 26, 1871 and it lasted until it was drowned in blood upon the barricades on the 24th of May.

But the Commune had been preparing and gathering its forces for many months. After the downfall of the Second Empire, defeated in September, 1870 by the rising power of the Prussian bourgeoisie—the workers of Paris refused to surrender their city. For months they continued the battle—against the greatest odds. The city was surrounded by the enemy. The population was starving. They had to steal out under cover of darkness into the suburbs around Paris to get food.

During this time a Republic had been proclaimed. A republic run and controlled by the bourgeoisie after the stuffed dummy Emperor Louis Napoleon had outlived his usefulness, had been unable to continue the rule of open corruption, robbery, and scandal, that was the Second Empire. In his place, the bourgeoisie set up a set of new puppets who spouted Republican phrases and revolutionary slogans but who in reality continued the same exploitation of the masses—the same bleeding them with taxes, the same

depriving them of the most elementary rights.

On January 22, 1871 this republican government lead by Thiers, surrendered Paris to the Prussians, against the will of the workers who were ready to continue the heroic defense of their homes. The terms of the surrender were the most shameful. Thiers saddled the workers of Paris and all France with the staggering burden of a huge indemnity. But the workers in the National Guard refused to give up their arms. And Thiers knew that the workers of Paris armed was the revolution armed. Many attempts were made to disarm them. The last of which was the attempt to steal their cannon from the battlements of Montmatre.

For 76 days the workers ruled Paris. During this time they carried through certain revolutionary actions. They separated the Church from the state. They declared the property of the church to be public property. They cancelled back debts. They abolished the most burdensome taxes, and fines. But they made many mistakes. The Commune was the first attempt of the proletarian revolution. It was over generous. It was still confused by the treacherous teachings of their class enemy—illusions of bourgeois democracy. Its fundamental weakness was the lack of a consistent revolutionary theory embodied in a strong unified leading party. But its mistakes and its glorious sacrifices were not in vain. The Russian workers under the leadership of Lenin and the Bolshevik Party who had studied carefully the lessons of the Commune corrected these in 1917 and set up the first triumphant workers and farmers government in the Soviet Union.

The last weeks of the Commune were spent in fighting. Men, women and children stood side by side on the barricades and fought for their Commune. Workers today can have a clearer picture of the heroism of the Parisian workers through the graphic accounts in the newspapers of the heroic battles of the Austrian workers upon the barricades last February. The Commune was defeated by the army from

Barricades of today. Parisian workers drive back troops sent against them. The I.L.D. hails the French workers' fight against fascism.



Versaille strengthened by prisoners returned to Thiers by Bismarck—enemy states, France and Prussia, were ready and did join in the bloody extermination of the workers of Paris, their common enemy.

Thousands of workers were killed on the streets of Paris. Hundreds were jailed, sentenced and executed. Other hundreds were deported to the penal colonies of France. Refugees flooded the cities of other European countries. Karl Marx was in the leadership of the defense movement that organized relief and refuge for the victims of the terror. Karl Marx as labor defender of the victims of the Paris Commune taught us, the members of the ILD

many invaluable lessons in the strategy of defense of the working class.

The International Red Aid, the parent body of the American ILD, has declared March 18th the day of the Paris Commune as an international day of relief for political prisoners. All its sections including the American ILD must convert the Paris Commune celebrations into powerful international protest action for all political prisoners and victims of terror, here at home—in their own neighborhoods and shops, as well as in every country on the globe where oppression and terror flourish.

This year Paris Commune day will dawn upon a world standing on the

brink of war, on a globe over which the black cloud of fascism is hovering.

March 18th this year must become a day of international protest and demonstration against fascism, a day of international solidarity with the victims of White Terror particularly those behind the bars whether in the concentration camps of Hitler, the jails of Dollfuss, the dungeons of Cuba and Venezuela, the San Quentins or Southern hell holes in the United States.

This year the rallying cry of the heroic Parisian workers VIVE LA COMMUNE (Long live the Commune) must become a reality. In addition to protest and demonstration the Paris Commune meetings must become recruiting posts for bringing new thousands into the ranks of the International Labor Defense, American section of the International Red Aid the only working class defense organization in this country.

This French workers family took part in an unemployed demonstration. They shouted "we demand bread". They were arrested. Even the children. But they fought back too. Like their forefathers during the Paris Commune.

Below: MOPR meeting on a Soviet collective farm. Send them your greetings on Paris Commune Day, March 18th thru the I. L. D.



Greetings to the 4th MOPR Congress

On March 18 the workers of the Soviet Union will not only commemorate the anniversary of the Paris Commune but they will also celebrate their great accomplishments. They will celebrate achievements that take their place beside the victories of socialist construction, economic, social, political and cultural gains. On that day they will celebrate and carry through the fourth congress of the MOPR (Soviet I.L.D.) where delegates elected by the 10 million members will report on the work already done and make plans for the future. The MOPR has carried on its work in the factories, on the collective farms, among the housewives, among the children and the youth, in every phase of Soviet life and activity. There are MOPR branches in every large factory and in hundreds of smaller ones. There are MOPR branches on collective farms. In addition to carrying on their MOPR activities, the members have taken active part in the shock brigades that made it possible to complete the first Five Year Plan in four years and are making such rapid steps forward in the Second Five Year Plan.

Even though the conditions under

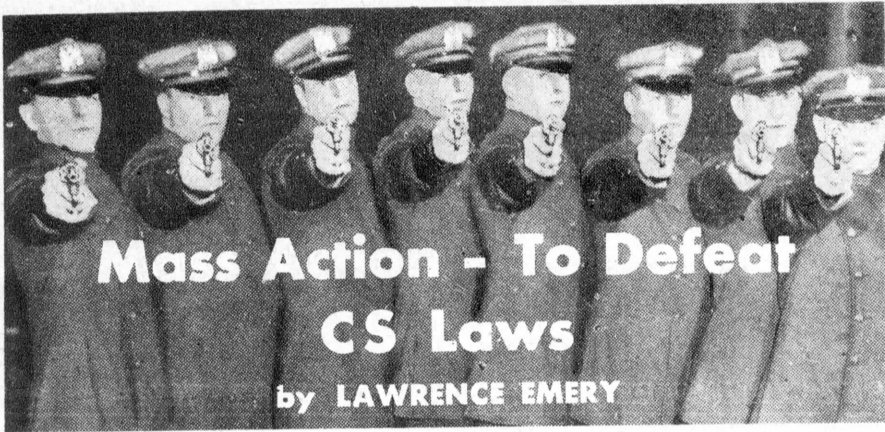
which the MOPR branches work are totally different from I.L.D. branches anywhere else in the world there are many lessons that we of the American I.L.D. can learn from them. Their educational activity is an integral part of their practical work in organizing solidarity for the victims of terror in capitalist and colonial countries. MOPR branches adopt the victims of one of these countries. They write to them telling them of their own work, of their

achievements in the workers' fatherland, giving them courage and hope in their struggles. They collect funds to send to these victims and their families. They support homes, refuges, for the political emigrants. To give only one example, 5079 Scottsboro resolutions were passed.

Their latest contribution has been the collection of great sums of money for the Austrian workers. In many

(Continued on Page 21)





Mass Action - To Defeat CS Laws

by LAWRENCE EMERY

“Criminal Syndicalism”—“any doctrine or precept advocating, teaching or aiding and abetting the commission of crime, sabotage or unlawful acts of force and violence or unlawful methods of terrorism as a means of accomplishing a change in industrial ownership or control, or affecting any political change.”

Any person, who in any way whatsoever associates himself with such doctrines or precepts, “is guilty of a felony and punishable by imprisonment in the state prison not less than one nor more than fourteen years.”

Such laws as the above exist on the statute books of at least 22 states. So-called sedition laws, some of them much more vicious than the criminal syndicalism laws, are in force in twenty states. Twenty-eight states have laws of one kind or another prohibiting the possession, or the display, of red flags.

Most, or all, of these laws were enacted in the frantic post-war period when the working class was the target for the most vicious and hysterical attacks of the employers and their government. Hundreds and thousands of militant workers were prosecuted and imprisoned under these laws. This widespread reign of terror together with other objective conditions had telling effect upon the working class, and its militant activities and was one of the reasons for the rapid decline of the I.W.W., hastening as it did the internal dissensions in the leadership of that organization, preventing it from maintaining its position as one of the organized expressions of the revolutionary will to struggle of the American working class. Hundreds of the best and most active working class leaders were removed by these laws.

Then for a long period they lay inactive for the most part. Capitalism had “stabilized” itself for a while, had gathered its forces together for an “era of prosperity.” The struggles of the workers did not stop, but they took place under different conditions. Boss terror did not subside, but took different forms.

In 1929 the crisis of capitalism broke open. Standards of life for the working class, already low, for millions of workers, collapsed to the starvation point. Struggles increased, intensified. Class-conscious militancy spread and activated millions of workers. Boss ter-

ror aroused by the desperate struggle of the workers sought to keep pace with the struggles, grew sharper, more open, more brutal.

Criminal syndicalism, sedition and red flag laws were dusted off and put



Wm. Z. Foster, during the great Steel Strike of 1919. The I.L.D. welcomes this great working class leader's return to the U. S.



N. Y. cops in action. Before Austrian consulate. Join and build the I.L.D. to fight against terror.

to use in breaking strikes and terrorizing the fighting workers.

In 1929 Yetta Stromberg and other women workers were tried and convicted of flying a red flag in California. A mass campaign inaugurated by the ILD carried the case to the United States Supreme Court, which reversed the conviction, but the law still stands.

In the same year two workers in Ohio were convicted of criminal syndicalism, but were later released through mass pressure organized by the ILD. Here, too, however, the laws are still on the statute books.

Early in 1930, when the struggles of the workers had already reached a tremendous scope and intensity, the California government brought out its Criminal Syndicalism strike-breaking machinery in real earnest.

It used it to behead the strike of ten thousand agricultural workers in the Imperial Valley and to terrorize the strikers themselves. Eight working class leaders were convicted and sentenced to an indeterminate sentence of three to forty-two years.

A mass campaign on a national scale reduced the sentences of the eight to five years of which an average of three were served in prison.

Proof indeed that in struggles of great importance and far-reaching influence, as all struggles are particularly at the present time, the criminal syndicalism law is used with damaging results. A mass campaign directed towards the repeal of the laws in California has been conducted over a long period of time, but the laws are still on the books and the fight to remove them must be continued with greater vigor.

At the present moment three of the leaders of striking miners in Carbon County, Utah, are being tried for criminal syndicalism. Pat Chambers, leader of the California agricultural strikers, is threatened with another trial, although his first one resulted in a hung jury. In Yakima, Washington, four workers are charged with criminal syndicalism and face trial. In

Sioux City, Iowa, several workers will soon be tried for criminal syndicalism. In upper Michigan, two workers, Comrades Burman and Immonen, are serving sentences up to eight years for violation of the criminal syndicalism and red flag laws of that State.

In each of these places, and around each of these cases, campaigns are being conducted against the criminal syndicalism laws and for the freedom of the workers who are victimized by them.

But the sharpening reign of terror against the working class, the developing tendencies of fascism in the United States, the need for working class unity and concerted mass action demand that the fight against criminal syndicalism, red flag and sedition laws be made the basis for a movement on a national scale, coordinating all separate campaigns now being conducted.

Such a campaign must be waged at once in order also to meet the menace of new anti-labor laws which may be enacted by the Federal Government. The seriousness of this menace can be understood by the example set by the Canadian ruling class, which has passed the infamous so-called "Section 98," which is a criminal syndicalism law on a national scale.

By use of this weapon, the Canadian Communist Party has been driven underground, and eight of its leaders sentenced to long terms in the hell-holes of Kingston Prison.

At the present moment, A. E. Smith, General Secretary of the Canadian Labor Defense League (a section of the IRA) is standing trial on charges brought against him under this law. By means of this trial, the Canadian bosses are seeking to smash the CLDL, driving the organization to illegality.

American workers must support their Canadian brothers in this struggle, remembering that organized international solidarity of this kind will strengthen our fight against criminal syndicalism laws in this country. American workers must learn from the experiences of the Canadian working class: Criminal Syndicalism laws and all antiworking class legislation of this kind are extremely dangerous weapons in the hands of the class enemy. They can be used to break strikes, to persecute working class leaders and terrorize the rank and file, and to outlaw revolutionary organizations, driving them into illegality. The time to fight against the danger of illegality is now.

Repeal all criminal syndicalism and all anti-labor laws!

Prevent the enactment of new ones! Support the Canadian workers in their struggle against Section 98! Free all class war prisoners!



Austrian working women who fought on the barricades against fascism.

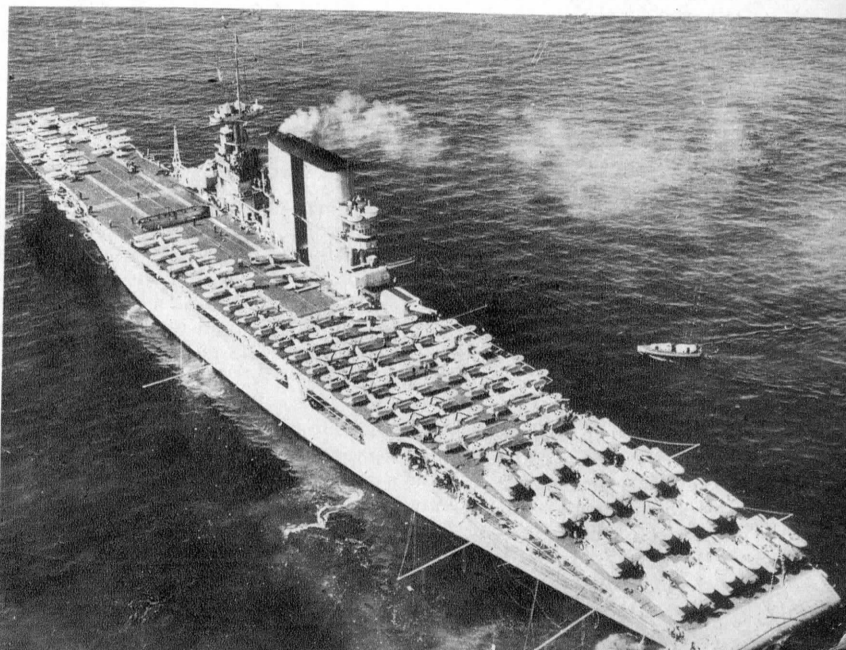


A small part of the mass demonstration in Paris during the general strike against fascism.

