

# Mrs. MONTGOMERY HITS CHAIN GANG

## Herndon Verdict Hits at Negro People

BULLETIN.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 22. Hearing will take place today on the writ of habeas corpus taken out by the International Labor Defense attorneys in the fight to effect the release of Roy Wright, one of the Scottsboro boys, who has been held in jail for the past 18 months without a conviction.

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 22. — Mrs. Montgomery, mother of Olin Montgomery, one of the 9 innocent Scottsboro Negro lads facing legal lynching in Alabama, joined with hundreds of white and Negro workers today in denouncing the vicious class verdict of the Fulton County Superior Court sentencing Angelo Herndon, 19-year old Negro organizer of the unemployed, to 18 to 20 years on Georgia's chain gangs.

Mrs. Montgomery was among the hundreds of white and Negro workers who packed the court house during the three days of the dramatic trial in militant solidarity with the young working class leader. Commenting on Judge Wyatt's open collusion with the prosecution in converting the trial of Herndon into an attack on the Communist Party and its fight for full equality for the Negro people and self-determination for the "Black Belt", Mrs. Montgomery declared on the second day of the trial:

"A capitalist judge could be depended on to do just what Wyatt has done in lying to the defense attorneys. Yesterday he promised that no argument on Communism would be admitted as evidence. Today he encourages every attack on the Communist Party."

### Prepare Drive and Appeal.

The Southern District of the International Labor Defense announced today that it will conduct a vigorous mass and legal fight against the chain gang verdict, which is practically a death sentence for the young Negro revolutionary leader and a move to crush the rising struggles of the unemployed white and Negro workers and to legalize the Communist Party in Georgia. The brilliant defense conducted by the defense counsel, Ben Davis, Jr., and John H. Gear, prominent Negro attorneys of Atlanta, engaged by the I. L. D., has laid the basis for an appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court, the two defense attorneys forcing Fulton County officials to admit that Negroes have been systematically excluded from Petit and Grand Juries during the past 30 years. Already, as a result of the vigorous fight conducted by the I. L. D. and its attorneys, two Negroes were called for jury duty several weeks ago.

### Atlanta Six Next.

Attorneys Davis and Gear will also defend the Atlanta Six who will be tried shortly under the same 1861 slave code dug up by the State of Georgia for its savage offensive against the working class and the growing unity of Negro and white workers and poor farmers in the fight against starvation and for self-determination in the "Black Belt" with confiscation of the land of the rich white landowners for the Negro and white toilers who work the land. The Atlanta Six includes two white men, two Negro men and two white girls arrested for the "crime" of organizing white and Negro workers together for joint struggle against their oppressors.

### Letters Show Support.

NEW YORK.—An indication of the immediate response of the workers of the country to the vicious chain gang sentence against Angelo Herndon is contained in a letter received by the International Labor Defense on Saturday from a sympathizer. Herndon-Scottsboro defense committees are being organized now in Atlanta. Negro intellectuals are coming forward in support of the defense and have pledged themselves to raise any necessary amount of bail to effect Herndon's release pending the appeal.