

Angelo Herndon vs. the Supreme Court

The case of Angelo Herndon is now in the hands of the United States Supreme Court. They heard the oral arguments on February 8 and will hand down their decision any time after March 1.

Speculation is idle. But one thing is certain—this appeal to the Supreme Court was the last legal recourse open to us in the fight for the life and freedom of Angelo Herndon.

The State of Georgia, prepared for any emergency, has already started the passage of a new "sedition" law to replace the slave insurrection law under which Herndon was condemned. It is a much more up-to-date law, based on the more modern criminal syndicalism laws of other states, but equally vicious. In fact, the only difference is that it abolishes the death penalty and makes the maximum sentence 20 years.

This bill has already passed the Georgia State Senate. Whether it passes the house or not, it will have no effect on the Herndon case whatsoever.

If the decision is unfavorable, we will be faced with the biggest battle yet to save Herndon from death on the chain-gang. The broadest possible front of protest will have to be mobilized to force the Governor of Georgia to pardon him. We feel certain that all friends of justice and democracy stand ready to do their part—should it become necessary.

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