Mussolini's army mobilized on the borders of Austria. Europe is an armed camp ready to plunge the world into another war.



Uncle Sam is not behind in war preparations. \$50,000,000 in addition to PWA funds for war. \$238,500,000 for new warships. \$274,765,924 for other "navy supplies," including more death machines like this one. The I.L.D. supports the fight against war and fascism.





1. Training to run during a gas attack. British navy is keeping in trim while learning new methods of war!

2. Grim witness to the heroic fight of the Austrian workers. Karl Marx apartments in Vienna.

3. Statue of the Republic, Paris. During the general strike, a red flag reading: "Live Working or Die Fighting." was raised by these workers.



BULLETIN! Since this was written Tiala has been sentenced to six months. Demand his immediate release from the Governor of Indiana.

Farmers Mass Defense

Some months ago, in one of his fire-side talks, President Roosevelt advised all those threatened with foreclosure to write or telegraph. On January 20th, a foreclosure sale of the Clarence Gearhart farm, Leesville, Indiana, was to be held to satisfy a claim of the Federal Land Bank. Previous to the sale, a meeting of farmers sent a telegram to the President and received no answer. Satisfied that their only course was mass action, over a thousand farmers marched into Warsaw, Indiana on the 20th in an attempt to stop the sale at the county courthouse.

Leading the farmers were Alfred Tiala, National Secretary of the United Farmers League, and Jesse Hann, 22 year old Indiana farmer-member of the Farmers Nat'l Committee for Action. Faced by the farmers, Sheriff Person, followed Roosevelt policy more surely than the telegraphing farmers, by firing a tear gas gun into the crowd, ordering the National Guardsmen present to fire (which they refused to do) fled from the farmers and reappeared only long enough to accept the sole bid of \$6600 entered by a representative of the Federal Land Bank who was held prisoner by the farmers and prevented from bidding until the arrival of the troops. The farm is valued at \$28,000 and Gearhart, losing his farm at the bid price, still owes the Federal bank \$1400. The sheriff then ordered the arrest of Tiala, Hann and Tiala's wife on the charge of "resisting an officer" and moved them from jail to jail in an effort to prevent jail-delivery by the farmers.

Bail originally set at \$5,000 each, was changed to \$10,000, or \$30,000 in all; search was instituted half-heartedly for a fourth leader, Milo Long, and the charge was changed to the more serious "obstructing the course of justice." The prisoners were held incommunicado. Immediate results were the piling up of a long list of protests, from groups of farmers in Indiana and from other states, the coming into the case of the I.L.D., with lawyers, and more important, with

backing for the farmers defense struggle by I.L.D. branches. Most important of all a moratorium affecting the nine counties in that part of the state was issued, thereby halting the over one hundred foreclosure sales due to take place within the next few weeks. At the time of writing, the trial has only begun, with every attempt being made by the prosecution to secure a jury hostile to the arrested farmers, only three challenges being allowed the defense.

This case, which has aroused the farmers in Indiana, marks the beginning of a new attack on the farmers by the private and government owned banks. The first attack, accompanied by arrests and violence was beaten back by the organized farmers.

In Indiana, and in other states, the farmers, becoming aware of the false promises of the AAA and of Roosevelt are organizing to defend their homes and to defend their militant leaders.

This same militancy is expressed at this time in the trial of 400 peasants in Poland. The fascist rulers, attempting to crush the growing peasant organizations, find their courts turned into tribunals in which the police terror is exposed and attacked, in which the peasants affirm their determination to organize and fight off the attacks of the government. An instance of the solidarity of the peasants with the prisoners is the fact that the defendants farms are all worked and harvested by the neighbors.

Whether in Roosevelt America or Pilsudski Poland, the farmers are determining the strength of their organizations by their willingness to fight for the defense of their leaders, when terror and the courts seek to rob them of that leadership. The farmers are learning in action the lesson, of mass defense. They are learning too as the city workers have, the role of the courts as instruments of the ruling class.

Build the I.L.D. on the country side. Strengthen the shield of defense against boss class terror!

The Fight Against Fascism

by LEO GALLEGHER

(Leo Gallagher has just returned from a European tour in defense of Nazi victims. He will tour the United States to help organize a strong movement against fascism.)

One cannot travel through Europe today without at once becoming aware of the fact that the internal contradictions of capitalism are rapidly bringing Europe to the verge of imperialist war. Capitalism can no longer maintain itself in many European countries through the usual forms of democracy and has been forced to rule by a fascist dictatorship. For a year Germany has suffered under a most brutal terror. Tens of thousands of the German workers have been and are still being tortured in the concentration camps. Many have been beheaded and hundreds killed without even the form of a trial. From personal observation I could see that the German people although tremendously dissatisfied and disillusioned by the failure of the fascist government to improve their condition are nevertheless so terrorized that they dare not express their dissatisfaction even in private conversation. Despite this terror, however, the Communist Party of Germany and the Rote Hilfe Deutschlands (German I.L.D.) are carrying on an active illegal campaign which will inevitably unite the workers of Germany and lead to the eventual overthrow of the fascist government.

The attempt to fascisize France has led to the most active opposition of the French workers. I was in Paris during the street fighting of February 6th and 7th and also during the General Strike on February 12th. There can be no doubt that the French workers intend to resist any further encroachment by fascism on their rights as workers. The General Strike was a complete success. The streets of Paris were without taxi cabs, auto buses or street cars, and most of the shops were closed. The underground subway system was likewise paralyzed. The great meeting of a hundred thousand workers on the afternoon of February 12th was an impressive demonstration of strength.

At the same time that the workers of Paris were demonstrating against the attempt to create a dictatorship there the workers of Austria attacked by the Dollfuss regime heroically de-

fended themselves until compelled by superior military forces to temporarily come to terms.

In England also the workers are militantly resisting the efforts of the MacDonald government to worsen their economic condition and deprive them of their rights.

Traveling through Europe one is also greatly impressed by the international solidarity of the workers and the failure of the various chauvinist governments to develop a fanatical patriotism in the working portion of the population. Tremendous demonstrations have been held throughout Europe in protest against the German fascist terror and particularly against the effort to frame Dimitroff, Torgler, Tanev and Popoff on the ridiculous charge of having burned the Reichstag. The ovation given Helena Dimitroff at the great mass meetings where we spoke was eloquent proof of the place Dimitroff holds in the hearts of the European workers. This valiant

fighter has even won the admiration of the Nazis themselves. The workers of Europe are also greatly encouraged by the anti-fascist campaign which has been developed in the United States, and they look to the United States for continued support.

Although I held the power of attorney from Dimitroff and from his mother and sisters, and was his legal representative in Germany I was handicapped in every way in my work by the Nazi government which refused to recognize my commission and which eventually expelled me from Germany on the ground that I was an "enemy of the state". I was arrested and held in the prison of the German Secret Police and later in the Berlin Polizeipreidium.

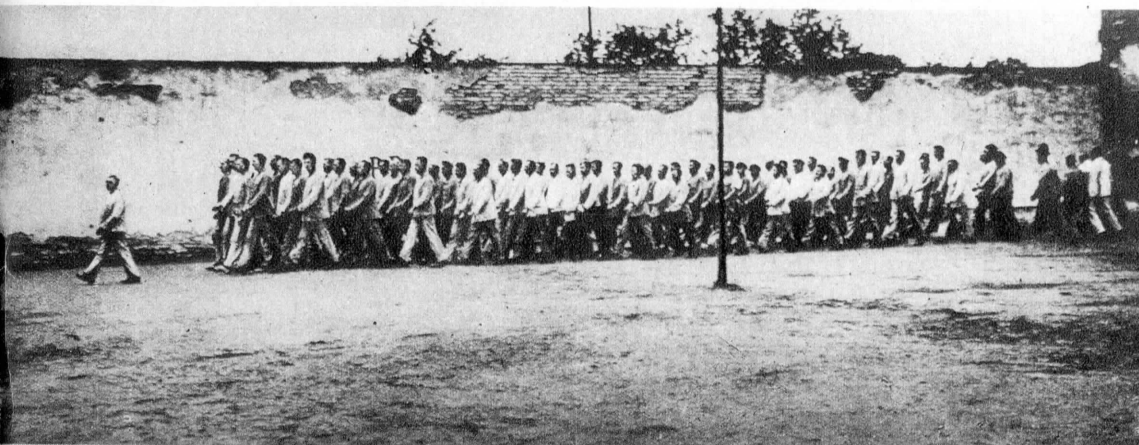
I was in Berlin on January 30th the first anniversary of the so-called Nazi Revolution. Discouragement, disillusionment, resentment, despair could be read in the faces of the Berlin populace. The Nazi government which had failed to in any way improve the economic condition of the German people did not even dare to declare this "anniversary" a holiday.

Rally to the support of the German and Austrian workers. Build a powerful anti-fascist movement in the United States.

1. Dimitroff: saved by world protest action.

2. Ernst Thaelmann, leader of the German Communist Party is still in danger. He must be saved. International protest can save him too.

3. And the concentration camps are still filled with Nazi victims. The I. L. D. spurred on by victory will mobilize hundreds of thousands to set them free.



"Every International Women's Day must be an I.L.D. day; every I.L.D. activity must signify a stride forward in the struggle for the emancipation of women. Both the one and the other must be an offensive against capitalism—against this torturer and destroyer of humanity."
 —CLARA ZETKIN.



The Story of Shan-Fei

by AGNES SMEDLEY

(The following is a chapter from Agnes Smedley's Book CHINESE DESTINIES. It is reprinted with the permission of the publisher, VANGUARD PRESS.)

This was the late summer of 1926, and China was swept by the winds of revolution. Soon the southern armies lay siege to Wuchang. And Shan-fei gave up her studies and went to the masses. She became a member of the Communist Youth. She has lived the life of the poorest peasant workers, dressed as they dress, eaten as they eat, worked as they work and has faced death with them on many a battle front . . .

In those days the Kuomintang and the Communist Parties still worked together and as one of the most active woman revolutionaries, Shan-fei was sent back to her ancestral home as head of the Woman's Department of the Kuomintang. There she was made a member of the revolutionary tribunal that tried the enemies of the revolution, confiscated the lands of the rich land lords and distributed them among the poor peasants. She helped confiscate the lands of her own family . . .

When the revolution became a social revolution, the Communist and the Kuomintang split, and the dread White Terror began. The militarists and the feudal landlords returned to power. Shan-fei's family and the family of her fiance asked the Kuomintang for her arrest. And this order was issued. It meant death for herself and her child. Two women and three men who worked with her were captured. The women's breasts were cut off, and all five were beheaded in the streets. But the workers bored air holes in a coffin, placed Shan-fei and her baby inside and carried them through the heavily guarded gates of the city out into the graveyard beyond the walls. From there she began her journey to Wuchang . . .

She reached the Wuchang cities only to be ordered by the Communist Party to return to the thick of the fight in Western Hunan during the harvest

struggle when the peasants armed themselves, refused to pay rent or taxes, and began the confiscation of the lands. Shan-fei was with them during the days: at night she slept in the forests on the hills, about her the restless bodies of those who dared risk no night in their homes. Then troops were sent against them. The peasants were defeated, thousands slain, and the others disarmed.

Again Shan-fei returned to Wuhan. And again she was sent back to the struggle. This time, however, she went, presumably as a Kuomintang member, to a city held by the militarists. Beyond the city walls were peasant armies. Inside Shan-fei worked openly as the head of the Woman's Department of the Kuomintang; secretly, she carried on propaganda amongst the troops and the workers . . .

Shan-fei was next put in charge of the technical work of the party, setting type and printing. She would lay her child on the table by her side and croon to it as she worked. Then one day her home was raided by soldiers. Her husband was away and she step-

ped out for a few minutes only. From afar she saw the soldiers guarding her house. Hours later she crawled back to find her child. The soldiers had thrown it into a pail of water and left it to die. Not all the tender care of herself and her husband could hold the little thing to life. Shan-fei's husband dried her bitter tears with his face—and Shan-fei returned to her work.

Some things happen strangely. And one day this happened to Shan-fei: she went to visit the principal of the school where she once had been a student and decided to remain for the night. With the early dawn of the next morning she was awakened by many shouting voices. She imagined she heard her husband's voice among them. She sat up and listened and heard distinctly the shouts: "We die for the sake of Communism! Long live the Revolution." Her friend covered her ears with the pillow and exclaimed: "Each day they bring Communists here to shoot and behead them—they are using that open space as an execution ground."

A series of volley shots rang out, and the shouting voices were silenced.

River boats for homes. Thousands of Chinese families live on these picturesque but miserable boats.



The Labor Defender dedicates the story of this heroine to International Women's Day — March 8.

Shan-fei arose and blindly made her way to the execution ground. The soldiers were marching away and only a small crowd of onlookers stood staring stupidly at the long row of dead bodies. Shan-fei stumbled down the line and turned over the warm body of her dead husband.

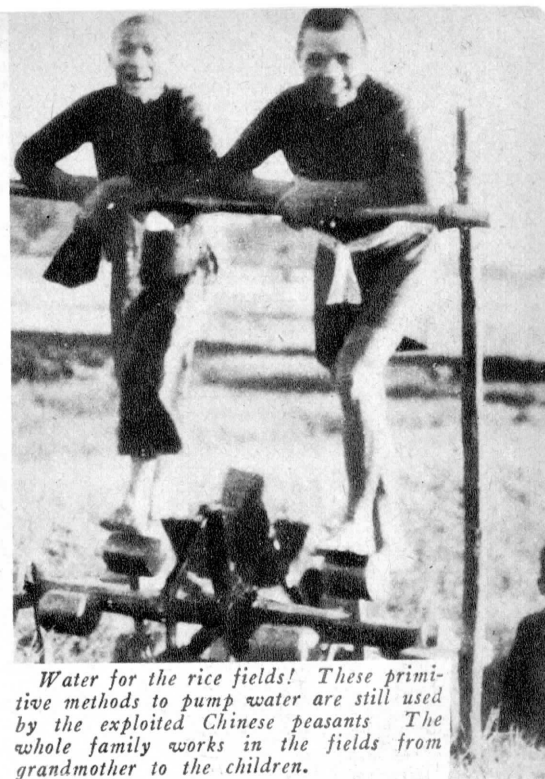
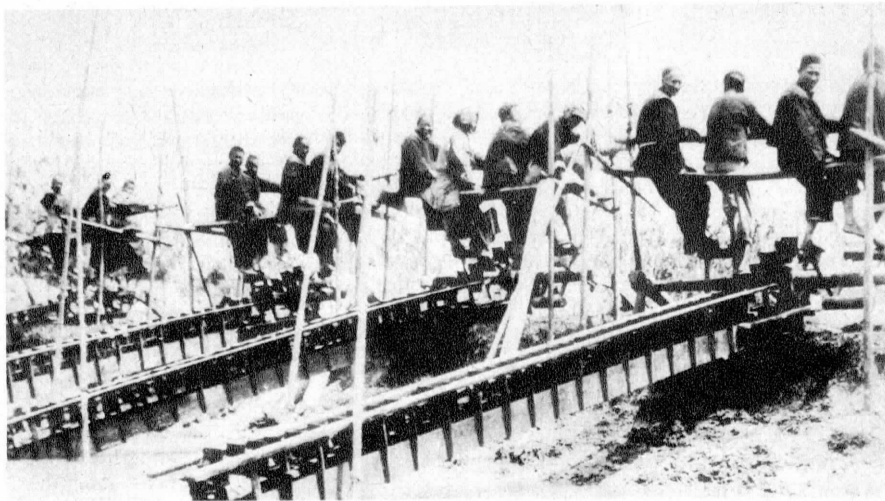
The net of the White Terror closed in on Shan-fei until she was ordered to leave Wuhan. She went from city to city on the Yangtse, working in factories, organizing women and children . . .

In the summer of 1929 she was again with the peasants in Hunan. Sent into Changsha one day, she was captured together with two men Communists, one a peasant leader. She sat in prison for six months and was released then only because new militarists overthrew the old, and in revenge freed many prisoners. But they did not free

the peasant leader. Shan-fei bribed a prison guard and was permitted to see him before she left. About his neck, his waist, his ankles and his wrists were iron bands, and these were connected with iron chains. The life of such prisoners in China is said to be two years. Shan-fei herself had not been chained. But she emerged from prison with a skin disease, with stomach troubles, with an abscess, and her skin was pasty white from anemia. In this condition she returned to the peasantry and continued her fight.

In the spring of 1930 she was sent as a delegate to the All China Soviet Congress. Friends afterwards put her in a hospital and she was operated on for the abscess. During this period she kept the translation of Marxian studies under her pillow, and she once remarked: "Now I have time to study theory."

Shan-fei is 25 years of age . . .



Water for the rice fields! These primitive methods to pump water are still used by the exploited Chinese peasants. The whole family works in the fields from grandmother to the children.

In China's Prisons

The following conversation with a young Chinese Communist—a girl—was reported by P. Vaillant-Couturier, famous French writer, who visited China a few months ago.

"When I was first arrested they put me into a room with about 20 other women. The room was about 20 feet long and 15 feet wide. There was no bed in the room. Only one bench fastened to the wall—and this bench about 3 feet long so that we could never rest ourselves. The food was not eatable and always the same—salted rice with water (kou-ji). All the women got sick with dysentery and diarrhea. The guards let us out one at a time and only once a day so that many of us were forced to relieve ourselves on the floor of the cell. And the only place left for most of us to sleep on was this very floor. Vermin devoured us all the time.

On the 43rd day after I was arrested they fetched me for examination. I refused to denounce my friends. Then they tied me to a plank, by the wrists.

A policeman took a bamboo stick, the end of which was split into six or seven ribbons and began to beat me over the hands. The first blows felt like red hot pins being stuck into my heart. I counted 28 blows and then I fainted. Afterwards I was told that I received 300 blows. When I recovered my senses I was back in the cell. I had no hands, but bloody pieces of torn flesh.

I did not have a doctor. I was given no medicine. A fellow prisoner tore my chemise into strips and bandaged what remained of my hands. But I had not betrayed my fellow fighters."

churia and North China a military base from which to attack the Soviet Union. Japan is preparing so feverishly that an attack is certain.

Japanese statesmen do not mince words, and they say frankly and openly

(Continued on Page 21)

China Today

by JOHN PHILLIPS

When the question of China is brought to the attention of American workers, there is a tendency to feel that China is not an immediate problem for them. Why bother about China when there is so much struggle going on in our own country? Many say that China is so far away and nothing can be done about anything thousands of miles from us. But let us remember that China is not too far away for the imperialists. American and British imperialists do not let distance stand in their way. The workers, not only in America, but all over the world, must learn to be suspicious about anything that the imperialists stick their noses into.

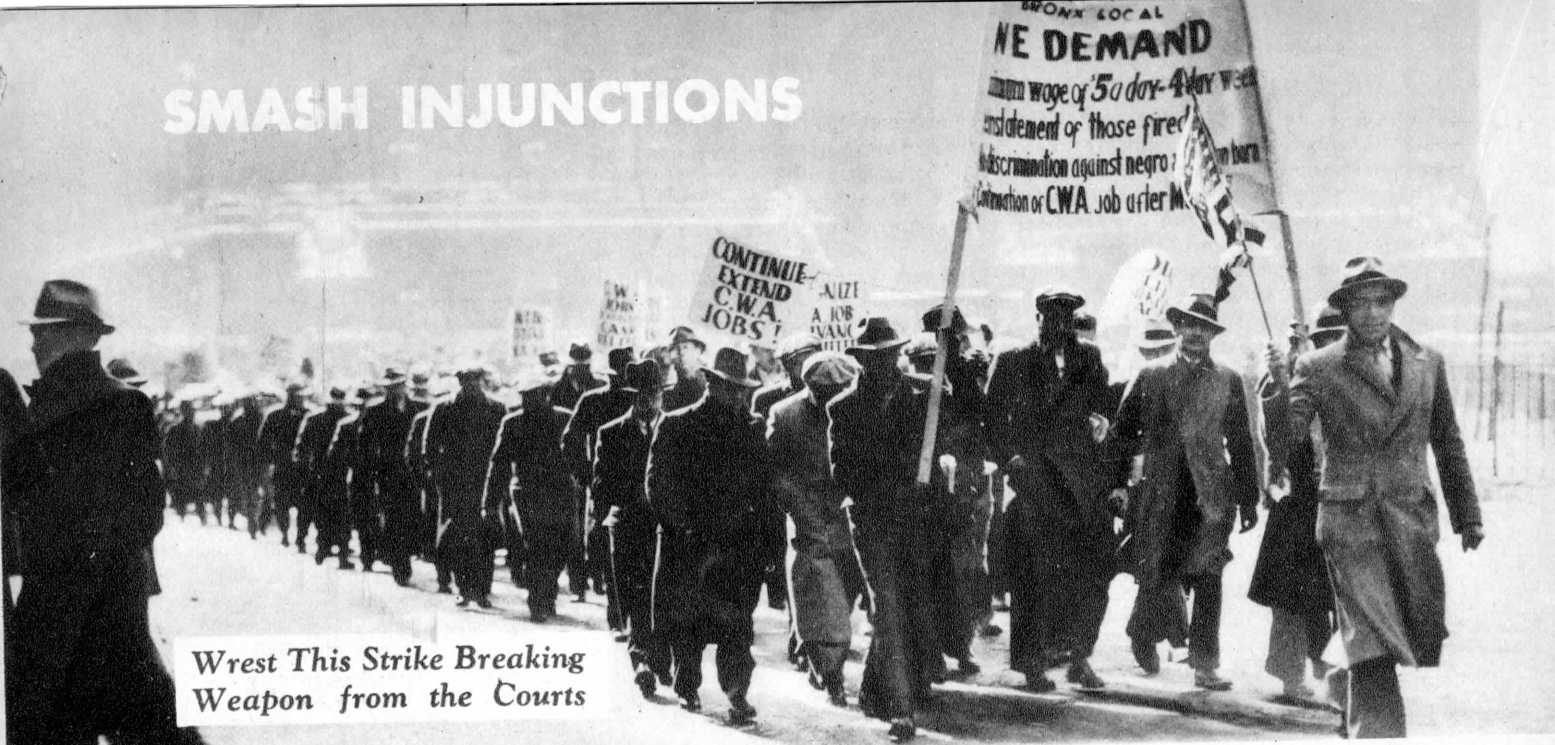
For years, China has been a happy hunting ground for imperialists. For years, British, American, French, and Japanese imperialists have been at the profitable occupation of carving up China. But during the past three years the situation in China has been moving at top speed toward a terrific explosion. The deepening of the crisis throughout the capitalist world has rapidly brought the conflicting interests among the various imperialist powers into the open. Daily this struggle among them is becoming sharper and sharper. And

unless the workers throughout the world immediately make the struggle of the Chinese masses for national liberation one of their major tasks, they will pay the penalty of an imperialist world war of unparalleled devastation. Every worker must realize that the situation in China affects him seriously and immediately.

China has a population of over 400 million. Only one fifth of that population is in the territory of the Chinese Soviets, the only territory that is not under imperialist domination. Manchuria and North China are under the complete control of Japan. Central China is under American control. South and West China are under French and British control. The military war lords are in constant civil war, first to consolidate their own positions, and second to gain dominance for their particular imperialist bosses. Chiang Kai-shek, the most powerful of these war lords, and an American tool, is now carrying on his sixth campaign against the Chinese Soviets. In all these wars and attacks, it is the Chinese peasants and workers who suffer. They are killed and tortured by the hundreds of thousands.

Japan is swiftly building in Man-

SMASH INJUNCTIONS



Wrest This Strike Breaking Weapon from the Courts

Relief workers demonstrate against CWA pay-cuts and lay-offs. The I.L.D. supports the struggles of unemployed and employed alike and defends their right to fight for decent living conditions.

by **MICHAEL PIERCE**

When the now famous National Industry Recovery Act became a law in June of 1933, the much heralded clause, "Section 7a" was hailed as a new Declaration of Independence, for labor. For did it not provide in specific language

"That employees shall have the right to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, and shall be free from the interference, restraint, or coercion of employers of labor, or their agents. . . ."

the half year or more of operation of the N.R.A. has shown to the workers however, that a very material omission exists in the law,—it does not provide that employees shall be free from restraint "of the courts,"—it does not free them from the menace of the injunction.

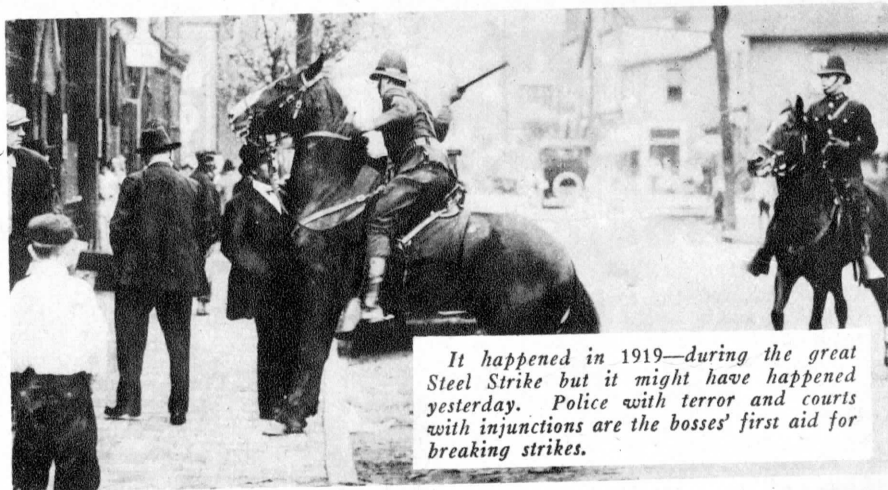
It is elementary to workers that rights can only be acquired by them, and gains can only be maintained by them, by the power of organization and the use of the strike. The right to organize without hindrance from the bosses is an empty phrase, unless it is accompanied by the right to strike without interference by the courts.

