

# HERNDON, RAVAGED BY TORTURE, FIGHTS ON

## HEROIC NEGRO IN APPEAL FOR SCOTTSBORO 9

Will Speak In Harlem  
Aug. 15; In Bronx  
Aug. 22

By CYRIL BRIGGS

The ravages of 19 months of hideous torture in an Atlanta, Georgia, prison hell plainly showing in his delicate physical condition, heroic Angelo Herndon yesterday hurled anew his defiance at the Southern lynch lords, at a press conference in the national office of the International Labor Defense!

"I am more determined than ever to carry on the struggle for the oppressed working class and the Negro people," he said.

Plainly worn out by his prison ordeal and the excitement of the first days of his newly won freedom, with enthusiastic mass welcomes in New York City and the cities he passed through on his way from the South, Herndon again displayed the high fortitude and courage which marked his conduct in the court of the class enemy in the quiet, prompt manner in which he answered the questions with which he was pined by both the representatives of the revolutionary press and of the capitalist press.

**Unemployed Victory Enraged Rulers**  
Asked of his arrest and treatment in prison, he told of being jailed a week after an unemployed demonstration of Negro and white workers in Atlanta. Herndon had led that demonstration in protest against inadequate relief, discrimination against Negroes, and the threat of Atlanta city authorities to cut off all relief on the pretext that they had no funds. The day following the demonstration, they were forced to appropriate \$6,000 for relief. This magnificent victory of Atlanta unemployed enraged the ruling class, and Herndon's arrest followed.

"They took me to the death cell and tried to force me to sit in the electric chair. I refused and they finally gave up the attempt to torture me then and there. Later, although I was subjected to mental torture, frequent solitary confinement and indignities, and my health deliberately endangered by unsanitary conditions, they were afraid to beat me up because of the tremendous mass protests of white and Negro workers."

"However, I was subjected to unspeakable mental tortures in an effort to drive me insane. For example, when a prisoner died in my cell, they left the corpse there for many hours. The dead man, a Negro, had been sick for three days and was denied any medical attention whatever."

"A month after my conviction, I was put in solitary, charged with 'attempting to escape.' I was again placed in the death cell, and removed only after mass protests mobilized by the International Labor Defense and the Communist Party. I was then placed in a filthy, unsanitary cell. Hardened criminals were housed with me. The jailers threatened to put homosexuals in the cell, as well, but were deterred by the angry protests of the workers. Eight or ten of the prisoners placed in my cell were later electrocuted, and the jailers would gloatingly taunt me that I would

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### Canadian Defenders Hail Release in Bail Of Angelo Herndon

NEW YORK.—The Canadian Labor Defense League hailed the victory of the I. L. D. in securing Angelo Herndon's release in a telegram sent yesterday to the Daily Worker and signed by Beadie Buhay Ewen, organization secretary.

"In the name of 43,000 Defenders and hundreds of thousands of supporters we hail with joy the results of mass pressure in forcing the release on bail of Angelo Herndon," the telegram read. "We pledge together with you to strengthen our support for the release of Herndon, the Scottsboro boys, Thaelmann, Buck and Ewen. Long live the I. L. D., valiant leader of the defense struggles of the United States workers."

## New Warrants Filed Against Two Workers

Special to the Daily Worker

**BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 8.**—New warrants have been filed against Israel Berlin and Irving Keith, in the efforts of the Alabama authorities to crush the working class organizations through terror.

The charges, based on the possession by the arrested workers of copies of the Southern Worker, and aimed to outlaw all workers' organizations, claim the defendants "did become members of a group of persons styled as Communist, formed to teach or advocate the overturning of organized government by force."

The warrant also characterizes the Southern Worker as "libelous, scurrilous, abusive, intemperate, and prejudicial to good morals." These charges are made on the basis of marked passages in the Southern Worker, terming the decision of the Alabama Supreme Court upholding the Scottsboro convictions as "a lynch verdict" and other passages.

The trial has been postponed until August 15th.

An editorial in the Age Herald which announces the end of the textile strike is untrue. The strikers have refused to return to work without recognition of the union and a written contract. But E. L. Berkshire, president of the South Carolina State Federation of Labor is in Huntsville, Ala., now, the center of the textile strikes, and is trying to engineer an arbitration sell-out.

A warrant sworn out against the American Legion officer who led the kidnapping of Dean, United Textile organizer, remains unserved.

The workers are continuing to guard their leaders with arms.

## Hunger Strike of Thirty on Sixth Day

Conviction for Marine  
Head-I.L.D. Urges

## Thugs Slug Painters of Local 442 For Unity

Beatings Follow Assault  
Of Gangsters On  
Monday Night

NEW YORK.—Gangsters, armed with blackjacks and clubs, marched into Hamington Hall, 240 East Second St., and slugged members of Local 442 of the Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators, who were in line registering. The thugs, members charge, were administration gangsters supporting the policies of Phillip Zausner, secretary of Zausner henchmen.

Union. The gangsters, painters state, were organized for the attack by Harry Rosen, chairman of Local 442 and a machine man, and Jack Green, vice-chairman, both Zausner henchmen.

Entering the hall, the strong-armed men went to work on the entire line, beating everyone methodically from the end of the line to the beginning.

The attack yesterday followed on the heels of the brawl begun by Eugene McNamara, president of the District Council, in Local 892 Monday night, when McNamara and a group of Zausner hoodlums assaulted workers speaking against the work tax. The International officials reinforced the weakening Zausner forces with a statement revoking the charter of Local 499, the leader in the fight against Zausner.

However, feeling the temper of the membership, the general board representative in this city, Edward Ackery, has sent another letter to Local 499 toning down on the charter revocation order. He now states that if the local will be willing to dissolve its own strike committee he will personally guarantee that a committee of three of Local 499 will take part in the Advisory Committee of the District Council.

This, rank and file leaders point out, is a step backward from the original position Ackery took and is caused principally by the support Local 499 is getting from the other locals.

A demonstration of painters will be held today against the Master Painters' Association and the District Council leadership. The parade will assemble at 2 p.m. at Madison Square Park North, at 26th St.

### Police Attack Pickets At Pattern Factory

Special to the Daily Worker

**DETROIT, Mich., Aug. 8.**—About one hundred striking pattern makers were attacked by police this morning during a picketing demonstration at the General Pattern Works.

About six hundred pattern makers, members of the A. F. of L. Pattern Makers' League, have been on strike since Aug. 1, demanding a wage increase from \$1.25 to \$1.50 an hour and a 30-hour week.

The A. F. of L. leaders are refusing to spread the walkout to the large automobile plants. Instead of organizing militant picketing the A. F. of L. leaders have entered into negotiations with the Detroit Regional Labor Board, which has an unbroken record of strangulation of strikes.

Five have been put in a dungeon on a diet of bread and water.

## Industrial Union Calls For Unity

Picketing Begins Today  
—More Expected to  
Join Walkout

NEW YORK.—Five thousand knitgoods workers went out on strike yesterday, the first day of the general walkout in the industry. Strike calls were issued by the Knitgoods Workers Industrial Union, the International Garment Workers Union and United Textile Workers Union.

In an attempt to steal a march on the Knitgoods Workers Industrial Union, leaders of the I. L. G. W. U. and U. T. W., who had kept their membership in the dark for weeks, prepared Tuesday night to issue a strike call yesterday morning. However, the Knitgoods Workers Union immediately learned of the plans and broadcast a call to all its members and all unorganized workers in the industry to come out on strike.

Yesterday it was estimated that of the 5,000 already out, about 1,100 came in response to the call of the I. L. G. W. U., 700 to that of the U. T. W. and 3,000 to that of the Knitgoods Workers Industrial Union. More are expected to come out today. There are, it is calculated, between 15,000 and 18,000 workers in the industry.

### Militant Union Demands Strike Unity

Pressing its demand for unity in the strike, the Knitgoods Workers Industrial Union is calling for the formation of one central strike committee of all the unions involved, one picket line and one settlement committee as the only way to defeat the employers and the growing company unionization of the industry.

Enthusiasm runs high as the workers meet in the various strike halls preparing the picketing scheduled to begin this morning. The Knitgoods Workers Industrial Union plans a demonstration for the garment center at noon. The demands of the union are:

1. The 35-hour working week; 2. The establishment of an Unemployment Relief Fund; 3. The abolition of all piece-work and overtime; 4. Limitation of machinery; 5. Paid legal holidays; 6. For the following wage scales: Knitters Mechanists, \$45; Winders, \$25; Power Knitters (all kinds), \$45; Warpers, \$40; Flat Machine Hand Knitters and Links and Links, \$45; Cutters and Markers, \$50; Machine Cutters, \$45; Singer Operators, \$45; Mergow Operators, \$50; Special Machine Operators, \$55; Finishers on Sportswear, \$25; Finishers on Sweaters, \$22.50; Folders and Examiners, \$20; Menders, \$25; Pressers—Sportswear, \$25; Pressers—Sweaters, \$35; Floor Workers, \$15.

### Strike Headquarters Set Up

Strike centers have been established by the Knitgoods Workers Industrial Union at Irving Plaza, 15th St. and Irving Pl. Flushing Mansion, 1088 Flushing Ave., Brooklyn; and the Hungarian Workers Center, 642 Southern Blvd., Bronx.

### 6,000 Drivers Back At Work, Is Report

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Aug. 9.—

Six thousand of the striking truck drivers in Minneapolis were reported by the capitalist press to be back at work. The report states that the employers of the 6,000 strikers have accepted the Haas-Dunnigan proposals.

45; intensified to spike the concerted attempts of the ship owners.

## VICTIMS OF THE DROUGHT WILL MASS AT STATE CAPITALS ON SEPT. 14

## Defend Workers' Rights!

By EARL BROWDER

Following the government-inspired fascist attacks of the vigilantes, the State of California is now endeavoring to legalize the Communist Party and the revolutionary trade unions in that state. Thirty-one militant workers are being held in the Sacramento jail, where they face grand jury indictment for criminal syndicalism. Included among these are Caroline Decker and Pat Chambers, District Secretary and District Organizer of the Agricultural Workers Union, and Albert Hogarty, Section Organizer of the Communist Party.

Thirty other workers are on hunger strike in San Francisco city jail and five have been placed in a dungeon on a diet of bread and water.

The attack against the Communist Party and the revolutionary trade unions places before the entire working class the challenge of approaching Fascism. The rulers of California, supported and encouraged by the Roosevelt government, are making their first drive against the most advanced section of the working class—the Communist Party and the revolutionary unions. With the revolutionary leadership crushed, they would then turn their attack upon every organization of the working class.

The Communist Party calls upon the workers of the United States to rally to the defense of the California prisoners who are standing in the first line in the struggle against American fascism. We call upon all working-class organizations, all trade unionists, to send immediate protests and demands for the release of these prisoners to James Dean, City Manager of Sacramento, District Attorney Neil McAllister, and Judge Will Carragher. Collect funds for their defense from your fellow-workers in your shops and neighborhoods, and send them to Box 646, Sacramento.

A. F. of L. workers, Socialist workers: The defense of the Communist Party and the revolutionary trade unions is also a defense of your own organizations against fascist attacks. We appeal to you to join with the Communist workers in a mighty united protest and struggle for the release of the California prisoners.

## Captive Mine Locals Hold Action Meet

**PITTSBURGH, Pa., Aug. 8.**—Eleven delegates from the captive mines of the Republic Steel Company met Sunday at Searight to draw up a program for united action against layoffs and discrimination.

Representatives of all four U. M. W. A. locals, Russellton, Republic, Searight, and Woodside, gave reports of the present situation in their respective mines.

Russellton and Republic have been hardest hit by layoffs. At the latter mine 270 men have been fired recently, 165 of whom were men who had been employed at that shaft for a number of years, some as many as 20.

The conference approved a share-the-work plan and will guide the fight against discrimination.

Sentiment in some of the locals is for strike, but the leaders there are holding back from such action. The committee meets with General Manager Winning, of the Republic Steel, in Uniontown Wednesday night to take up the issues approved at the conference.

The Committee has demanded that a federal conciliator who was in Russellton today also attend the meeting.

5 Flung Into Dungeon—  
Put On Bread and

## United Farmers League To Lead Toilers With Demands

CHICAGO, Ill., Aug. 8.—

Out of the misery and suffering of the drought-stricken countryside will come mass marches on the State capitals of western states demanding food, fodder for the stricken herds, cash relief for supplies and clothes, and an immediate turning of the resources of the Federal government to a real drought relief program.

On Sept. 14, the United Farmers' League in all the stricken states will lead thousands of farmers, their wives and children in trucks and on foot to confront the State governments with the demand that the hungry and suffering farmers, ruined and impoverished, be fed and protected from the loss of their farms and stock.

Basing himself on the Manifesto adopted by the National Convention of the U. F. L. at its recent meeting in Minnesota, Henry Puro, National Secretary, today issued a national call to all locals of the U. F. L. to speed the work of organizing and preparing the mass marches for drought relief on September 14.

### Plan of Action

His call lists the following lines of immediate action:

1. To call for State relief march, inviting all farmers' organizations and unorganized farmers to participate in the march.

2. The call should contain instructions to call local mass meetings, widely advertised, where the drought situation, demands and the details of the march be prepared.

3. U. F. L. locals must take the initiative in calling and preparing these local meetings and mobilizing farmers to take part in the State march.

4. Drought Manifesto of the U. F. L. Convention and Farmers' Emergency Relief Program should be ordered for the distribution in the local meetings, and able persons must be assigned to explain the content of these documents and then having discussion on the drought demands and the F. E. R. B. In all these meetings the endorsement of the F. E. R. B. should be taken up. Local meetings should also organize local demonstrations, presenting their demands on drought relief to the town and county boards.

5. State committees as well as local organizations should report systematically to the U. F. L. national office and to the Farmers' Weekly as to what has been done regarding preparations of the State marches and the local struggles on relief.

6. Farmers' Weekly and other literature must be ordered for distribution in all these meetings. The U. F. L. should utilize this opportunity of recruiting hundreds of new members.

The devastation of the drought continues to grow. The cotton crop has been burned to the levels of 1921. Nevertheless, the Bankhead Bill providing for the plowing under of "surplus" cotton and the levy of heavy taxes on all cotton above the amounts specified in the government contracts with the planters will continue, officials declared today.

Wall Street and Chicago specu-

I appeal to every member of our Party and to all the workers of

# Herndon, Ravaged, Fights On

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soon be finished off on the chain gang."

## Denied Medical Aid in Prison

In answer to a question on his present physical condition, Herndon told of being sick for a long time in prison, and denied medical attention.

"I was finally given a medical examination as a result of the demands of workers and intellectuals in response of the call of the I.L.D. The results of the examination were concealed, however, and my condition whitewashed."

"Were you deprived of papers, cigarettes and other comforts sent you by workers and sympathizers?"

"Books and papers were rarely delivered to me. When cigarettes were delivered, the packages would be rifled of part of their contents. Copies of the Daily Worker would be splotted with ink, or torn into shreds before being given to me."

## Only Mass Protests Saved Him

At this point, Herndon was asked by a reporter for the capitalist press if he was helped any by the mass protests of workers and intellectuals, and if he ever got any news of the protest movement in his behalf.

"The jailers would frequently tell me they were getting thousands of protest letters and telegrams 'threatening' them, and would angrily threaten to take it out on me, but they never dared to beat me, thus clearly showing their fear of the anger of the masses of white and Negro workers and intellectuals who were rallying to my defense. Occasionally I would be allowed to receive letters and telegrams and even newspapers from which I got an inkling of what was happening on the outside."

"Do you see any connection between your case and that of the Scottsboro boys?" he was next asked.

## Makes Appeal for Scottsboro Boys

"Most certainly. The Scottsboro case is part of the systematic persecution of the Negro people. The frame-up of the Scottsboro boys reveals the fear of the white ruling class confronted by the growing solidarity of white and Negro toilers. It is an attempt to smash this solidarity, and isolate the Negro masses. Faced by the world-wide fight for the Scottsboro boys, the ruling class is gripped by fear and are resorting to the utmost terror in order to maintain their plunder rule, which is threatened by the rising resistance of white and Negro toilers throughout the country. They are trying to clamp the lid down. The Scottsboro case and mine are interconnected."

