

Charge 5 Strike Leaders with Sedition in Tenn.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., March 23.—Tom Johnson, Frank Stewart, Silas Byrge, Jeff France and Bige Wilson, coal strike leaders arrested near Tazewell, Tenn., were held over to the grand jury yesterday no charges of sedition, carrying concealed weapons and malicious mischief. Bond had been set at \$1,700 each.

Frank Mason, Frank Baker, Grover Partin, Bill Meeks, Henry Rutherford, Kelley Marlowe, Henry Shackelford, Chris Patterson and Will Henegar, who were arrested at the same time, are charged with malicious mischief and are held on bond of \$250 each. Henry Rowe was released.

A hearing was held before Squire Stanford at the Tazewell Court. The International Labor Defense lawyer, J. P. Kevett defended the arrested leaders of the National Miners Union. Tom Johnson was not permitted to testify when he stated he did not believe in god. Wilson, Meeks, Patterson, Byrge and Rowe testified.

Johnson and four others were eating their supper when the house was raided. They had come to atke up strike relief plans. Habeas Corpus proceedings are being prepared on the ground there was no violation of the law, and against the exorbitant bail. The fourteen prisoners at Tazewell have only one bed. Stone their attorney was refused permission to see them.

J. Taylor, International Labor Defense attorney, appeared in Harlan Monday in all criminal syndicalist cases, including the case of Saylor, Sumners and Howard, and the cases of "banding and confederating." The cases were continued until the next court session.

The Winchester and Mt. Sterling murder cases were postponed until a special term of court.

Knoxville papers, referring to yesterday nights city council meeting declared it would be "one of the stormiest sessions ever held as the Communists protest the passage of a city ordinance requiring a permit for public parades and meetings, and that all councilmen favor its passage."

A committee of the unemployed council was sent to protest the ordinance and to present the demands of the unemployed to the City Council meeting.