

# LONG PRISON TERMS FOR 3 OHIO WORKERS

## Steel Trust Railroads in "Syndicalism" Case

IN CLARKSVILLE, Ohio, Dec. 26.—The steel-trust controlled court here today refused the demand by the International Labor Division for a new trial for Tom Johnson, member of the Communist Party, Lillian Johnson, District Organizer of the Young Communist League, and Charles Geyen, organizer for the National Communist League, and convicted on November 26 by a steel trust hand-picked jury on charges of "criminal syndicalism," arising out of their arrests when steel-trust

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police broke up the August 1 anti-war demonstration of workers of Martins Ferry.

In overruling the the motion made by the International Labor Defense for a new trial the court passed sentences of five years in prison and \$2,550 fine against Johnson and Guynn and an indeterminate sentence against Lillian Andrews.

It took but five minutes for the jury to convict the three workers in St. Clairsville court on November 20 on the "criminal syndicalism" charge.

The speech of Special Prosecuting Attorney Walker were among the most vicious examples of red-baiting and hatred of militant labor ever displayed in any court room. Walker called on the American Legion to march upon the Communist Party headquarters in Cleveland and attack them. His speech was a direct incitement to lynching.

Tom Johnson, a member of the Political Bureau of District 6 of the Communist Party stated, "We feel the issue in this case involves not only the three defendants, but the entire Communist Party. It is part of the attempt of the bosses and their courts to make the Communist Party illegal. Despite the verdict of this court we will continue to use our utmost efforts to mobilize the workers for the overthrow of the capitalist system.

Charles Guynn stated that "it is a class trial, and as revolutionists we know that the sentence of this court will not stop our propaganda and leadership of the American workers."