The hope and the promise of freedom to the worker, hailed and ballyhooed by the bureaucrats of the A. F. of L. resulted in a growing militancy on the part of workers and considerable unionization. Some partial idea of the total number of workers involved in strike situations since the N.R.A. went into effect can be obtained from a report in the N. Y. Times of August 4, 1933, which gave a Department of Labor estimate that at that time there were 300,000 workers on strike, exclusive of those engaged in the coal industry strike. A report in the same paper on November 14th, contained a

list of strikes settled by the New York N.R.A. for the three months of August, September and October, involving over 215,000 workers. In a statement issued by Senator Wagner, head of the National Labor Board, on January 6th, 1934, he stated that the board had handled cases involving about 600,000 workers.

unions, "red" unions, who were opposing the government. One judge in issuing an injunction against the Shoe and Leather Workers Industrial Union said:

"Plaintiff challenges the good faith of the defendant as a labor organization and asserts, with evidence in its support, that the defendant



It happened in 1919—during the great Steel Strike but it might have happened yesterday. Police with terror and courts with injunctions are the bosses' first aid for breaking strikes.

All this indicates that industrial conflicts during the past year were developing the class consciousness of the American worker and his militancy. And so the courts stepped in with a new racket,—it's not patriotic to strike! For instance, a New Jersey Vice-Chancellor, issued an injunction because the strikers had not first appealed to the N.R.A., saying that by such conduct "they are acting unreasonably and unpatriotically, if not indeed unlawfully." Such a position is absolutely arbitrary and even wholly against the provisions of the N.R.A., inadequate as they are. Yet the same position was taken by four other vice-chancellors in that state, each of whom issued injunctions in labor cases because of the N.R.A.

In New York, and particularly in Brooklyn, the courts have interfered with the injunction on the excuse that the unions involved were left-wing

is merely a political organization, the aims of which are inimical to the best interests of the government. That issue I do not propose to pass upon."

He granted the injunction because of alleged violence. And yet on the same day, the same judge granted 16 similar injunctions against the same union, in 13 of which cases there was not the slightest evidence of violence or sabotage, but in which the only charge made against the union was that it was a radical union.

The attitude of the courts as reflected in the injunctions already referred to indicates in addition to the specifically "patriotic" note that has injected itself into our courts of law, an equally dangerous practise that has grown up in these recent days on the part of judges to ignore the law as settled in the higher courts. After years of struggle, labor has won certain rights,

—the right to strike, the right to picket. Famous legal cases have established those rights, particularly in New York state. And yet in August, 1933, a Brooklyn judge granted an injunction against a Bakery union and prohibited picketing, because he says: "*The mere walking back and forth on a sidewalk with placards is sufficient to annoy the public and create a public nuisance.*" Yet, who ever heard of an injunction against sandwich men advertising with placards nearby tea-shops, barber-shops, photo-shops and beauty parlors because they annoy the public! Such is legal "impartiality" and administration of law under the N.R.A.!

The recent coal strike in Pennsylvania led by the United Anthracite Miners' Union revealed another interesting side light on the role of the court as a strike breaker. A recent Pennsylvania law provides that contempts for violation of a labor injunction must be tried before a jury. An injunction was issued by the District Court against the union which was answered by the workers with mass violation. A number of miners were arrested, but since jury trials of each of them would have made it very inconvenient for the courts, the judge decided the new law was unconstitutional and tried them himself, without a jury, finding them all guilty.

But the most disturbing and dangerous development of the injunction in recent times is the wholesale and blanket injunction obtained by employers' associations. Since the N.R.A. fosters the growth of these employer organizations, the issue becomes exceedingly acute. What happens is this. The organization, representing a number of employers, comes into court and asks for an injunction against the union in behalf of all of its members, even though no strike is in progress at the shops of all of its members. The damage done is twofold: (1) On the basis of alleged violence at any one place, an injunction is issued against the union preventing its activities at the place of any of the members of the employers' organization; and (2) once the injunction is issued, it may be enforced by any employer member, even though there was no strike at his place at the time the injunction was issued, and even though he may not have been a member of the organization at the time. Two such injunctions against the Shoe and Leather Workers Union were issued in October 1933, one in New York and one in Brooklyn. The association that obtained the Brooklyn injunction listed 34 manufacturer members, and the injunction order restrained the union from

"directly or indirectly interfering in anywise or manner with any of the employees of the plaintiffs herein or of any member of the plaintiff National Association of Slipper Manufacturers anywhere, particularly within five square blocks in any direction from the respective places

of business of the plaintiffs' business or of any member of the plaintiff association."

and prohibits picketing, persuading and loitering singly or in groups of more than one, or sending letters or pamphlets or writing of any kind whatsoever to the employees of any member of the association.

This is a sample of how all inclusive these association injunctions can be and it is simple enough to realize the danger to labor organizations. One small strike, one injunction by the association, and the union's hands are tied against any action with respect to every other boss in that association.

As a consequence of these innumerable injunctions issued in New York State alone, considerable opposition has been aroused and there are now pending before the New York State Legislature, a number of bills designed to remedy some of the most notorious of the evils of the injunction. Among the changes sought to be affected by these bills are (1) to abolish the temporary injunction, (2) to provide for open hearings with witnesses before any injunction can be issued, (3) to abolish punishment of a violation of an injunction as a crime, (4) to have jury trials for all claimed violations of an injunction, and (5) limiting the punishment for such violations.

However, there is only one bill with respect to injunctions that the I.L.D.

No, this is not Austria. It is Ambridge, Pa. and only one example of violence and terror against strikers since the N.R.A. The I.L.D. defends the right of workers to strike and organizes the fight against terror and injunctions. Join and build the I.L.D.

and that all workers can and must support, and that is a bill providing for the complete and total abolition of the use of injunctions in labor disputes at any time,—a bill to deprive the courts of the power to break strikes. The I.L.D. has always fought the court injunction as an unlawful usurpation of power by the courts and as the greatest strike menace. In these days of militant strike activity, no law that falls short of ending completely the injunction in labor disputes, can be approved by workers. All I.L.D. branches, unions and workers throughout the land must therefore bring all the pressure of their united forces to bear upon the legislatures, to the end that this great striking breaking agency, the court, should be removed from the industrial arena, by taking from it the power to issue the labor injunction.

EXTRA!

Scottsboro Appeal Mar. 3rd

Judge W. W. Callahan deliberately misled I. L. D. attorneys as to the requirements of the law in the filing of a motion for a new trial for Heywood Patterson and Clarence Norris, Scottsboro boys, in order to be able to railroad them to the electric chair without a chance of an appeal.

A call for mass demonstrations in every section of the country, and in the seventy countries where the I.L.D. has sections has been sent out by telegraph and cable. The demonstrations must demand, on the basis of Judge Callahan's vicious attempt to prevent an appeal, to Pres. Roosevelt, Gov. Miller of Alabama, and the State Supreme Court of Alabama, for immediate, unconditional release of the Scottsboro boys, proved innocent, reversal of the lynch verdicts, and removal of Judge Callahan.



Leipzig Surabaya

Support the Dutch Sailors!

there were outbursts of discontent on board the Z.P. It must not be forgotten that all of the married men are bread-winners and that most of the single men also have to support parents or relatives. And because, even in normal times a large amount is deducted from their wages for the most varied reasons (pension fund, sickness fund, clothes repairs, etc. this reduction is far worse in fact than the percentage (high as it is) would indicate.

"The Captain (Eijkenboom, who has since been dismissed and will have to answer to the War Council in Holland for his failure to maintain discipline) tried to quiet the men and warned them against resistance. None the less meetings were held on board the ship. Then a meeting was held in a moving-picture house in Sabang. An oiler wrote the manifesto for the meeting: in this manifesto, the need for united action of Indonesian and Dutch sailors is brought forth. A corporal, Bosschart, acted as chairman. His opening speech was translated into Malayan by an Indonesian sailor. When the question of a general strike was raised, police stopped the meeting.

"The crew returned to the ship and shortly afterwards the captain ordered them to weigh anchor. The ship went to the near-by island of Oleh-Leh. There, at a meeting of the sailors on board the ship the following resolution was passed: as soon as an opportunity came, the sailors would take over the ship, make for Surabaya and free the sailors who had been imprisoned there for refusal to obey orders. Then a general strike would be carried through, until the two following demands were won: pardon for all who had refused to obey orders, and withdrawal of the wage-cut.

"The Indonesian sailors offered to secure arms and ammunition. Two Indonesian sailors (Kawalarang and Tuhamena) were put in charge of navigation. Another Indonesian, Rumampi, was in charge of weighing the anchor. Corporal Bosschart was made responsible for generally leading the rebellion. Kawalarang was to give the signal by blowing a whistle. An Indonesian steward volunteered to lock the officers in their cabins as soon as the whistle blew. It was decided to carry through this action on the fourth of February.

"That day the sailors went ashore. The officers were invited to a party in the clubhouse at Sabang. Some of the crew took part in a football game that day, and others watched the game; still others went to a moving-picture showing, which was given to keep them

quiet. But at seven in the evening, they returned to the ship as had been agreed. A police officer, Vermeer, suspected something and went to the clubhouse to warn the captain. The captain, however, did not believe a word of it and only laughed. On board the ship, there were 17 young officers.

"The signal having been given, the program was carried out exactly as planned. The sailors are accustomed to discipline, and they have always excelled in solidarity: these things enabled them to carry out their plans smoothly. The officers had their revolvers, but offered no resistance, because it would have been useless. Later they were taken to the long-room, having given their word to refrain from action. They amused themselves by playing cards. A radio-officer had already wired to the stations in Indonesia and Schevingue (to the latter with the request to pass the news on to Surabaya) that the crew of the Z.P. had mutinied. When he was taken from his cabin, he threatened to fire his revolver, but changed his mind in time, so that he was not injured.

"The ship put on steam and about two o'clock in the morning pulled out, with the police officer Vermeer gazing after it. He went back to the clubhouse and gave the alarm. The captain, with a number of officers and officials, boarded the motor-boat, and pursued the Z.P. The crew warned

Special leaflet issued to the Dutch fleet by the I.L.D. of Holland calling them to the support of their comrades.



**DE ROODE HULP EN DE OPSTAND
DER MATROZEN
IN INDONESIË**

3 CENT

From the Dutch Labor Defender "Afweer Front"—special edition exposing two political trials—Leipzig and Surabaya.

On February 10th, 1933 a bomb was thrown from a Dornier plane, killing 18 sailors, wounding 25, and resulting in the surrender of the striking crew of the Zeven Provinzien. The officer who threw this strike-breaking bomb was a German Nazi named Fehrenbach—a well-known hanger-on in Hitler circles, until he found other outlets for his adventurism by obtaining a commission in the Dutch colonial army. This news is made public by the Roode Hulp (I.L.D.) of Holland, which is leading an international campaign for the sailors on trial, since October 31, in Surabaya, Java.

The severity of the sentences they will receive depends upon the strength of the mass support which the Roode Hulp (I.L.D.) of Holland is able to win for its protest campaign in Holland and throughout the world.

Already 235 sailors from the Surabaya barracks, who were striking in solidarity with the sailors of the ZEVEN PROVIZIEN, have been sentenced quietly to prison. With these already disposed of, it is probable that every effort will be made to present the ZEVEN PROVIZIEN crew to the world as isolated mutineers, rather than as the advance guard of an economic general strike in the Dutch navy. The report of the military commission of inquiry, however—a part of which is reprinted below—itsself shows very clearly the character of the grievances and the nature of the action which the sailors had planned against them:

"Last December a cable was received from Holland, to the effect that a considerable wage-reduction was being prepared for the sailors. While the Z.P. was on its way to Sabang (in North Sumatra), several notices appeared on the blackboard, announcing that the wage-reduction had gone into effect; 17% for the Indonesian sailors and 14% for the Dutch. Even then

them by radio not to use violence, because in that case they would be answered by the heavy guns. They also declared that they were bound for Surabaya and would surrender the ship to the authorities, on condition that the arrested sailors were set free and no violence was used against the sailors on general strike."

The action of these Dutch sailors was not only a struggle for securing better conditions for themselves; but it also was a breach in the imperialist chain of steel that fastens the natives of Java, Sumatra, and the Dutch East Indies. The strike of the Dutch sailors was a signal for the natives of the colonies and the workers of Holland to stand together and continue the fight with greater energy against their oppressors. All workers organizations, factory groups, unemployed groups should send protest letters or telegrams to the Dutch Legation in Washington or to the Dutch Consulate in their own city for the freedom of the imprisoned sailors, for the return of all lost ratings in navy grades, and any fines or losses of pay incurred.

Young Defenders Corner

Hey, girls and boys, this is your corner. This space is here for your stories, articles, poems, pictures, puzzles. Anything that you want to see in it. You don't have to be a Young Defender to write or draw for it. Both these letters are from the South. How about it North, East and West are you gonna let the South monopolize your corner? Let's get busy. If you want to know what the Young Defenders are and what they are doing, write to Rose Baron, Room 430, 80 East 11th Street, New York City. She'll tell you all about it and how YOU CAN BECOME A MEMBER. Let's get busy and make this Corner the best thing in the Labor Defender.

Pastor, Comrades and Friends, and fellow workers. It is quite a source of pleasure to me to compose a few lines, concerning the I.L.D. I am quite a



Victory in Sing Sing

The effectiveness of mass protest as a powerful defense weapon has received one more proof. For years the Labor Defender was banned from Sing Sing. No class war prisoner was permitted to read the official organ of the International Labor Defense, the only defense organization which fights for the release of these class war victims.

About 6 weeks ago the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners sent a delegation to visit Sam Weinstein in Sing Sing. They learned that he did not receive the Labor Defender and other working class publications.

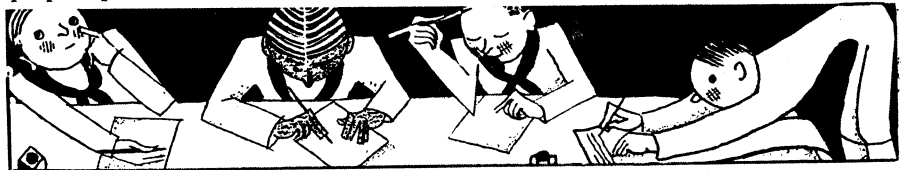
Warden Lawes was asked why not. He replied 3 weeks or so later by a statement in the New York Times in which he said, that because there were feeble minded prisoners under his care he could not permit them to see these "exaggerated pictures of police beating people up!"

The statement was answered by protest telegrams, letters and publicity in the press. On February 15th another delegation called on the warden—composed of writers, intellectuals and the editors of the Labor Defender and the New Masses (also specifically banned).

Space does not permit a description of this visit, with all the evasions of the Warden, the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish censors. The delegation was told that "since the matter was called to his attention," the magazines would now be admitted.

The Warden, however stated that he could not recognize political prisoners as such and that he would continue to censor all literature sent the prisoners.

The delegation announced that the fight for this recognition and against censorship had just begun and that spurred on by this victory it would move forward at a faster pace. (See p. 18).



girl but I feel that what ever is good for my mother it is good for me. My mother is in the I.L.D. and I don't feel that I should be nothing but in I.L.D., with her. Dear Comrades, I'm in school right now, but when my school is out, what ever help that I can be to the I.L.D., I will be too glad to do it. And I think that every boy and girl should get into the I.L.D. It has done wonderful things for some of the colored people to my knowing. And I feel that it will do the same for others. So I'll say to the young people, boys and girls, please come in and help us to work. So friends, don't get discouraged for the prize is not given to the fastest nor the strongest, but to the one that holds out and do to the end.

So I hope you have enjoyed the paper that I have composed, I thank you.



Louise Patterson, Heywood's sister.

I am Haywood Patterson's sister, I am a comrade too. I will help fight until the end of the last day that will be judgment. If it had not been for the I.L.D. the boys would have been dead long, long ago. If the N.A.A.C.P. had the boys case, they would have died three years ago in July on the 10th day. We Negro and white people ought to work together to save every one that are in need. We people in the South are not strong enough, to fight against the Boss Class. If I were where I could get out on the streets making my speeches like Richard B. Moore. We must fight for our rights, if we don't we will never get it. But if we people in the South will fight for our right, and don't be afraid we will get it. The Scottsboro boys will be free, and they are coming back home again. I know that the boys are coming home, it is not no hearsay, but what I know myself.

1. "Heil Hitler!"
2. "Salute, you swine."
3. O.K. I salute".
4. Into a concentration camp you go. For destroying a Statue of our Great Leader.

them by radio not to use violence, because in that case they would be answered by the heavy guns. They also declared that they were bound for Surabaya and would surrender the ship to the authorities, on condition that the arrested sailors were set free and no violence was used against the sailors on general strike."

The action of these Dutch sailors was not only a struggle for securing better conditions for themselves; but it also was a breach in the imperialist chain of steel that fastens the natives of Java, Sumatra, and the Dutch East Indies. The strike of the Dutch sailors was a signal for the natives of the colonies and the workers of Holland to stand together and continue the fight with greater energy against their oppressors. All workers organizations, factory groups, unemployed groups should send protest letters or telegrams to the Dutch Legation in Washington or to the Dutch Consulate in their own city for the freedom of the imprisoned sailors, for the return of all lost ratings in navy grades, and any fines or losses of pay incurred.

Young Defenders Corner

Hey, girls and boys, this is your corner. This space is here for your stories, articles, poems, pictures, puzzles. Anything that you want to see in it. You don't have to be a Young Defender to write or draw for it. Both these letters are from the South. How about it North, East and West are you gonna let the South monopolize your corner? Let's get busy. If you want to know what the Young Defenders are and what they are doing, write to Rose Baron, Room 430, 80 East 11th Street, New York City. She'll tell you all about it and how YOU CAN BECOME A MEMBER. Let's get busy and make this Corner the best thing in the Labor Defender.

Pastor, Comrades and Friends, and fellow workers. It is quite a source of pleasure to me to compose a few lines, concerning the I.L.D. I am quite a

Victory in Sing Sing

The effectiveness of mass protest as a powerful defense weapon has received one more proof. For years the Labor Defender was banned from Sing Sing. No class war prisoner was permitted to read the official organ of the International Labor Defense, the only defense organization which fights for the release of these class war victims.

About 6 weeks ago the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners sent a delegation to visit Sam Weinstein in Sing Sing. They learned that he did not receive the Labor Defender and other working class publications.

Warden Lawes was asked why not. He replied 3 weeks or so later by a statement in the New York Times in which he said, that because there were feeble minded prisoners under his care he could not permit them to see these "exaggerated pictures of police beating people up!"

The statement was answered by protest telegrams, letters and publicity in the press. On February 15th another delegation called on the warden—composed of writers, intellectuals and the editors of the Labor Defender and the New Masses (also specifically banned).

Space does not permit a description of this visit, with all the evasions of the Warden, the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish censors. The delegation was told that "since the matter was called to his attention," the magazines would now be admitted.

The Warden, however stated that he could not recognize political prisoners as such and that he would continue to censor all literature sent the prisoners.

The delegation announced that the fight for this recognition and against censorship had just begun and that spurred on by this victory it would move forward at a faster pace. (See p. 18).



girl but I feel that what ever is good for my mother it is good for me. My mother is in the I.L.D. and I don't feel that I should be nothing but in I.L.D., with her. Dear Comrades, I'm in school right now, but when my school is out, what ever help that I can be to the I.L.D., I will be too glad to do it. And I think that every boy and girl should get into the I.L.D. It has done wonderful things for some of the colored people to my knowing. And I feel that it will do the same for others. So I'll say to the young people, boys and girls, please come in and help us to work. So friends, don't get discouraged for the prize is not given to the fastest nor the strongest, but to the one that holds out and do to the end.

So I hope you have enjoyed the paper that I have composed, I thank you.



Louise Patterson, Heywood's sister.

I am Haywood Patterson's sister, I am a comrade too. I will help fight until the end of the last day that will be judgment. If it had not been for the I.L.D. the boys would have been dead long, long ago. If the N.A.A.C.P. had the boys case, they would have died three years ago in July on the 10th day. We Negro and white people ought to work together to save every one that are in need. We people in the South are not strong enough, to fight against the Boss Class. If I were where I could get out on the streets making my speeches like Richard B. Moore. We must fight for our rights, if we don't we will never get it. But if we people in the South will fight for our right, and don't be afraid we will get it. The Scottsboro boys will be free, and they are coming back home again. I know that the boys are coming home, it is not no hearsay, but what I know myself.



1. "Heil Hitler!"
2. "Salute, you swine."
3. O.K. I salute".
4. Into a concentration camp you go. For destroying a Statue of our Great Leader.

In the Beautiful West Indies

By
A. Gomez

Newspapers are filled with ads showing what the well dressed woman will wear on her cruise to the West Indies this year. Steamship companies are outdoing each other in extolling the blueness of the Caribbean and the wonder of the climate. They also offer as an inducement the "picturesque natives," the balmy beaches and the palm trees.

They neglect to tell you however, that the Caribbean islands and countries are of the greatest strategic importance for the U. S. and the British Navies. They neglect to tell you how many millions of dollars of raw materials are sweated out of the natives every year to fill the sugar bowls, coffee pots, gasoline tanks of the American people. And they rarely, except when the natives rebel against their intolerable conditions, say how many billions of dollars of Yankee capital are invested in the railroads, steamship lines, plantations, and last but not least puppet governments of these countries.

For instance Jamaica. One of the largest of the Antilles, with a population of 927,600 almost entirely landless Negro peasants—how many people are aware of the fact that Jamaica is the slave market for the Yankee controlled sugar plantations of Cuba and has been ever since the great wave of slave traffic from Africa was halted. Of course it isn't done with strings of beads or guns the way it used to be years ago. Smooth talking agents arrive, nowadays, with promises of work at a dollar a day—a fortune to these workers whose average pay is 25c a day—promises of a fine trip, return fare paid after the harvest.

But these Negro workers are then packed into ships that should hold 50 and are made to hold 200, taken straight to the plantation port, shoved into long barracks that are simply four walls with a roof over them—no floor, no inner divisions for rooms, and with the pay they actually get it would take them 20 years to save up enough money to get back home. This slave traffic is a fine source of revenue for the Cuban government. There's a tax of \$1 on each Negro worker brought in from Jamaica. And as many as 20,000 a year have been brought in.

But these Negro workers have not been subdued into feeling and acting like slaves. In the last sugar strike before the fall of Machado, hundreds of them were brought to the striking plantations. They took the machetes (sugar knives) that were given them. But as soon as these weapons were in their hands they announced that they were on strike too and they fought side by side with the Cuban workers for better conditions.

From Haiti which belongs to the United Fruit Company the same profitable traffic is carried on. But not to the same extent. For in Haiti the tradition of Toussaint L'Ouverture lives on. The Haitian workers carry on the tradition of the Republic they fought to establish and they have carried on a constant struggle against Yankee imperialism. Because of this undying resistance there is a vicious reign of terror in Haiti. The jails are filled with political prisoners. But the tradition and determination to fight cannot be killed.

An incident which happened in Cuba during the reign of Grau San Martin is a fine illustration of this. Grau San Martin started this business of Cuba for the Cubans. He tried to divide the workers with the traditional stories of "foreigners" who were cutting down their standard of living

by working for lower pay (as if they did this of their own free will) and he went as far as to offer \$5 and \$10 a head for Haitian and Jamaican Negroes working in Cuba who were captured for deportation back to the terror and starvation that faced them in their native lands. But many of these Negro workers had joined the Sugar Workers Union and though they cannot speak Spanish, for their native tongue is French, they were able to express their solidarity with the Cuban workers. At one meeting of the Sugar Workers Union, a Haitian Negro got up and made the following speech: "I Negro. You white. We workers. We fight together. Give us machetes. We fight with you." He pulled out his union membership card and pointed to it. "Trade union—equal rights, equal pay for Negroes in Union. Negroes not want lower pay—lower your pay. We fight."

And the little countries that form the connecting link between North and South America? The same thing, the same desperate conditions for the workers, the same filling of the jails without trials, the same exploitation of the natural resources for Yankee imperialism's greed. Tons of sugar, bananas, coffee—thousands of gallons of oil—and millions of dollars of investments.

Guatemala the largest of the Central American countries with a population of 2,454,000 of which 60% are Indian and only 2% pure white is governed like most of the other so-called republics by a general. His name is Ubico and he tries so hard to look and act like Napoleon that he actually succeeds. His strength, like the strength of the other rulers, is the support of his army and Yankee imperialism. And when his own army is not strong enough the Marines are called in until "the situation is well in hand."

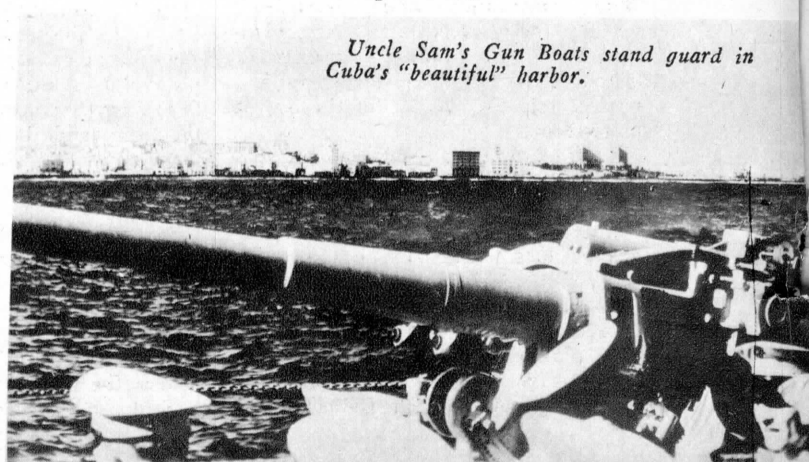
Costa Rica, the Switzerland of Latin America, is a problem for imperialism. The control is divided between the United States and Great Britain, but on the question of exploiting and persecuting the population there is a complete united front between them.

The jails of the Caribbean countries are filled with political prisoners whose lives are not even guaranteed by phrases such as we have in this country. Torture is the regular procedure. Solitary confinement for years is the usual program. The jails are filthy and airless. The food, what little there is of it, is uneatable.

American workers especially members of the International Labor Defense must do everything in their power to carry on a campaign of enlightenment about the beautiful West Indies. More than that they must undertake patronage over these countries. Help them build sections of the I.L.D. there to defend themselves and demand their rights. They need material aid—money for relief, money to get out literature and information about their conditions—and they need moral aid. Demonstrations before consulates, protest telegrams and letters to the tin soldier governments that oppress them, must be carried through to show them that American workers realize and understand that by helping them against the common enemy American imperialism they are helping themselves. The International Labor Defense calls on its branches to extend the hand of international solidarity to the exploited peoples of these colonies and semi-colonies of Wall Street imperialism.



A Haitian peasant's hut.



Uncle Sam's Gun Boats stand guard in Cuba's "beautiful" harbor.



Literature --

KARL MARX' "CAPITAL" IN LITHOGRAPHS, by Hugo Gellert, published by Ray Long and Richard R. Smith, New York. \$3.00.

Reviewed by LOUIS COLMAN

For the first time, the basic guide of the working-class movement, the great work of Karl Marx, is presented pictorially, in this series of 31 drawings by the famous proletarian artist, Hugo Gellert.

"Capital" is the most important book written by the father of scientific socialism, whose work is the guide to the whole revolutionary movement. Because of his deep understanding of the nature of capitalism, and of the necessity for organized struggle for its overthrow Marx became also the first to recognize the necessity for an international working-class defense organization.