"For the first time in the South, lynch justice has been challenged by white and Negro attorneys of the I.L.D., by workers and intellectuals throughout the country and the whole world."

## Confident Workers Will Carry On Fight

"But in spite of this terror, organized struggles are going on. Good work is being done by the revolutionary forces in the South. The lynch lords are not successful in terrorizing the Negro people. The firm solidarity of Negro and white workers is shown in numerous strike struggles and in the angry protests of Southern white and Negro workers against my frame-up."

Herndon here stressed the necessity of raising the \$15,000 necessary to carry the appeal for himself and the Scottsboro boys to the U. S. Supreme Court, and expressed the confidence that the workers and intellectuals who furnished the money for his bail would support the campaign of the I.L.D. for the \$15,000 Appeal Fund. He declared that he would throw himself into that campaign as far as his physical condition permitted.

## To Speak In Harlem August 15

Two meetings have already been arranged for him in this city, Rockland Palace, Wednesday night, August 15, and the Bronx Coliseum, August 22.

Asked what he thought of the opportunity to address the Negro people of Harlem, he declared he would use the opportunity "to bring

# 10,000 Che Take Over

home to the Negro masses the lessons of the partial victory won by the workers in my case. With the Negro reformist misleaders actively betraying the liberation struggles of the Negro people, it is our task to convince the Negro masses that the only way to free themselves is through the close unity of white and Negro toilers in struggle against mass unemployment, misery, lynching, fascist terror, and imperialist war. They must get a clear picture of the cause of their oppression and of the class responsible for that oppression."

## I.L.D. Warns of Fascism, Pledges Fight

Following the press conference with Herndon, Richard B. Moore, national field organizer of the I.L.D., pledged that organization to continue the struggle to smash the chain gang verdict against Herndon and to rescue the Scottsboro boys and Ernst Thaelmann from the clutches of the ruling class murderers.

"This attack upon Angelo Herndon, following the Scottsboro frame-up and the murder of Negro and white strikers in Alabama, the Gulf Coast, etc., is an evidence of rising fascist terror which strives to destroy all the constitutional rights not only of the Negro people, but of the white masses, as well," Moore pointed out.

"The fight to free Herndon symbolizes the fight against fascism, for the freedom of Ernst Thaelmann and all class war prisoners."

"The I.L.D. will continue to mobilize the masses for the fight against fascism, for the freedom of Thaelmann, Herndon, the Scottsboro boys, and Tom Mooney, for the defense of the persecuted Negro people and oppressed white workers."

## Speculators to Profit By Spain's Farm 'Aid'

MADRID, Aug. 8.—With farmers and farm workers starving from this year's bumper crop in all agricultural products, the government has put into effect an order authorizing growers to borrow up to 80 per cent of the value of their crops at 5 per cent interest.

The double joker seen by ruined farmers was that prices have sunk to record low levels, and under the spur of necessity they have already sold their crops to grain buyers. The buyers then will be permitted to hedge their investments by the new decree.

Olive oil stocks are so large that it has been proposed to cut down olive trees.

While millions of farmers struggle against these conditions, the government issues press communiques showing that 8,916 families have been placed on the land by the "Republican" government.

Intellectuals and artists, too, face starvation. Theatre musicians are on strike for higher wages, demanding 12 pesetas (\$1.65) per day.

## Catalan Textile Bosses Lockout 4,300 Workers

BARCELONA, Spain, Aug. 8.—The Catalan Textile Association (employers) have voted to lock out 4,300 textile workers following weeks of labor troubles.

Aroused workers at Hospitalet, a textile town, stormed the local plant and occupied it. Frightened operators sent for the Catalan Labor Advisor (similar to New Deal Labor Boards) who succeeded in persuading the workers to return to their homes.

Textile and other workers in Catalonia are among the most class conscious and militant in Spain and have borne the brunt of the battle for the proletariat throughout the struggles under the monarchy and republic.

## DES MOINES DEMONSTRATION

DES MOINES, Iowa.—About 250 workers attended the Aug. 1 anti-war demonstration on the library lawn here, called by the Communist Party. Speakers represented three other groups besides the Communists.