

TOM JOHNSON, *Birmingham, Ala.*

DEAR COMRADE JOHNSON: I have your letter dated July 3. I am inclosing a copy of a letter we sent to Comrade James which answers some of the question you raised in your letter. I wired you on Thursday in regard to the bonds. You say in your letter that you did not receive our wire. I can not understand what happened to it, unless your letter was written a few hours before our wire was sent.

I can only repeat what we said in the wire. Our bonding company, as well as the Civil Liberties Union which usually works with us in arranging this bail, both say that they will not handle amounts of \$900 for three people. This sum is so low that it could be raised almost anywhere by any alert comrades who are willing to put in the energy. I must say for ourselves, that we are of similar opinion property bail must be gotten. It is obvious there are people there with property, and the proper approach must be made. The easiest way, of course, is to demand that the International Labor Defense pay \$60 or \$70 extortionate premiums to a local surety company but if we were to conduct business on such a basis we will be able to defend about two people every year.

In regards to legal defense. Should the decision in the case be a bad one, we must, of course, appeal. You will see in my letter to Comrade James certain suggestions in this direction. After the trial if it necessary to appeal, we will then take up the matter of designating a competent attorney. Incidentally, we all think it to have been extremely stupid to postpone the cases. The comrades who were arrested are competent comrades and should have defended the cases themselves, without going to this expense.

I have also written you in the telegram we sent Saturday that we have arranged for bail for all the Atlanta comrades. They ought to be free in a day or so.

The affidavits are being arranged for and ought to be down in a few days.

Comradely yours,

SAMUEL A. DARCY,
Assistant Secretary.

McDUFF EXHIBIT No. 1, Q

FIGHT AGAINST LYNCHING AND LYNCH LAW—DEFEND THE VICTIMS OF THE
CRIMINAL SYNDICALIST LAWS

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE,
New York City, July 8, 1930.

TOM JOHNSON,
Birmingham, Ala.

DEAR JOHNSON: We have instructed Herman by telegram to-day to send us \$40 for bonds as per your wire dated July 7. I hope that you experience no further difficulty in getting the lads out.

I must say that the situation in regard to the International Labor Defense is quite unsatisfactory and I surely hope that you take a lesson from what has happened up till now and that you will help to build the International Labor Defense in the future.

I would be interested to know exactly what you are doing in this direction. The answer to this should not be to send a wire to us demanding a full time organizer. The movement can be built by comrades in nonworking time until we can get it on a self-sustaining basis.

Comradely yours,

SAMUEL A. DARCY,
Assistant Secretary.

McDUFF EXHIBIT No. 1, R

COMMUNIST PARTY DISTRICT, 17,
Birmingham, Ala., July 11, 1930.

SAM DARCY,
New York City.

DEAR COMRADE DARCY: I inclose receipt for the \$40 sent us for bond. I have also received your letter of July 8.

I quite agree with you that the situation in the International Labor Defense is far from satisfactory, particularly on a national scale. In this district we will continue in the future as in the past to build the International Labor Defense when and where possible without conflict with existing organizations. In this connection we will carry out the decisions of the main enter with which we are in full agreement, that no mass campaign to build International Labor Defense branches be initiated at this time but that the main activity of the International Labor Defense in this district be of an agitational and educational character.

Comradely yours,

_____,
District Organizer.

P. S.—The trial has been postponed until July 23. Before that time it is possible the case will be dismissed.

We thought we had another arrest this morning when one of our comrades was picked up by a Tennessee Coal & Iron Co. gunman while distributing the National Miners Union convention call to miners. However, he was only beaten up. Hit on the head with a pistol butt and knocked cold. Had to have several stitches taken in his scalp. I'll send you a picture of him which you may be able to use in the Labor Defender.

McDUFF EXHIBIT No. 1, S

COMMUNIST PARTY, DISTRICT 17,
Birmingham, Ala., July 11, 1930.

SAM DARCY,
New York City.

DEAR COMRADE DARCY: I have uncovered a spy in the party here. He was my first connection when I came to Birmingham and is occupying responsible posts in the party. He is working for one of the largest labor spy agencies in the country—the Corporations Auxilliary Co. His name is T. L. James and he is organizer of the local International Labor Defense branch.

Discontinue all correspondence with this man at once. Publish nothing on this. I will send complete story and picture of the spy on Monday. We will have an interview with him to-morrow. I will see to it that we get all supplies, etc., from him. He now has a list of our few International Labor Defense members. This we will also get.

Comradely yours,

_____,
District Organizer.