His work in founding this, in defense of the victims of the reaction following the Paris Commune, is described in the I.L.D. pamphlet, Karl Marx as Labor Defender.

The continuing and sharpening necessity for a mass defense organization, stands out from every page of this selection from "Capital," applying as concretely now as it did the day it was written.

The fight against capitalism, at this time when blackest fascism reaction is closing over the capitalist world, is a fight of defense of the rights of the working-class. The basis of working-class defense lies in an understanding of the class struggle and the relation of forces. This is what Marx gives us.

The plan of this book is: one long quotation from Marx, with italics for the special point which Gellert illus-

trates, and a drawing on the page opposite. Some of the drawings are excellent cartoons of the working-class struggle in themselves, while others are drawings which only become meaningful in direct connection with the quotation on the opposite page. The tendency to look at the pictures and neglect to read the text has to be fought.

These 3 reproductions of Hugo Gellert's lithographs speak for themselves. Space does not permit reprinting of the text from Capital that comes with them. The pictures lose much of their effectiveness by being reduced to about 1-3 of the size they are in the book. But space has always been one of our great problems.

"SCOTTSBORO, Act 3," by Sasha Small, is the latest publication of the International Labor Defense. It sells for two cents.

In the recruiting campaign of the I.L.D., in the Scottsboro campaign, in the campaign against lynching, this pamphlet is an indispensable weapon for every member of the I.L.D. It must be read. It must be sold. Every member of the I.L.D. should be able to sell an average of five copies in three months.

Where it is not being sold, either there is no Scottsboro, no anti-lynch, campaign, or else it is being conducted without one of our most important weapons-literature.

The record of the I.L.D. districts in orders for this pamphlet is shameful.

Eight districts, among them some of

the strongest, have not ordered a single copy—have not made it possible for the membership to read, sell, or use this weapon in the class-war. These districts are:

PHILADELPHIA, PITTSBURGH, BOSTON, MINNESOTA, SEATTLE, SAN FRANCISCO, MILWAUKEE, and DENVER.

The western districts recently held an anti-lynch conference at San Jose. The only Scottsboro pamphlets ordered in this entire area were 100 ordered by Los Angeles. Think of that, comrades! ONE HUNDRED COPIES of a Scottsboro pamphlet for ELEVEN STATES!

CHICAGO is not on the list of districts which ordered no pamphlets. It might as well be. The total order from the second largest district in the country is 100!

DETROIT has ordered only 500 copies.

(Continued on Page 18)





Literature --

KARL MARX' "CAPITAL" IN LITHOGRAPHS, by Hugo Gellert, published by Ray Long and Richard R. Smith, New York. \$3.00.

Reviewed by LOUIS COLMAN

For the first time, the basic guide of the working-class movement, the great work of Karl Marx, is presented pictorially, in this series of 31 drawings by the famous proletarian artist, Hugo Gellert.

"Capital" is the most important book written by the father of scientific socialism, whose work is the guide to the whole revolutionary movement. Because of his deep understanding of the nature of capitalism, and of the necessity for organized struggle for its overthrow Marx became also the first to recognize the necessity for an international working-class defense organization.

His work in founding this, in defense of the victims of the reaction following the Paris Commune, is described in the I.L.D. pamphlet, Karl Marx as Labor Defender.

The continuing and sharpening necessity for a mass defense organization, stands out from every page of this selection from "Capital," applying as concretely now as it did the day it was written.

The fight against capitalism, at this time when blackest fascist reaction is closing over the capitalist world, is a fight of defense of the rights of the working-class. The basis of working-class defense lies in an understanding of the class struggle and the relation of forces. This is what Marx gives us.

The plan of this book is: one long quotation from Marx, with italics for the special point which Gellert illus-

trates, and a drawing on the page opposite. Some of the drawings are excellent cartoons of the working-class struggle in themselves, while others are drawings which only become meaningful in direct connection with the quotation on the opposite page. The tendency to look at the pictures and neglect to read the text has to be fought.

These 3 reproductions of Hugo Gellert's lithographs speak for themselves. Space does not permit reprinting of the text from Capital that comes with them. The pictures lose much of their effectiveness by being reduced to about 1-3 of the size they are in the book. But space has always been one of our great problems.

"SCOTTSBORO, Act 3," by Sasha Small, is the latest publication of the International Labor Defense. It sells for two cents.

In the recruiting campaign of the I.L.D., in the Scottsboro campaign, in the campaign against lynching, this pamphlet is an indispensable weapon for every member of the I.L.D. It must be read. It must be sold. Every member of the I.L.D. should be able to sell an average of five copies in three months.

Where it is not being sold, either there is no Scottsboro, no anti-lynch campaign, or else it is being conducted without one of our most important weapons-literature.

The record of the I.L.D. districts in orders for this pamphlet is shameful. Eight districts, among them some of

the strongest, have not ordered a single copy—have not made it possible for the membership to read, sell, or use this weapon in the class-war. These districts are:

PHILADELPHIA, PITTSBURGH, BOSTON, MINNESOTA, SEATTLE, SAN FRANCISCO, MILWAUKEE, and DENVER.

The western districts recently held an anti-lynch conference at San Jose. The only Scottsboro pamphlets ordered in this entire area were 100 ordered by Los Angeles. Think of that, comrades! ONE HUNDRED COPIES of a Scottsboro pamphlet for ELEVEN STATES!

CHICAGO is not on the list of districts which ordered no pamphlets. It might as well be. The total order from the second largest district in the country is 100!

DETROIT has ordered only 500 copies.

(Continued on Page 18)



We Demand Recognition of the Status of Political Prisoners in the U. S. A.

A call to all members of the I.L.D. and its friends to join the campaign for recognition of class war prisoners and securing of special privileges for them as such, behind prison bars.

The forces of the International Labor Defense, its affiliated organizations, its friends and sympathizers, must be mobilized for the struggle for the improvement of the prison regime of political prisoners. The campaign must be waged throughout the labor press, in every liberal and sympathetic periodical, by mass meetings, demonstrations and organized protest movement against the refusal of the authorities to recognize their political status, struggle must be based upon the everyday need and demands of the political prisoners, for a preferential prison regime. The struggle must be waged under the main slogan for the unconditional release of class war prisoners.

The existence of political prisoners in the United States is denied by prison authorities. Yet there are literally thousands of political prisoners, men and women whose only crime is that they have dared to struggle against the burdens of the crisis shifted onto their shoulders; that they dared struggle against the deportation of militant foreign born workers, against the denial of equal rights for the Negro masses.

The nature of the "crime" of these individuals is carefully hidden behind the charges made against them of violation of the penal law. When the question of recognizing the political status of certain men in Sing Sing, imprisoned for their activities in economic and political struggles, was raised with Warden Lewis E. Lawes, for the purpose of securing for them the privilege of receiving publications of the labor press which he had banned, he said, "I do not recognize the status of political prisoners as such. Each and every man has been convicted of the violation of the penal law."

Although the status of political prisoners is not extended to these imprisoned victims of the class struggle, yet in many ways their position is clearly recognized. Literature from militant labor organizations is denied them (in Auburn, N. Y., San Quentin, Calif., Blawnox, Pa., Kirby, Ala., etc.) Their moral corruption is attempted. Every effort is made to split them from their organizations, to destroy their militancy, to separate them according to nationalities, to isolate the youth and to impose upon all other special humiliating measures. So far in America the beating and tortures imposed upon political prisoners in Europe is reserved for the greater part for the Negro prisoners.

The struggle for human conditions in prison for these men and women must be regarded as a major national campaign of the American working class.

Behind this denial of the political status to such men and women, whose numbers are now daily increasing, state and federal governments seek to hide the class character of their persecution. State and federal constitutions guarantee the right of free speech, freedom of assemblage, the right of freedom of the press, the right to demand redress of grievances. These were among the basic issues in the silk mill strikes in New Jersey, strikes of the cotton pickers and

agricultural workers in California, strike struggles of the miners in New Mexico and Utah, the steel workers in Pennsylvania, the struggles against the enforcement of the NRA codes, for unemployment insurance at the expense of the government and employers.

But the class war victims of these struggles were charged with disturbing the peace, inciting to riot, sedition, unlawful assemblage; and such frivolous charges as blocking the traffic, littering the streets, or some other "violation of the penal law." Thus does the ruling class seek to evade the recognition of political prisoners. This ruse must be ruthlessly exposed.

Behind such charges as these, the frame-up of Tom Mooney, Warren Billings, Angelo Herndon, the Scottsboro boys and the innumerable victims of class and national persecution, have taken place.

European and Latin American countries have long recognized the distinction between those arrested for the violation of the penal law and those arrested because of their opposition to the economic and political system under which they live.

The government of the United States has recognized many of the refugees from political and economic struggles in other countries, as having the right of political asylum here. The Machados from Cuba, the hangers-on from the former Czarist court, former ruling class butchers, forcibly ousted by the masses they oppressed, find sanctuary here.

The victims of the legal terror of the ruling class who fight this enslaving economic and political order are forced into the category of common criminals. Even when amnesty is granted, it is not extended to them. In this way those who control the government seek to prevent the rising wrath of the masses from finding expression against the persecution of workers and their sympathizers who have fought against misery and oppression.

The toiling masses in the International Labor Defense, its friends and sympathizers, must answer every act of terror in the prisons with the broadest popularization of the demands of the political prisoners. Demonstrations must be organized in front of prisons and of courts. Families of the political prisoners must organize demonstrations in their neighborhoods. Around released prisoners mass organizational struggles must be developed in behalf of those who have been left behind.

Patronage must be taken by International Labor Defense districts and branches by working class organizations and those friendly to it over political prisoners for the struggle in their defense and for the recognition of their special status.

The struggle must be extended beyond a fight for political prisoners in this country, and with equal energy and attention for the struggle for political prisoners in Germany and Austria and other European countries, in the colonies and semi-colonies.

(Continued from Page 17)

CONNECTICUT ordered 5 copies— and neglected to pay even for those.

NEW YORK ordered 3,400—and has only paid for half of them. This is excellent in comparison to the other districts, but a very poor showing for New York, the biggest district in the country, on a SCOTTSBORO pamphlet.

The total number of these Scottsboro pamphlets ordered by the I.L.D. districts is 4,995.

Class conscious workers who have wanted to have this pamphlet, but who HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO GET IT

thru the district because the district leaders failed to see the necessity of ordering, have ordered them directly or through other channels. The total so bought is TWICE that bought by or through the districts, although favorable discounts for the districts encourage them even financially, to handle this pamphlet.

Not only is this pamphlet withheld from the masses. Other literature is withheld besides, because unless literature can be sold, there is no money with which to publish more literature.

Where are the educational depart-

ments of the districts? How is it possible for the districts to so completely neglect the absolute necessity for spreading I.L.D. literature?

The national office has organized a functioning educational department, to direct educational activities on a national scale. The work of this department can only become effective through the organization of educational committees in every districts, every section, every branch of the I.L.D.

Comrades! 50,000 copies of SCOTTSBORO, Act 3 must be sold before June 1.

Ruby's Story

(Concluded in This Issue)

During the trial itself I knew that I was telling false on those boys. But I was scared and was afraid to tell anything only what had been told to me by Victoria. I hope that I will be forgiven for telling those lies on those nine boys and being partly the cause of their suffering these years.

When they brought in the first verdict of guilty and death sentence for Clarence and Charley people in the courthouse clapped their hands. Some of them went outside and we could hear them hollering from out there. Later in the same day there was a band playing in the street. They were playing "Hail, hail the gang's all here" and "There 'll be a hot time in the Old Town tonite."

At the trial of the five boys together, Ozie Powell, Olen Montgomery, Willie Robertson, Eugene Williams and Andy Wright, Victoria was the first witness again. She told the same lies only she mixed them up some.

They didn't ever put up Gilley on the stand to testify. Both Victoria and I kept saying as how he was in the gondola car with us all the time. But they didn't ever call on him for a witness.

From April till August 1931 it was just one battle to find work and keep living in Huntsville. In August 1931 me and my mother went down to the Southern Railroad and boarded a train going to Sheffield. We got in a box car where we was all by ourselves.

I couldn't help thinking all during the ride about my first ride on a freight train and what came of it. And I began to worry and worry about the lies I had told on them Scottsboro boys. I knew they were in jail and might be burned in the electric chair because Victoria and I had told lies on them to get ourselves out of trouble.

What good had telling them lies done for me? Here I was on a freight train with my mother, going to look for work just like them boys had been doing. We were no better off then they were. The only really difference between us was that our skins were white and theirs was black.

Here we had all the time been made to feel that we was better than Negroes, and better off, because of us being white and they black. I saw that we were no better off, except that most of us poor white people wasn't in danger of getting lynched like Negroes are, just "to keep them in their places," like so many white folks in the South always say.

It was worrying me plenty.

When we got off the train at Sheffield, we found my aunt almost in the same condition we was in. She told us the doctor said she had T.B. and what little they got to eat the Red Cross gave them. She had 5 children to take care of and was not able to go out of the house.

We just stopped there overnight and then we went to Russellville, and we got a job there in the mill.

We worked there 3 weeks but I took sick again and my mother carried me back to Huntsville.

We couldn't get any work at all nowhere. We'd keep calling on the Red

Cross again but we didn't get any help from them. So my mother took in washings and ironings again and that's how we'd make our living.

During this time I had made friends with a boy called Earl Streetman. He was nice and I liked him and then around January me and him fell out about a girl called Mary Sanders. She had told him a lot of things that weren't true about the Scottsboro case. I knew she had. So I wrote him a letter telling the whole truth about the Scottsboro case.

But he never got that letter.

The boy who was carrying it to him met somebody in the street that said something about me he didn't like. So they got into a fight and the police arrested them both. When they took them to the jail they searched them and they found this letter and kept it.

Well, the day after, the law come into my house after me.

When we got to the jail the sheriff told me if I didn't want to get on the chain gang for 100 days I'd have to sign an affidavit that he had in front of him. Right on his desk. I was so scared of being put in jail I signed the paper. The next day they had that paper and my name on it in the Huntsville paper. It said I was drunk when I wrote the letter and I didn't know what I was writing about and the whole letter was a lie.

The letter was the truth and I wouldn't have signed that paper if they hadn't scared me and made me sign it in the jail, without reading it.

This was in January 1933.

I began to see it was no use trying to get work in Huntsville. So a girl friend and a boy friend, named Jackson, and I, decided to go to Montgomery.

We left Huntsville in the evening and rode in a car all night until we got to Montgomery. We got to talking about Montgomery on the way and we all said it didn't seem like there was going to be much more of a chance to get work in Montgomery than there was in Huntsville.

We just stayed in Montgomery long enough to eat. Then we decided to go up North.

Then my girl friend, Rosetta Brown and I went to Chattanooga to get the bus. I had about \$35 all together. Jackson had give me \$20 and the rest I had managed to lay by. My girl friend had more money and she helped me pay for my ticket to New York.

When we got to New York we went out to a tourist camp not far out of the city that we had seen along the way, and I got a job there, helping the lady. All the time I was still studying about the Scottsboro case and wondering who I could tell my story to who would believe me and not get me into more trouble.

I was afraid of the law. The only person I could think of was a minister. So when read the papers I looked out for a minister's name. Then one day I saw Rev. Fosdick's name and his picture in the paper. I studied his face and I thought, "I ought to try and see him." So when I got a day off I came to New York and asked somebody how to get to his church, and when I got there he said he would see me right away. The only people in the room were Rev. Fosdick and a stenographer. I told him who I was and my whole story and he told me if he was me he'd

go down South, back to Alabama and tell the same story in the court so 9 boys wouldn't burn in the electric chair for something they never done.

He told me the name of somebody in Birmingham he knew, for me to go and see and ask him to help me to get to Decatur where the new trial for the boys was going to be.

When I got out of the bus at Birmingham, I showed the taxi man the paper with this man's name written on it, and he took me to Reverend Clingman's house. He is the Minister of the Episcopal Church of the Advent. When I told the Reverend who I was he called up Mr. Brodsky, the International Labor Defense attorney right away and asked him to come right over.

He did come right over. And I told him the story too. And then Rev. Clingman called in two of his friends—two ladies one of them was called by the name of Mrs. Jones and she took me in a car from Birmingham to Decatur. This was April 7, 1933.

In front of the courthouse me and Mrs. Jones got out of the car. When we walked up to the courthouse a National Guard stopped me and said I couldn't go up—I said I could and walked on up. He caught my arm and said I'd need a pass. I said I didn't, I was a witness. He called to the National Guard at the head of the steps. When I told him my name, he let me in.

Everyone stared me in the face. The room was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. I walked on into the courtroom—between where the judge and the jury were sitting. I walked up to the front. They was fixing to put Jack Tiller on the stand only Leibowitz he said, "Here's the other witness." They put me on instead.

They brought Victoria out.

She came out from the left hand side from where I was. When she passed by Attorney General Knight he said something to her. I didn't hear what. They asked me was that the girl I was with on the freight train. I told them yes.

She didn't say anything. She just looked like she was ready to blow up. She looked as if she'd like to cut me all to pieces if she had a chance. Then they took her back to the other witness room.

Mr. Leibowitz had only asked me questions about 10 minutes and then he told me to tell the story. I started by telling of working in the mills and meeting Lester on the gang and the freight train ride and the hobo jungles.

(Continued on page 23)

Two of the Scottsboro boys handcuffed together being led into jail.



Two of the Scottsboro boys handcuffed together being led into jail.



Save these Nazi victims from living hell
in Hitler's concentration camps!

A Message from Germany

Anti-Fascists! Workers of America!

We wish to take advantage of the return of our friend Gallagher, fearless fighter against the Leipzig frame-up and for the freedom of Dimitroff, Torgler, Popoff and Taneff, in order to bring to you from fascist Germany hearty brotherly greetings of those who are in the struggle.

Although thousands of miles separate us from you, we feel nevertheless most closely united with you.

Although you yourselves in your country must use all your energy in the struggle against oppression, against race hatred, against the growing fascism and for the freedom of the proletarian political prisoners, nevertheless you have not for a single moment forgotten the German working class suffering under the bloody fascist dictatorship.

We, the Red Aid Workers of Germany, and with us millions of militant anti-fascists, know that you, through your mass protests in countless meetings, or demonstrations under the leadership of the International Labor Defense, have most decisively prevented the murdering of our comrades Dimitroff, Torgler, Popoff and Taneff, which Hitler and Goering wished desperately to accomplish.

By your struggle you have succeeded in forcing their acquittal.

We know also that you have contributed, penny by penny, to the support of the 200,000 political prisoners, of the relatives of more than 3000 murdered workers, the wives and children of the more than 240,000 fugitives.

In the name of the victims of fascist terror, in the name of the German working class and of the German Red Aid, we thank you.

You have again proven that the international solidarity lives and can never be crushed in spite of the hemming in and oppression of the capitalist class.

For brotherly solidarity has strengthened and helped us mightily in our struggle against blood-stained Hitler regime. We promise you that we here, on the battle field of struggle, will carry on with all our power, the struggle for the freeing of the proletarian political prisoners, against the fascist terror and for the overthrow of the fascist dictatorship.

We appeal to you, however, not to allow your solidarity and fighting strength to be weakened for a moment.

The fascist dictatorship in Germany, which has brought with it tremendous-

29 - German Workers Sentenced to Death!

WORKMEN BARTL and WINKLER of Chemnitz—sentenced on May 23, charge: involved in the death of a Hitlerite dentist who was killed August 5, 1932. Supreme Court upheld the sentence September 23.

SZEZODOY and TOLZ, Berlin workers—sentenced to death on July 25, 1933. Charge: "Raiding a public house frequented by Storm Troopers".

ARNSTEDT, MASGAI, TIBULSKI, EGERT, ROHLES, SCHMIDT, HERR, HUPPERTZ, RIEBANDT. Active anti-Nazi fighters and functionaries of the German Communist Party. Sentenced to death in Duesseldorf on July 9, 1933. These men were leaders of the workers in their city. Schmidt was formerly Town Councillor elected on the Communist ticket. Even in the March 5, 1933 election conducted under Nazi terror 6,000 of the 9,000 votes cast were for the Communist Party. On December 7, the Leipzig Supreme Court upheld the death sentence.

HUGO GAST, slater; HANS KAPARIK, RICHARD KUECHMANN, insulators; KARL MAY, factory worker; HERBERT SCHARGE, bricklayer; FRITZ SCHEINHARDT, iron founder; OTTO SPECKMANN, builders helper; TALLAGER, OTTO THAELMANN, JOHANNE UHE, KARL ZELLMER. All workers from Hecklingen in Anhalt sentenced to death in Dessau after a 9 day trial. Charge: Shooting a Storm Trooper on Feb. 11, 1933. "The court has ascertained that out of the 10 defendants Gast and Scharge fired the shots. The other defendants did not shoot, but were in agreement with the deed."

WULLI ROCHOW and OTTO WALTHER, 19 year old members of the Young Communist League arrested September 28, 1933 charged with killing a member of a Hitler Youth Org. Smitzberg, because, according to the prosecution—he "possessed inconvenient knowledge of their former misdeeds." Sentenced to death on October 11, 1933. The prosecution stated in justification of the sentence that "They both belong to the Young Communist International which has contributed to infecting them with Communism and rendering them unfit for our state of society."

RICHARD BAHR, 23 years old—milkman. Sentenced to death by the Berlin Special Court on December 1, 1933. Charge: "Continuous incendiarism, attempted in some cases and carried out in others, committed with the intention of arousing alarm and terror among the population."

LETZNER of Madgabung, sentenced to

ly increased economic want for the workers, intellectuals, middle class and small farmers, seeks to maintain its power, by the most bloody means, against the growing dissatisfaction and the heroic struggle of the anti-fascist fighters for freedom.

The terrors of the concentration camps against the defenseless prisoners take on from day to day more horrible forms. Imprisoned comrades, social democrats, unaffiliated workers, Jews and Christians, are literally martyred to death.

At this very moment that we write you this letter, four of the best sons of the working class, John Scheer, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Germany, Eric Steinfurth, member of the Central Committee of the Red Aid, the anti-fascists, Eugene Schoenhaar, and Rudolph Echwarz, have been murdered in a woods near Berlin by the direct command of Goering.

Therefore, we appeal to you! Be tireless in your protest! Join together in mighty mass action. Create in all cities and villages, in the factories and in the offices, *Thaelman-Dimitroff Defense Committees*. Demand everywhere the freedom of Ernst Thaelman and all imprisoned anti-fascists in Germany.

Do not forget the imprisoned workers, nor the wives and children of imprisoned and murdered workers.

Help with your moral and material support in order that the Red Aid of Germany can with increasing effectiveness carry on its great work of solidarity.

Long live the solidarity of the working masses of America with the struggling anti-fascist workers of Germany.

Long live the work of the International Red Aid.

Berlin, February 1, 1934.

death after a 6 day trial for participating in a fight against Nazis on New Year's Eve between 1931 and 1932. This was the 42nd sentence in 9 months.

CASPARI—21 years old of Chemnitz—sentenced to death on October 22, 1933. Charge: wounded a Storm Trooper with a knife on November 6, 1932.

I. L. D. Branches—ADOPT one of these victims of Nazi terror. Raise funds for his family. Send resolutions demanding his release to Herman Goering, Berlin Germany. Write to the National Office for more information.

"Filipino Comrades, We Are with You!"

The following is an excerpt from a letter to Crisanto Evangelista, leader of the Philippine Communist Party who is now in jail serving a long prison term under charges of "sedition" and belonging to an "illegal" party. The letter was sent by the Filipino Anti-Imperialist League of New York which is devoting all its energies to bring about the release of the 27 Filipino leaders now incarcerated in the Philippine jails for their militant struggle for better living conditions for the workers and peasants.

"On December 17th, and prior thereto we have conducted mass meetings and lectures regarding your case and of the other valiant comrades with you. A conference was held on December 17th last, representing at least 24 different organizations, which arranged for a series of mass meetings to culminate Feb. 4, 1934 at Irving Plaza Hall, New York City. The response of the American workers to our call has been gratifying. We have now working, to further the cause of your release, an Action Committee created by the Conference on Dec. 17th.

"At the Feb. 4th mass meeting, a delegation was elected to personally protest to Manuel Quezon, who is now in Washington, President Roosevelt, and our Resident Commission. The delegation is composed of Maximo Manzon, head of the delegation, P. R. Sajona, our President, Joseph J. Tauber, associate council of the defense, N. Bruce, representing the International Labor Defense, and several others representing different militant working class organizations in N. Y.

"In line with our fight, we are also agitating for freedom of speech in the Philippines, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, freedom to organize and for the immediate, complete and unconditional independence of the P. I.

"Let me assure you again that we have not forgotten the suffering that you and our other comrades are going through, that we fully realize and appreciate the conditions under which you are existing, that we are fully conscious and aware of the growing results of your noble work just begun. Here, as well as at home, the love of our countrymen for you, as well as

those who know your case is growing, and you have opened the way for our people to follow, and we are following.

"As an evidence of the growing appreciation and esteem for you, the Filipinos have organized a branch of the International Labor Defense in your name (Crisanto Evangelista branch of the I.L.D.) and its membership at the start composed entirely of Filipino workers, is 20, and there is every indication that this group will shortly double its size. . . .

"And, while you are thus pining away in jail, always remember that outside of your cell your comrades have not forgotten you and that they are continuing the fight which you have begun.

Wishing you sincerest revolutionary greetings,

MAXIMO MANZON

For the Filipino Anti-Imperialist League

China Today

(Continued from Page 11)

that they are afraid of the Chinese Soviets and of the Soviet Union. They are afraid of the upsurging force of the rebellious masses. They are afraid of the only force in China that is carrying on a genuine struggle for the national liberation of that country, namely—the Chinese Soviet Republic. They are afraid of the Soviet Union because there stands a proud example of the accomplishments of a country free of oppression, free of the miseries of capitalism, and free of imperialists.

Therefore, there is only one road open to American workers. Defend the Chinese Soviets in their struggle against their national and imperialist oppressors. Defend and protect all class war prisoners now rotting in Kuomintang jails. Defend the Soviet Union against attack. Let there be no imperialist war. The workers of the world have the power to stop such a war.

The American International Labor Defense has always been in the forefront of the struggle in defense of political prisoners in China. It led and is leading the struggle to free the Rueggs. This struggle must be broadened and intensified.

Greet MOPR Congress

(Continued from Page 5)

factories the workers voted to work an extra day and give the whole day's earning to the victims of Dollfuss terror.

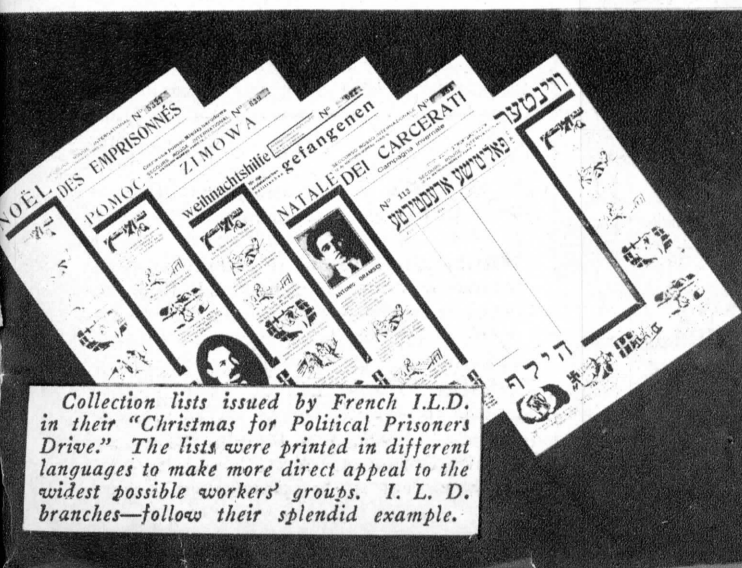
MOPR has branches among the formerly oppressed minor nationalities now free and autonomous republics of the Soviet Union. Tartars, Uzbeks, Tadjiks, formerly, under the czar, suffering the same persecution and discrimination that the Negro masses of this country are suffering—now citizens of autonomous countries, with their own schools, their own press—are foremost in the work of international solidarity with the oppressed peoples all over the world. In the leadership of the MOPR organizations there are many ex-political prisoners. Helena Stassova, the secretary, suffered many years in exile in Siberia during Czarist days. Many of the others were imprisoned, tortured and persecuted for their working class activities by the bloody government of those times. Now they are leading the work of promoting international solidarity with the workers of the world who are still the victims of ruling class terror and oppression.

This MOPR Congress will be celebrated by every section of the International Red Aid. The American International Labor Defense must send greetings from all its branches. These greetings must reach the National Office of the I.L.D. no later than March 12th to be forwarded so that they will reach the Congress in time. All trade unions, mass organizations, prominent individuals or any individuals who wish to greet this great Congress are urged to do the same. Greetings from many political prisoners will be sent to the Congress, from Mother Mooney, Mother Wright and the other Scottsboro mothers.

In addition, every Paris Commune meeting held on March 18th must cable greetings to the opening of the MOPR Congress.

Let us celebrate together with our Russian comrades their great achievements. Let us express our international solidarity with them as they have so many times shown theirs for us.

Greet the IVth MOPR Congress.



Collection lists issued by French I.L.D. in their "Christmas for Political Prisoners Drive." The lists were printed in different languages to make more direct appeal to the widest possible workers' groups. I. L. D. branches—follow their splendid example.



WANTED VOICES FROM PRISON



Children of German prisoners and refugees in a home established in France with the aid of the French I. L. D.

A CALL TO BUILD THE I.L.D.

Every day the workers feel the friendly hand of the I.L.D. They know it has demonstrated its usefulness toward the cause which we are all interested in and the working class is making every effort possible to continue the activity on a broader scale. The Political Prisoners know of the need and usefulness of the I.L.D. for they are the imprisoned victims that must depend upon just such a militant organization . . . Never before has the working class felt the need as it does today of such a class conscious working class organization.

John J. Cornelison—life sentence
—served 11 years—San Quentin.

* * *

100 LETTERS MUST ANSWER THIS ONE

Unless one receives letters from the comrades on the outside it is very easy in most cases for one to feel that he has been forgotten. Thru letters one can be able to keep in touch with the very day class struggles, new developments and so forth . . .

Angelo Herndon—18-20 year sentence—served 13 months—Fulton Tower.

* * *

DEMAND HIS RELEASE!

Your greetings was received and it makes one feel very grateful to know that there is a force that works for justice and not against. My holidays were not spent so gloomy when I knew there was such a force . . . I will close with the hopes that the army of the I.L.D. sweeps the entire universe.

Jessie Hollins—death sentence—Creek County Jail, Salupa, Ala. New trial won — served 2½ years.

* * *

WE HOPE SO TOO

I had a very bad Christmas. I did not get anything from the outside at all. But yet and still I do appreciate everything that you comrades are doing for me and do hope that you all will

continue to fight on until we are free. And please tell all the comrades and friends that I hope that my free day will be soon so I can meet them all and tell them how much I appreciate the hard struggle that they are doing for us poor boys.

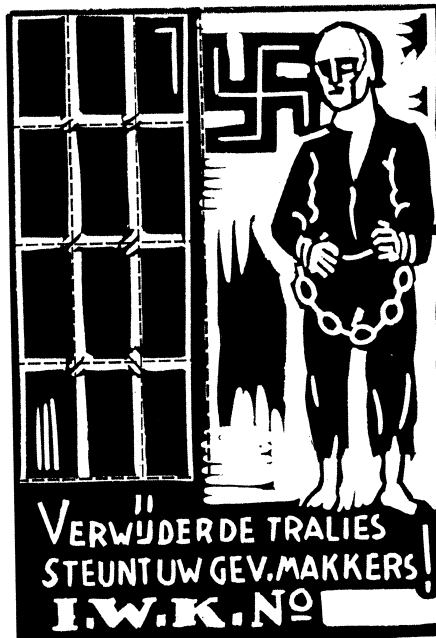
Charlie Weems—Jefferson County Jail.

(Many presents were sent to the Scottsboro boys The jailers did not deliver them. Protest against this act to the warden and the governor).

* * *

WE MUST ORGANIZE

It's just a couple of years to 1934. . . . We can honestly view the coming year with optimism. A smashing frontal attack by the workers led by the I.L.D. should crack the Scottsboro crime. Those standard bearers of fascism, Matthew Woll et al. can be eliminated as potent factors against us



10 CENT PER CELRAAM

Here's a great idea from Holland. Every dime for prisoner's relief removes one prison bar. The cells are perforated and torn off like stamps.

by organization. We must organize everywhere. This may sound like heresy, but I know that a well organized American proletariat is a better defense of the USSR than any "recognition" agreement. Thanks a lot for the money order . . . I receive 5c for each working day and am permitted to spend half of that (60c) a month. . . . I am going to have tobacco for quite a while to come, thanks to you.

Thomas J. Bunker—6½-25 years sentence—served 10 months

* * *

HELP US CARRY ON THIS WORK

I received your nice sweet kind letter. In it I found ten dollars. Oh, how glad I was when I opened it. If you could only just see my heart. Oh, my heart run over with joy just to know that the good fellow workers is doing their whole duty towards my family.

Carrie Phillips—wife of Elzie Phillips—Negro. Sentenced to life in Frankfort, Ky.—served 1½ years.

Our Fight Begins

The fight for the rights of political prisoners has only just commenced in America. Too long have we tolerated wretched prison conditions for our class war prisoners and permitted them to rot in jails. These foremost fighters for the rights of the working class must be saved for the coming intense struggles.

Our first action in this direction was to send out to all long term class war prisoners, copies of the February issue of the Labor Defender by registered mail and we intend to continue to send the Labor Defender to them regularly. All prisoners are allowed to absorb the poison that comes off the capitalist press to build up bourgeois morality, economics and politics by which the capitalist class seeks to drug the minds of the masses and so maintain itself. But "verboten" in prison is any literature dealing with labor, its democratic rights and hopes for a better world.

You can help at this stage of our campaign too. Our prisoners are hungry for news of the struggles of the working class in America and all over the world, and want to spend their days in prison profitably to prepare themselves for the fight when they are released. Send a class war prisoner our literature, by registered mail. Ask him if he has received it. If he hasn't, get your comrades, friends and neighbors to send strong and powerful protests to the warden insisting that your prisoner receive this literature. Send official delegations to visit political prisoners in your locality including the families in these delegations to investigate prison conditions and protest against specific grievances. Transmit detailed information of your experiences to the National Office immediately. These few simple tasks are the beginning of our fight for preferential regimes for political prisoners.

RUBY'S STORY

(Continued from Page 19)

I had on a new dress that wasn't really new but was new to them. I didn't have on the faded print dress that I had on when I worked in the mills. The first thing that Knight asked me was where did I get my dress. I told him I bought it. He shouted the questions at me and hardly gave me time to answer before he asked another one.

The jury they'd sometimes look at me and sometimes they wouldn't. When they did look at me they looked like they could just lynch me. They looked so angry. Knight he shouted away. You know how a lawyer does talking with his arms. He had a ruler and he pointed to the little train fixed just like the real train we were on asking me questions. He tried to get me tangled up. Once he pointed his finger right in my face and hollered, "Didn't I tell you in Birmingham that if you changed your testimony I'd lock you up in jail?"

Then he changed back to the dress and the slippers again. "Had I seen Lester in New York?" "No, I didn't even know he was in New York."

"You been here all this time and you haven't seen him and he didn't see you?" I said, "No, I didn't." Then he changed back to the dress and the slippers again. Leibowitz would object everytime he asked those questions. Judge Horton finally got tired of it and told Knight he was questioning me for Haywood Patterson's case and not for the dresses. Leibowitz told him that a dozen times or more. Knight got mad and told Leibowitz and Brodsky to take their bought over witness. That he was done with me.

When I got off the witness stand, I went back to the witness room. Mrs. Patterson, Heywood's mother, jumped up and asked had I sworn for her boy or against her boy. When I said I'd told the truth on the boy, her and Mrs. Wright smiled and shook hands with me and said they hoped soon Victoria would do the same.

On Saturday night Lester joined us in Chattanooga.

On Sunday when I read in the papers about the verdict I didn't know what to say. If they got a verdict of guilty after what Lester and I and the other witnesses told the only thing that I see that they did, was just to take the same verdict that was passed in Scottsboro and say it over again.

They haven't got no evidence. There isn't any and they know it. The boys are innocent. Since that verdict it's woke me up. I was like asleep until that case happened. I see that just because those 9 boys are Negroes no amount of telling the truth could turn them loose in Decatur. I see that I needn't feel bad because they say I'm not fit to be a member of the white race in the South no more. They say it because I took up for Negroes. Well, I don't care to be that kind of a member of the white race.

Those Negro boys are innocent. I want everybody in the world to know it like I do—and believe it. I've learned where I belong now—what kind of a race I mean. It's with people who know Negroes are no different from white folks except their skins are black colored.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO I.L.D. MEMBERS AND ALL THOSE INTERESTED IN OUR ACTIVITIES

About this International Issue of the Labor Defender. Because of the press of events during the last weeks and our all too limited space a great many reports of work in all the districts had to be left out of this issue. Pressing organizational questions had to be omitted to make room for foreign material. One of the most important tasks facing the International Labor Defense at the present moment is developing international solidarity to a much higher level than it has ever reached before.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE PLENUM
MAY 4, 5, 6, 7, DETROIT, MICH.

The major portion of the April issue of the Labor Defender is being turned over to the districts of the International Labor Defense for preplenum discussions and reports. District Committees are urged to send in (short, concise and no more than 350 words) reports which raise problems that are most pressing, which analyse their work and their shortcomings for publication in the next issue. This material must be in no later than March 15th. We realize that the time is short. But this means only intensified work. Unattached sections and branches of the International Labor Defense are urged to participate in this work. THE DEAD LINE IS MARCH 15TH.

ATTENTION!

BRANCHES OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE

The Labor Defender is starting a new contest. A different kind of a contest that should involve every single member of every single branch. The contest rules are very simple. Write a short article no more than 200 words on

WHY MY BRANCH IS CALLED—

Tom Mooney, or Angelo Herndon, or whatever it happens to be called. Tell us why you think the branch should have been named as it was. There will be 5 prizes. The first will be a two year subscription to the Labor Defender and the other 4 one year subscriptions and all the prize winning stories will be printed in the Labor Defender. Get your pens, pencils and typewriters, comrades, and get busy. Closing date for the contest is April 1. Prize winning stories will appear in the special May Day issue of the Labor Defender.

They Shall Not Die!

(a play by John Wexley based on the Scottsboro case.)

The bourgeois press of New York City has unanimously agreed that this play derives all its effectiveness and strength from the fact that the vicious frame-up of Scottsboro is clearly and sharply exposed.

The play has, several dramatic and analytical weaknesses. But because

John Wexley has definitely placed himself on the side of the defense, has vigorously attempted to expose the class and color lines drawn by the Southern ruling class across the case, his play is a contribution to the defense of the Scottsboro boys. The role of the International Labor Defense is emphasized and contrasted with the disruptive lynch tactics of the NAACP.

THE THEATRE GUILD presents
JOHN WEXLEY'S play

THEY SHALL NOT DIE
ROYALE THEATRE, 45 St., West of Broadway.

Evenings 8:20, Matinees: Thursday and Saturday, 2:20.

CONVENTION ISSUE
LABOR DEFENDER
OCTOBER 1932 10¢



LABOR DEFENDER

TERROR OVER THE BLACK BELT
—
MURDER IN ALABAMA



LABOR DEFENDER
AUGUST 1933



LABOR DEFENDER
JULY 1933

Now 5¢

LABOR DEFENDER
OCTOBER 1933



5¢

WHO WILL WIN

a trip to

One week in any one of these centers, scene of countless events recorded in the **LABOR DEFENDER**—all expenses paid to the person who sends in the most subs postmarked on or before March 15, 1934.

If the winner is from the South he can come to New York.

If the winner is from New York he can go South or to Chicago.

If the winner is from Chicago he can go South or come to New York or go to the West Coast.

And if the winner is from the West Coast he can go to Chicago or to such centers of struggle as Utah, New Mexico.

The same prize will be awarded to all tied winners.

You only have until March 15th. Unless some fast work is done, NO ONE WILL WIN. Detroit is still in the lead. The minimum is 150 subs. If we do not have a winner, it will mean more than no trip. The Labor Defender must have a steadily mounting sub list in order to carry on. Send in every sub. Mark them for the contest.

UNTIL MARCH 15TH - 50¢ a year - RUSH SUBS

