

# Scottsboro Drive Urged By Herndon

## Verdict Against Norris Boy Is Assailed by Negro Youth Leader

By Angelo Herndon

Once again another shameful verdict has been handed down in the infamous Scottsboro Case. And once again the American people will rally as they have for seven years to smash the Alabama Supreme Court's lynch order of death for Clarence Norris. This decision came as a great shock to me. But just as the American people snatched me from a living death on a Georgia chain gang, so will they free the five remaining Scottsboro boys.

For seven years these boys have suffered indescribable tortures and mistreatment at the hands of the Alabama prison authorities. The shooting of Ozzie Powell, beatings, constant threats of lynching, have haunted them daily. Now Alabama is prepared to revenge its defeat suffered when forced by mass pressure to free four of the boys.

The five Scottsboro boys **MUST NOT DIE!** The protests of millions of progressive minded people throughout the world forced Alabama to free four of the boys, thus admitting the innocence of the other five. Once again the voice of every progressive American who believes in our ideal of democracy and justice for all, must now rally to the defense of the Scottsboro boys.

Today, perhaps, I would be in a worse predicament than the Scottsboro boys, were it not for the great sacrifice and mass protest of thousands of workers and loyal Americans. By their united efforts I was saved from certain death on a Georgia chain gang. To them I am indebted for my freedom which I now feel called upon to employ in the fight for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys. My conscience shall never be at ease until every single one of the boys are free. I pledge to bend every effort in the fight and call upon those who so valiantly insured my own freedom, to redouble their efforts in the fight for the unconditional freedom of the Scottsboro boys.

As National Vice-President of the Young Communist League, I pledge the cooperation of the entire membership of my organization. We have instructed our membership to immediately launch a mass campaign of protest telegrams, resolutions, etc. We urge other youth organizations to take similar actions.