

# N.A.A.C.P. Leaders Collecting Funds in Name of Scottsboro Boys While Sabotaging Their Defense

By CYRIL BRIGGS

NEW YORK.—The leaders of the N.A.A.C.P. have extended their open sabotage of the campaign to save the lives of the nine Scottsboro Negro boys to the collection of funds in the names of the boys without the permission of either the boys or their parents, while at the same time refusing to join the united front with the International Labor Defense which is authorized by the boys and their parents to conduct their defense.

In a statement to the press issued last week, the N.A.A.C.P. leadership makes an appeal for funds on the basis of being "in charge" of the Scottsboro defense. In several meetings in Harlem they have collected funds on this same misleading argument.

## All Victories So Far Won By I.L.D.

In the meantime, what are the facts? Last Friday the I.L.D. scored two important points in the fight to save the lives of these boys, when the court conceded the right to hear the motions for new trials, and for a change of venue. The motions will be heard on May 20 in Fort Wayne. The lawyers appearing in court when these two important points were won are lawyers hired by the International Labor Defense, General George Chamlee of Chattanooga and Joseph Brodsky of New York City. No attorney was present for the N.A.A.C.P. Both Chamlee and Brodsky attribute

## Workers Are Warned That Only the International Labor Defense Is Authorized to Handle Defense by the Boys and Their Parents

these victories to the mass pressure organized by the I.L.D.

### N.A.A.C.P. Leaders Helping Southern Bosses

The southern bosses who would like to have the I.L.D. eliminated from the defense and the struggle to save these boys narrowed down to a purely court room trial, and the N.A.A.C.P. top leadership which is supporting the southern boss lynchers on this point, have frantically tried to trick the boys into statements which would turn over the defense to the N.A.A.C.P. leadership and repudiate the united front mass movement to save the boys. In all of these attempts they have failed. A statement which the boys were tricked into signing was next day repudiated by the boys when their frantic parents rushed to the jail to stop the betrayal of their sons.

### Mrs. Patterson Denounces Walter White

Mrs. Janie Patterson has openly accused Walter White, national secretary of the N.A.A.C.P. of sabotaging the defense of her son, Haywood, and the eight other boys. The parents of the other boys have sup-

ported Mrs. Patterson in her charges against Walter White.

The lawyer, Stephen R. Roddy, claimed by the N.A.A.C.P. leaders to be representing them in the case, has been repudiated by the boys and denounced by them as a "betrayal of our cause." The Chicago Defender quotes him as denying he was ever engaged by the N.A.A.C.P. leaders.

### Parents Support I.L.D. Campaign

Mrs. Patterson came north some weeks ago to help the I.L.D. in mobilizing the masses for support of the nine boys. She spoke at several meetings under the auspices of the I.L.D. and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights.

Mrs. Wright, mother of Andy and Roy Wright, two of the boys, is at present in the North speaking under the auspices of the I.L.D. and the L.S.N.R.

Not a single one of the nine boys, not a single one of their parents, has given the N.A.A.C.P. leaders authority to conduct the defense or to independently collect funds "for" the defense. Collections of funds by the N.A.A.C.P. leadership on any other basis but the united front defense

policy which the boys and their parents endorse and to which the N.A.A.C.P. leadership, like the southern boss lynchers, are opposed is a deliberate attempt to deceive the public and to further add to the acts of sabotage committed by the N.A.A.C.P. leadership against the fight to save the lives of these nine boys.

### Masses Must Demand Accounting

The rank and file membership of the N.A.A.C.P. whose demands for a united defense policy have been ignored by the N.A.A.C.P. top leadership, dominated by the white bourgeois woman Mary Ovington White, and the imperialist Major Spingarn, should demand an accounting of the N.A.A.C.P. leaders in the Scottsboro case.

The Negro masses who, with the white workers, are primarily interested in saving the lives of these working class youths, must bear in mind that the organization conducting the defense of the nine boys is the International Labor Defense, which is the only organization endorsed by the boys and their parents. Funds for the defense should be sent to the national office of the International Labor Defense at 80 East 11th Street. The only mass meetings authorized to collect money for Scottsboro defense are the meetings held or endorsed by the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights.