LABOR DEFENSE IN PICTURES

Right Rev. Francis J. Mazur, once Roman Catholic priest, then Bishop of the Polish Catholic Church in America, Inc. (Detroit 1919-1925); finally active member of I. L. D. At present speaker and organizer for the Polish Section of I. L. D.

The British Labor delegation sent to investigate conditions of Polish political prisoners. Third from the left is Bob Lovell of the British International Class War Prisoners' Aid.

Charles Cline, photographed at his Cincinnati meeting of the I. L. D. with replica of death chair.

RIGHT: Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, national chairman of I. L. D., who was taken ill during her coast-to-coast tour for the organization. She is now resting at Portland, Oregon.

A section of the delegates at the recent New England district conference of I. L. D.
Under the Heel of Fascism

On March 23rd, 1919, Mussolini formed the first “Fascio” in Milan. As a consequence of the unrestrained pseudo-revolutionary national and social demogogy of Fascism, as well as in consequence of the impotence of the reformist labor leaders, he soon succeeded in gathering not only the declassed elements of bourgeois society, the officers and the students, but also the petty bourgeoisie and certain strata of disappointed workers.

On November 28th, 1922, the “March to Rome” took place and through it the conquest of power by the fascists. Triumphant Mussolini proclaimed social peace, the reconciliation of the classes and a paradise for all inhabitants of the fascist world. In the meantime four years of fascist rule have passed and in this period fascism abandoned even the last remnants of its social program, carrying through a rule of terror which is almost unparalleled in history and transforming the whole of Italy into one great, hard labor prison. “Revolutionary” fascism exposed itself as a wild bloodhound of industrial capitalism. Disbandment, prohibition, destruction of labor organizations and the labor press, forcible “fascitization” of the trade unions, prohibition of strikes, extension of the working hours, strangling of all freedom of speech, dictatorial rule of terror; these are the methods of government of Mussolini. The blood-stained shadow of Matteotti and of many hundreds of murdered workers, thousands of most brutal maltreatments and tortures, tens of thousands of arrests accompany fascism on its way.

The protests of the Italian working class and of the international public opinion compelled Mussolini to grant an amnesty on July 30th, 1925. The “Duce” enjoyed the pose of generosity and mercy. However, the results of this amnesty were the following:

Number of prisoners before the amnesty, 8,950. Number of prisoners released by the amnesty, 1606.

The last amnestied prisoners had hardly left prison, when a new strong wave of fascist terror arose. In the course of the two months following the amnesty, in August and September, 1925, 4,228 workers were arrested by the fascist police. In the end of the year, 10,445 prisoners filled the Italian jails.

These were the results of the “generous” amnesty of Mussolini.

The support of large capital by the governmental fascism has caused great discontent also within the camp of fascism. A strong opposition of the disappointed petty bourgeois elements against the “Duce” developed. The armed collisions between fascists of the majority and the opposition, get more frequent every day. Mussolini now endeavors to detract the discontent of the opposition and of the large masses in the country by means of a foreign policy of military threats and by the organization of “Communist” plots and provoked attempts in the country.

The first attempt took place on November 7th, 1925, in Milan. It was a “discovered plot” of Zaniboni and Capello. Both men were allegedly discovered in the bay-window of a hotel with a machine gun directed at Mussolini. Up to the present Zaniboni was not even tried. However, one knows now from the confessions of the agent provocateur, Garibaldi, that Zaniboni was induced by him, to undertake the “attempt.”

The second attempt took place on April 7th, 1926, in Rome and was carried out by an insane Irish woman,
Miss Gibson. Mussolini was injured at his nose.

The third attempt was undertaken on September 11th, 1926, by Ernesto Giovanni Lucetti. He threw a bomb at the car of Mussolini, but did not injure him.

The fourth attempt, on October 30th, 1926, was allegedly carried out by a 15-year-old boy in Bologna. The boy was lynched by the fascist crowd.

Only later on it was found out that an innocent boy had been lynched; the fascist press wrote about an “error,” and the public opinion of the whole world believes that no attempt at all has taken place.

Each of the four attempts was accompanied by orgies of white terror. The raging of this terror in connection with the attempts is illustrated by the following figures:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attempts</th>
<th>Murdered</th>
<th>Injured</th>
<th>Arrested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 5, 1926</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>1,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 7, 1926</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 11, 1926</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>990</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Disbandment of the Fascist movement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attempts</th>
<th>Searches of press organizers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 5, 1926</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 7, 1926</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 11, 1926</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures on the fourth attempt on Oct. 30th, are not yet available. One may say, however, now that they exceed everything that has gone before.

In its session of November 10th the chamber annulled the mandates of the deputies of the following parties: democrats (minority), republicans, catholics, unitarian socialists, maximalists and communists. The deputies were expelled from the chamber. In this way 125 deputies were deprived of their mandates.

This action is quite in correspondence with the new laws and shows clearly to what extent all oppositional elements are suppressed.

In Viareggio the former deputy and lawyer, Salvadori, was killed. The fascists forced their way into his office and murdered him. Salvadori was murdered like many other intellectuals and workers, murdered by the armed fascist gangs in his own house. Thus died as one of the first victims of fascism, Spartaco Lavagnini, thus died in Turin in 1922, Berruti, thus died many unknown workers—in the presence of their families.

We receive the most alarming news in connection with the editor of the Communist “Unita,” Alfonso Leonetti. After an attack of the fascists he was taken to a hospital, seriously injured and in a hopeless condition.

In Milan the Communists, Scoccaro, Flechcia and Ferrari, were arrested.

In Rome the former deputy, Grassi, was arrested. Nothing is known about his fate. It is feared that he, too, has been murdered. One only knows that he was terribly tortured after his arrest, despite the fact that he is physically very weak. Some more or less well-known people have completely disappeared.

Among them are: Borgiga, Tasca, the deputies, Di Vittorio and Repossi—all well known Communists.

In Viareggio the Communist Martini, was taken from his house and kidnapped by fascist gangs on November 4th. He was forced into an automobile and taken away. Where? Nobody knows. There is reason to fear that he, too, has been murdered.

The catholic deputy in Bergamo was taken from his house on a nearby hill. While he was taken away the fascist gangs spat at him and kicked him. On the hill they erected gallows and put a rope around the deputy’s neck. He was forced to climb on a chair. In this way the fascists pretended that they intended to hang him. During all these preparations they danced around the gallows like barbarians.

Finally the deputy, Gavazzoni, was terribly beaten and taken to a hospital with serious wounds.

The introduction of the death penalty with a retroactive effect against all political “criminals,” the disbandment of all oppositional political parties and organizations, the prohibition of all oppositional newspapers constitutes the essence of fascist terror.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Murders</th>
<th>Injuries</th>
<th>Arrests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>235</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These are the figures on class rec.
British Fascists during the General Strike
conciliation and social peace as Mussolini promised them to the Italian people when he took over the government. After the fourth year of his rule, fascism is confronted with its complete moral and political bankruptcy. It only supports itself on the most brutal violence. Fascist terror celebrates today orgies of blood and prepares itself to annihilate physically the whole working class movement. The international working class and the public opinion must join together and raise a united and powerful protest against the hell of fascism and tear the blood-stained hatchet from the hands of the hangman, Mussolini.

Halt Sormenti’s Deportation

The news that comes from the home of the Italian monster, Mussolini, on the organization of all Italian emigrants in countries other than Italy into strictly-controlled fascist groups, brings the issue of the deportation of Enea Sormenti and other anti-fascist workers to a sharp focus for all labor.

According to the most recent ukase of Mussolini, it is planned to dissolve all the organizations now existing among the Italian inhabitants in other countries and to reorganize them into fascist groups which will be dominated and regulated by special appointees of Mussolini who will be centralized into a species of colonial department. These groups will control the political, social and cultural lives of the Italian emigrant. They will be for him his party, not only in Italy, but in Tunis, the Argentine, France and the United States. It is aimed to supplant, with these groups, even the trade union movement in the various countries so far as the Italian membership in it is concerned. With this international fascist network, organized in collaboration with the Italian diplomatic representatives everywhere Mussolini intends to accomplish an astounding plan of spreading his malign and bestial rule to all parts of the world.

The “Duce” is cautious, cunning as a snake. He proposes to begin first in a couple of the South American countries, where the labor movement is not so strong; but his announced intention is to stop only when this network shall have been spread to every land where there is an Italian resident. The plan is the consummation of the desires of the fascist, grown desperate, to strangle every possibility of opposition to their frightful rule and to establish their hegemony over the Italians throughout the world. Moreover, the success of this plan is the germ from which will develop a native fascism in other countries which will ape the history of Italian fascism by destroying every semblance of the working class movement and the demolition of all progressive organizations, individuals and thought.

Working class and the public opinion must join together and raise a united and powerful protest against the hell of fascism and tear the blood-stained hatchet from the hands of the hangman, Mussolini.

Mussolini realizes this and his blood-soaked throat chokes with rage. He is determined to lay hands upon these daring rebels and send them to those mass graves that are filled with the bodies of Italy’s finest. And his ignoble plan may succeed, because he has found a strong ally in the authorities of the United States government. To accommodate this assassin, James J. Davis, the secretary of labor, is arranging to deport Sormenti, just as he has already deported numerous others. That their crime has been a noble one—if crime at all—that of organizing the struggle against fascism, has not halt the game of Davis; that he is violating the cherished right of asylum for political refugees upon which the United States prides
itself, does not cause him to think twice about it. For he recognizes that just as Sormenti and his comrades are blood brothers to the Italian fighters and to the American labor movement, so is he, Davis, blood brother to Mussolini.

To get rid of Sormenti and all those who dare to defy the dictates of the Roman butcher is the preliminary to the consummation of Mussolini’s dreams of the world domination of fascism. This is not a fantasy of the distant future, but a menace that faces the American workers immediately. Already, the Rome-inspired and organized fascist bands in the United States have taken their toll in beatings and killings in this country. Today they attack meetings of Italian workers and menace their lives and security. Tomorrow, strengthened by official support and the prestige that will accrue to them in the victory gained by Sormenti’s deportation, they will begin to attack American workers’ meetings and endanger the growth and security of the labor movement in this country.

Everywhere American labor must rally to the cause of Sormenti and the struggle against fascism. The hand of solidarity, which has so often been extended by the workers of other countries to the American workers in their struggles, must in turn be given to the workers who are living under such vile conditions in Italy. American workers must form a human shield around Enea Sormenti. They must announce to Davis and his gentlemanly colleagues at Washington who are so solicitous for the welfare of Mussolini, that the American working class is one with Sormenti and his cause, that they will prevent his deportation. This is a great fight that must be won. But the victory will be one for the American workers and will give them a new integrity and spirit of strength. The fight must be won to the mortification of the Davises and Mussolinis, and to the joy of the international working class.

Halt the deportation of Enea Sormenti! Smash the bloody hand of fascism!

**The Bishop Brown Tour**

Bishop William Montgomery Brown, the noted “heretic bishop,” who is a member of the national committee of International Labor Defense, will make a tour of the chief cities of the west for the I. L. D. beginning February 26. Arrangements are being completed and a most successful tour is certain. Dates announced at time of publication are as follows:

- Denver .................. February 25, 27
- Salt Lake City ................ March 1
- Los Angeles ................ March 5, 6, 7
- San Francisco ................ March 12
- Portland .................. March 16
- Tacoma .................. March 17
- Seattle .................. March 19, 20
- Vancouver ................ March 21
- Spokane ................ March 23
- St. Paul ................ March 26
- Minneapolis ................ March 27

*A Italian view of Mussolini.*

Il carnefice traditore nel lago di sangue che dovrà inghiottirlo.

An Italian view of Mussolini.
The Deportation of Emanuel Vajtauer

By George Maurer

THIRTY years ago, more or less, America was still the land of political refuge or asylum as far as its deportation laws went or did not go — still the haven of the oppressed workers of the world (except China!) as far as the lack of immigration limitations went. In fact, up to the world war these traditions were boasted about.

But in those days America was not a fully developed imperialist country; it was merely headed that way.

Now, imperialist America exports capital, “imports” relatively few workers and deported workers, especially class conscious ones. A parallel could be very neatly drawn showing the development of immigration and deportation legislation in quantity and stringency as this country developed into a full-fledged imperialist dictatorship. The deportation laws adopted since the war, and “improved,” from an anti-labor viewpoint, from year to year and those now proposed by the tools of the bosses are designed not only against radical workers, but also to make it easy to perpetrate wholesale deportations of the foreign-born and thus divide the workers and weaken their class strength.

The Palmer raids and deportations are an indication of the intentions of the present lawmakers.

Since then there have been numerous cases of “selected” individuals who were deported or now face it—Kannasto, Lassen, Sormenti and Vajtauer, all active writers and speakers in the labor movement.

The case of Emanuel Vajtauer, editor of the Czech Communist paper, “Obrana,” and whose immediate deportation was announced by the department of labor early in January, 1927, merits review at this time, as it illustrates in some points the nature and working of these anti- alien, anti-free speech, anti-labor laws.

Vajtauer entered this country legally in 1923; that is, he had his passport, etc., and was officially allowed in. He became at once active in the workers’ movement among the Czech-Slovaks, but in April, 1924, he was arrested by immigration department men as a result of an “anonymous complaint” to the effect that Vajtauer was “inciting the people against the government and persuading them that their hope was in the Communist Workers’ Party.”

He was charged with advocating the overthrow of the U. S. government and other charges were thrown in for good measure, such as “disbelief in organized government (1),” “advocating opposition to all organized government,” etc. “Likely to become a public charge,” was also put in as was done in similar cases. Communist literature and pamphlets were introduced as evidence against him, material which is legally printed and distributed in this country.

After his first hearing in May, 1924, before the immigration department (which has judicial as well as executive powers), Vajtauer’s counsel appealed and filed a brief showing that not a scintilla of evidence had been brought by the department to sustain the charges. But—

In the latter part of that month several new wrinkles (amendments) were added to the immigration laws, one of which, Burden of Proof, Sec. 23, reads in part:

“. . . in any deportation proceeding against any alien the burden of proof shall be upon such alien to show that he entered the United States legally.”

The department then ordered a new hearing and made a demand upon Vajtauer to show cause why he should not be deported. Vajtauer’s passport was introduced to show he entered legally and his counsel filed a supplementary brief contending, in addition, that the new amendment ought not to apply in this case. Note that this “burden of proof” proposition is an outright reversal of ordinary procedure where the prosecution has the burden, not the defendant; also that Vajtauer had already been given his hearing before this even came a law.

Nevertheless in August, 1924, Vajtauer was ordered deported, and finally in February, 1925, sent to Ellis Island. The case was appealed to the New York district court, where the prosecution completely fell down in proving its case against the defendant. Even the judge admitted that, but said he was forced to take cognizance of Section 23. So Vajtauer was remanded for deportation. Imagine being arrested somewhere, charged with something and then having to prove in detail that you should not be found guilty of the charge. Section 23 is designed to give those behind political deportations free rein, full leeway.

Again deportation was stayed and later in 1925 Vajtauer was released on $2,000 bail from Ellis Island. Now, in January, 1927, after a hard fight by the Labor Defense Council, and later by the International Labor Defense, the higher court has confirmed the decision of the department of labor and after nearly three years’ effort Vajtauer is to be shipped from our shores. The authorities had persistently striven to remove him from the country, away from his activities among the workers of his language.

Other cases illustrate other points of interest to workers and to those who believe that all laws should be “constitutional” and free speech “guaranteed.” The many new laws, interpretations and methods used in deportation cases clearly show how considerable is the deportation menace, potentially much more so to the working class as a whole.

And what about the “right of political asylum in America?”

Our slogans must now be: Centering around the Sormenti case! The right of political asylum! Fight the deportation menace!
The International Campaign for Sacco and Vanzetti

How the Workers of the World Responded to the Call for Solidarity

By James P. Cannon.

RARELY has the vital importance of international solidarity of the working class been so decisively shown as in the world campaign for Sacco and Vanzetti. Had there not from the very beginning been demonstrated that a clear-cut determination of the workers everywhere to make the fight of the two Italian agitators their fight; had there not been that splendid series of labor demonstrations in the capitals of the world, the incessant flow of resolutions and protests against this hideous conspiracy to murder two innocent workers, then the judicial vultures of Massachusetts might long ago have swooped down and consumed their prey.

Realizing this essential fact, as soon as the verdict against a new trial was rendered by the Massachusetts court, International Labor Defense appealed to labor defense organizations throughout the world to renew their agitation for Sacco and Vanzetti. The need was desperate, for very few knew that the Massachusetts bourbons had—no! they still have—every intention to apply as swiftly as possible the electrodes of death to their long-suffering victims.

Those who have observed even superficially the development of the case from that time on know that it was this new campaign of protest and demonstration of solidarity that halted the hand of the executioner. The workers of this country, and of Latin America and Europe, by their tireless solidarity, placed an unbroken wall between Sacco and Vanzetti and the death chair that is being held vacant for them and gained for them a new respite.

The campaign that was conducted in the United States is well known to all workers. At the request of the I. L. D., Congressman Victor Berger introduced his resolution in congress calling for an investigation of the case. Hundreds of labor organizations and trade unions took up the cause and poured their vitality into it. The labor press, including the Labor Defender, gave it a prominent place.

In Europe the campaign received its greatest support from Germany, Italy and England. In the German Reichstag, a large group of members of various parties combined to send a telegram of protest to Governor Fuller. The president of the Reichstag, Paul Loewe, also cabled his protest. Dozens of the prominent leaders of the German trade unions aligned themselves with the movement. Leading publicists, scientists, artists and public officials, including the former ambassador to the United States, Von Bernstorff, Maximeanl Herzen, Rudolf Breit-}

schied, Professor Liebermann, General Music Director Kreisler, Georg Brau-}

des, added their voices. Deputations from labor bodies were sent to protest to the American ambassador in Berlin. Scores of meetings were held in every German city, and to list the organizations which adopted resolutions of protest would require an issue of the Labor Defender.

From England came the protests of the Trade Union Congress, from the British Labor Party, the Independent Labor Party, the Communist Party and the "Minority Movement." A telegram signed by members of parliament which included George Lansbury, Ellen Wilkinson, Robert Smillie, Sullivan and many others was sent to the new governor of Massachusetts. The International Class War Prisoners' Aid (the British counterpart of the I. L. D.) did some remarkable work in agitating for Sacco and Vanzetti, and literally hundreds of local labor organizations throughout England were listed by the I. C. W. P. A. as having adopted protest resolutions.

In Italy, despite the incredibly difficult situation, meetings were held wherever possible to protest against the conviction of Sacco and Vanzetti. The labor representatives in the Chamber of Deputies demanded the interfe-

ence of the Italian government in the case. Constant interpolations to the government were made by the radicals in the chamber.

Since the May decision of the court, demonstrations were held in front of the American embassies at Paris, Sofia, Lisbon, Buenos Aires, Berlin, Montevideo and Mexico. Everywhere the demand of the workers was for the immediate cessation of this hounding of two innocent labor fighters.

Governor Fuller, who fled from America to France, was pursued there by the international solidarity of the workers. The Secours International Rouge (International Red Aid) of France announced its intention of interviewing him by means of a workers' demonstration, and Fuller was forced into hiding in France. To escape the demonstration he even saw to it that his name was omitted from the list of American arrivals which is regularly given in the Paris edition of the Chicago Tribune.

(Continued on page 53.)
Passaic Fights to the End

The fight of the textile workers in Passaic is not yet over. Thousands of those who went out a year ago are still fighting for their demands. A number of the strikers have been arrested and are being held under prohibitive bail. At the right is Gus Deak, president of the United Textile Workers' Union in Passaic, which is leading the strike, with one of the framed-up strikers who was beaten by the police. Below are two typical scenes from the strike.

The Three Fall River Anarchists and Enea Sormenti

THE three Portuguese anarchists of Fall River, Massachusetts, Antonio Alves Perreira, Diamantino Texeira and Antonio da Costa, who were recently deported on a flimsy charge (actually because they were agitating for organization and against the reactionary local clericals), found, immediately upon landing in Lisbon, that they were under detentive arrest.

The local Portuguese officials, according to the information which has come to this country, held the three anarchists for three days pending an investigation by the police of their “status,” but were finally released. This deportation aftermath is eloquent with reminders of the accommodating American officials at Washington who see to it that their brethren in other lands are fully informed concerning all who, having heretical opinions, find themselves aboard ship, at the expense of the solicitous Department of Labor, bound for the land of their birth.

The reaction in Portugal is not quite so shameless and brutal as it is in Italy. It does not slaughter workers and poor farmers for holding opinions. And while it has a substantial portion of its prisons filled with radical workers and agitators, it cannot hope to compare with the thoroughness with which Italian Fascism despatches its foes.

The three anarchist workers who were so soon released and apparently unharmed for the time being, may find themselves trailed and watched by the Portuguese government. But no such measures will be resorted to by Mussolini with those little “gifts” which Secretary of Labor Davis of the United States intends to present him by deporting every outstanding
A REBEL WORKER'S LIFE
AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY
By Eugene Barnett

WHEN I finally saw that little patch of light no bigger apparently than your hand, I sure was tickled. I held this job a few months, and then Dad got a job digging, and took me in with him to learn to be a miner. I was so small that I could not use a coal shovel, so Dad got me a square point dirt shovel. I was not much help to him at first, but he got a third turn for me: that is, he got an extra empty car, because of my being there, for every three cars the men working alone got. And as it was contract work, paid by the car, this was a big item, for no one was getting as many cars as they could load and in this way when the men working alone got six cars, Dad would get eight, two for me.

It was a four-foot vein of coal and lots of gas in it. After I had worked with Dad a while, we got a job pulling pillars; that is, taking out the last coal in that part of the mine. And it is the most dangerous work in the mine and for that reason pays more. This work is usually double shifted, and this occasion was no exception. And as is customary, the crews changed shift once a week, the day crew going to work nights and the night crew on day shift.

Dad and I took our turn with the rest; then one night we had just one more car to load and we were standing waiting for the driver to bring an empty. I was tired, for it was near the end of our week on night shift, so I was leaning on my shovel about half asleep, when something caused me to drop my shovel and jump aside.

And a rock that would weigh several hundred pounds came down on my shovel, and the place where I had been standing. I think that is the only time Dad ever heard me swear until after I became a man. But when I looked at that rock I blurted out, "By God, you didn't get me, did you?"

Dad looked at me and then laughed. I expected to get a licking for swearing, but he never did mention it; I guess he was too glad I wasn't hurt.

It was pick work there; they had no machines, and when Dad and I were working in a room he would not go home until he had finished putting in his cut or mining, and had shot it, so we would have coal for the next day. So often it was eight or nine o'clock at night before we got home and as we went in before seven in the morning, we would be underground before daylight in the winter time and it would be dark again before we got out at night. So sometimes we would not see daylight for several days at a time during the winter months.

They had payday once a month there and they kept one month's pay back all the time, so when a man started to work there he had to work two months before he got a payday. If he had no money and wanted to buy anything before payday he could go to the company office and get scrip for the amount he wanted, if he had that much due him. This scrip was similar to a restaurant meal ticket and was only good at the company store. And everything was about a third higher there than in

anti-Fascist worker. The detention of the anarchists at Lisbon is but an insignificant episode, hardly worth speaking of, in comparison with the fate that awaits the anti-Fascist fighter who is deported to Italy.

The horrible hell of prison is in store for those who, like Enea Sormenti, are being held for deportation to Italy by the United States department of labor. . . . hell, and such revolting tortures that one hesitates to say if the other likely fate that awaits them—immediate death on the Fascist gallows—is a better one or worse.—S.

Matewan, a town a few miles away which was not completely owned by a company. But as there were no wagon roads, and trains did not run right for the miners to go there to trade, unless they lost a day's work in doing so, they were practically forced to trade at the company store, even when they had the cash. And as the scrip that was drawn between pay days could not be cashed at the company office on pay day in case you had any of it left, you had to spend it at their store.

If you quit between pays you had to discount all your time and sell it to some miner who would hold the statement till payday to get the money. And as the company always kept back a month's pay every man who quit had at least a month's wages to sell for eight cents on the dollar.

In those days not many of the mines in that part of the state had fans to furnish air in the mines, but used furnaces instead. The furnaces got their draft from inside the mine. In this way air going in at the entrance of the mine traveled in a kind of circle through the workings of the mine to this furnace, in this way furnishing what little air the miners got. Many times when I was working with Dad there we worked in a powder smoke so thick we could not see the car we were shoveling coal into a few feet away. Many times, mixed with this powder smoke would be the smoke from signal oil, or black oil, and coal oil, mixed and being used in some driver's lamp, because it made a better light than the slow burning lard oil which makes no smoke.
The three deported Portuguese anarchist workers, and two of the families that were left behind.
Many fellows used mixed oil regardless of the headaches it caused and its injury to health and lungs, and of the fact that it was a violation of the state law. But the inspector did not come into the mine very often, and when he did a warning came ahead of him, and it was as easy to change the oil in a lamp as it was for the boys who were under age (and there were several of us) to hide in some old worked-out place, with our lights out, while the boss showed the inspector around, telling him funny stories and treating him to his best cigars, or to a bottle kept handy for the occasion and in this way steering him around things the company didn’t want him to see.

We stayed at Lynn Siding a year, then moved up the river to War Eagle, where a new company was opening up a mine in a seven-foot vein. Before we left Lynn, some miners had come there from Pennsylvania and one of them had told me about the good conditions and what seemed to me then high wages in the organized camps of Pennsylvania. So I hoped that this new camp would be a union camp, but I was to be disappointed, for the majority of the men in this new camp were worse than the ones in the old. Many of them were Webster and Baldwin detectives, and wages were not as good as at the old camp.

I went to work here for fifty cents a day, trapping two doors and tending seven switches. I had five drivers to flag for; the doors were about fifty yards inside the mine, and five of the switches were outside the mine. Three of the drivers hauled coal out of the mine my doors were in and one hauled from an opening around the mountain to the left of the one I was in and the other from one around to the right. All the tracks came together outside the entrance of the drift I was in and the driver from the right always had to unhook his mule at the mouth of the mine and back switch his car. So every time a driver came out of the mine I was in, I had to run to the outside to see if either of the other two were coming and if so, stop them so they wouldn’t run together. So, altogether, it kept me on the run 10 hours a day.

Then one day a colored fellow who was hauling coal from the drift to the right was coming so fast he could not stop when I flagged him and he and the driver from the mine I was at ran together. No one was hurt but the colored fellow was mad and blamed me because I didn’t flag the other fellow. So he hit me three times with a shot-loaded, seven foot, rawhide mule-whip.

Dad was blacksmith at the mine and a miner who saw the colored fellow hit me went and told him about it. He came and asked me about it, and I showed him the three red welts on my back, one of them with the blood running out of it. So the next trip the driver made, Dad was waiting for him with a pick and climbed on the car to hit him, but the boss was on the car, too, and he grabbed the pick and begged Dad not to hit him. So he let him go. But the colored fellow quit and went home.

About an hour later a fellow came to the blacksmith shop and asked Dad if he hadn’t had trouble with a Negro. Dad said, “Yes.” And the fellow said he had seen the Negro come into the woods towards the mine with a shot gun and he had met a miner going home from the mine who had told him of the trouble. He had come to warn Dad. “Have you got a gun?” he asked.

“No.”

“Well, here, take this,” and he handed him a .38 Smith & Wesson Special. Dad took it and put it in his pocket. About ten minutes later he heard the brush crack outside the shop.

(To be continued in next issue.)

The International Campaign for Sacco and Vanzetti

(Continued from page 25.)

In the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, literally millions of workers and peasants have recorded their opposition to the planned execution of the two American radicals.

The same story can be told of the work in a dozen other countries, and a great debt is owed to us by the International Red Aid, to which the I. L. D. appealed at the crucial moment, and which organized and centralized the protest movement in many countries.

It was this campaign of international solidarity that has so far saved Sacco and Vanzetti from the death chair, and not the reliance solely upon the good intentions and judicial honesty of the Massachusetts courts. So long as Sacco and Vanzetti remain in the shadow of danger the workers of the world will stand guard. They will continue to make the cause of the two Italian radicals their cause until their liberation has brought a successful end to the Sacco-Vanzetti case.
Our Problem

Our problem is to make our branch meetings interesting so the members will attend. To gradually educate them to an understanding of our class duty to the men in prison and those who are on trial because of their activities in the class struggle, and to collect the necessary funds with which to conduct this work locally and nationally.

The I. L. D. is not a money collecting agency, but it must have funds with which to carry on national campaigns of protest such as the “Save Sacco and Vanzetti,” the Anti-Queen Marie, the Anti-Fascisti, and many other campaigns we have conducted. It must have funds to send the $5 monthly relief to the class-war prisoners, $20 monthly to dependents and to give something to released men who come out after four, five and as many as 13 years in prison with one shoddy suit of clothes to their backs and $5 in their pockets, very few friends, no job and bad health as a result of the rotten prison food. We must have funds with which to fight against the deportation of foreign workers. We must have funds to properly defend those on trial at Zeigler, at Passaic, in Pittsburgh, and wherever the workers are arrested for participation in the class struggle. We must also remember the thousands in Europe.

The Branch is the basic unit, and unless the branch functions properly and enters energetically into all campaigns and actions, we cannot succeed. A branch must function 100 per cent or even 75 per cent unless it has a good functioning branch executive and an active secretary.

The Christmas campaign which the I. L. D. just finished was not the success it should have been. The branches did not enter into it.

The National Office is facing the oncoming months of summer inactivity with many bills on its hands—for attorney’s fees, for printing the magazine and the thousands of propaganda leaflets.

If the branches will get busy and collect for all back dues, for outstanding tickets, and sell literature, a goodly sum could be sent to the National Office. Efforts must also be made to get subscriptions for the Labor Defender so as to put it on a self-sustaining basis. At present it is still running on a deficit.

These small tasks are part of the big work the I. L. D. and every member in it is pledged to. We must not overlook them.

Branch Officers

Every branch of I. L. D. should have a secretary, treasurer, Labor Defender Agent, organizer, social director and women’s and children’s director. In smaller branches, many of these functions can be combined into one. For example, secretary-treasurer in one, etc. In the larger cities where a local secretary exists with a city central committee, each branch should also have a city central delegate.

The Pledge Fund

List of Prisoners and Dependents Who Received Xmas Checks.

FOLSOM PRISON

Leo Ellis
Joe Cianci
John Hiza
Wm. Bryan
Warren K. Billings
Alexander N. O’Mara
R. W. Minton
Tom O’Mara
W. Rutherford
H. Stewart
G. J. Terrill
F. W. Thompson
H. M. Edwards
Joe Avella
J. B. McNamara
M. A. Schmidt
Tom Mooney
John J. Cornelson
SIoux FALLS—Frank Gadysky
Walla Walla
Eugene Barnett
John Lamb
Ray Becker
James McNerney
Bert Randle
Loren Roberts
O. C. Bland
Brutt Smith
ALCATRAZ—Paul Crouch
MOUNDVILLE, W. V—Edgar Comb
OAHU PENITENTIARY—Steve Malm
OHIO STATE PRISON—Dominic Kentura
THOMASTON, ME—PRISON—Tom Harty
LANSING, KANS—Joe Niell
MASS. STATE PRISON
John E. Merrill
Nicolai Sacro
Bartholomeo Vanzetti
PASSAIC
Adolf Wisneskis
Nicolai Schillaci
Paul Kovac
Tony Pochno
William Sikorski
Alex Kostamaha
Charles Current
3 RELEASED PRISONERS
W. F. Moudry
Tom Nash
Dan Curtin
DEPENDENTS
Mrs. Tony Stafford
Mrs. Fannie Combs
Mrs. Anna G. Billings Mrs. Mary DiCosta
I. M. Crouch
Mrs. Mary Periera
Mrs. John E. Merrill
Mrs. John Lamb
Mrs. Pablo Manlapit
Mrs. Eugene Barnett Mrs. Nicolai Sacro
Each prisoner received $25.00, either direct from us or through the special Defense Committee in charge of his case. Joe Niell returned his $25.00 check. He says he is not in need of any funds—his letter appears in this issue.
Each dependent listed received $5.00.
There are 56 class-war prisoners now, including the 11 at Passaic. Each receives $5 monthly from the I. L. D. Several of the dependent families receive $20 monthly from us. Whenever the Pledge Fund permits, the Committee gives $25.
At present there is $270 pledged for this purpose but not all pledges are keeping up their obligation. Only about $150 comes in regularly.
We are urged to make efforts to send in their contributions so they reach the National Office by the 20th of each month. It means much to the prisoners to get this small sum regularly. Read their letters.

The Local Committee

Where more than two branches exist, a local executive committee should be formed with representatives from branches and affiliated organizations on it. A local secretary should be elected.

The local executive, like the branch executive, should meet regularly and lay plans for branch activities. They should issue a monthly local, a bulletin containing reports of activities from the branches and the monthly detailed financial report of the local.

Where more than five branches exist, a city central committee should be established with a delegate from each branch and affiliated organizations. The city central should elect the local executive and an auditing committee of three. These committees should not exist merely on paper, but be built into live functioning bodies with regular meeting nights in the month. The local secretary should be responsible for calling these meetings.

The Xmas Campaign

The results of the Christmas Campaign came nowhere near to our hopes and expectations.

The disappointing feature of this campaign was the poor showing made by the large cities. New York, Boston, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Chicago and San Francisco sent in nothing or close to it.

The gratifying thing was the splendid and enthusiastic response from some of the smaller places.

Locals Avella, Coverdale, Pa., Pontiac, Mich., St. Paul, Kansas City and Seattle raised 50 to 100 per cent of their quotas.

As a result of Mrs. Hathaway’s appeal for $40.00, several St. Paul unions responded. The Twin City Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers made two contributions, totaling $62.50.

The Language Sections

The South Slavic and Czech-Slovak Sections did themselves proud. Secretary Krasnic of the South Slavic Section turned in his National Office his full quota of $600 and Mathilda Kalousek of the Czech-Slovak Section completed a similar quota of $500.

Stanley Novakowski of the Polish Section raised $97.77 and Ellis Sulikken of the Finnish Section $125. The Lithuanian Section raised and the Greek Section did nothing.

The duty of each of these officers has been prepared in mimeograph form and can be had upon request from the National Office by every branch secretary.

The members of each branch should be acquainted with these duties so they will not be afraid to undertake any of the offices. Send for as many copies of “Duties of Branch Officers” as you need.
Claude Merritt
Box 37336, San Quentin, Calif.

Mr. J. P. Cannon, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Comrade:

I received your letter of November 30th, with a check enclosed for $5.00, for which I thank you.

It is comforting to know that one is not forgotten after they have made the supreme sacrifice for labor.

Your organization, the I. L. D., is doing a big thing in assisting those of us who have been, for the moment or years, put aside for our activities in the labor movement. More power to you!

Yours fraternally,
Claude Merritt.

Cornelison
Box No. 37237, San Quentin, Calif.

Mr. J. P. Cannon, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Comrade:

Will drop you a line, after some delay, in answer to your letter of Dec. 1, 1926, in which I received check for $25.00; will also sign and mail receipt which was in letter you mailed me.

I cannot help but thank the workers through the I. L. D. for the spirit they are showing for the working man needs more while he is in prison to know that the workers are still carrying on the fight where he was forced to leave off.

At the writing of this letter I might say that I shall tally my fourth year being (Jan. 8) here; that it is the first Christmas that I have received anything from any organization, not even from my former organization, the I. B. I. S. & H., Local 6, S. F. Your organization being held somewhat in contempt of us is one, it sometimes makes a man think that we are all striving for the same cause—the abolishment of the wage system.

Also since being in prison I have watched the decrease of the A. F. of L membership and it makes one sometimes wonder if the workers are getting tired of getting sold out so much or is it getting so rotten for them that they cannot stand it any longer. Well, can we blame them for getting out, when at the head of the movement they have a man that belongs to every organization, including the Chamber of Commerce, and he has not the amount of brains that could be put into a horse.

With best wishes here to succeed in our cause, I am,

Yours fraternally,
John J. Cornelison.

Billings
Regresa, Calif.

J. P. Cannon, Chicago, Ill.

Friend Cannon:

Your letters of December 17th and 21st at hand. Thanks very much for the check and advice the other to my mother. She wrote me that she had received it and said that she didn’t know what to do with it nor how to get it cashed. You see, mother is 71 years old and has never had much of anything except a large family and a lot of trouble, so she isn’t familiar with business methods and banking and don’t know how to go about it to get money for a mere piece of paper. I suggested several ways to her that she might get the check cashed but I don’t know whether she’ll be able to follow my suggestions or not. If you have a representative in Philadelphia or an office there I wish you’d send the address to my mother and tell her that if she will go there with the check she will find someone to help her get it cashed. Siles, Pa., where mother lives now is just outside of Philadelphia, over back of Fairmont Park. I guess you know where that is.

I haven’t time to write a longer letter this evening as we are not allowed to use the machine after 8:00 P.M. because of the noise.

Receipt for check enclosed.
Sincerely yours,
Warren K. Billings.

Contributions for December, 1926,
1448 H. P. Latournell, Mason City, Ia. 1.00
14489 Sophie Levine from Ladies’ Auxiliary, Workmen’s Circle, St. Louis, Mo. 1.00
14490 Philip DiCiambratini, Local, Avel- la, Pa. 10.00
14491 John Rudez, Vetsburg, Pa. 8.00
14492 E. V. Zalpis, Secy., Lithuanian Section, Chicago, Ill. 50.00
14493 P. V. Zalpis, Secy., Lithuanian Sec- tion, Chicago, Ill. 30.00
14494 M. Krause, Jr., South Slavic Sec- tion, Chicago, Ill. 10.00
14495 M. Krause, Jr., South Slavic Sec- tion, Chicago, Ill. 10.00
14496 Alice Stone Blackwell, Boston, Mass. 5.00
14497 Ottilie Tarkoff, Boulder, Colo. 5.00
14498 Albert M. Firey, River Forest, Ill. 10.00
(Original receipt numbered 16749, In error.)
14497 Mike Reidhart, 1.00
14498 Estella Tarkoff, Boulder, Colo. 5.00
14499 Albert M. Firey, River Forest, Ill. 3.00

Joe Neil
Lansing, Kansas

J. P. Cannon, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Comrade:

Thanking organized proletariat and sympathizers for the Christmas gift.

Enclosed you will find two checks for twenty-five dollars each. Please let it be a part of a spur in the workers’ educational campaign. That other check hand back to Fellow Worker Turner, to be used likewise.

Through you I am thanking Comrade Oehler for the fruit, handkerchiefs and soap he sent me. That is the best I have had since persecution took place over four years ago. The fruit done me more good than a carload of checks could have done.

If our comrades want to send me something, let it be a blanket pair of lace shoes, size eight, (4), Edman Clap.

I received the Labor Defender of the December issue. When I read about the hot reception given by us to Queen Marie, I was then overjoyed.

Is Clarence Darrow on the job? Individual clemency, whatever it may be, shall never be accepted by me, as my heart is still beating with deep sincerity, prudence and love for the working class. Why should I not be?

And with all my good wishes, I am yours, prospective international democracy.

Joe Neil.

NOTE: Readers who wish to send Joe Neil the shoes which he requests should write to the national office of I. L. D., 23 South Lincoln St., Chicago, Illinois, so that the proper arrangements can be made and the possibility of duplicated efforts eliminated.—Ed.

A Passaic Defendant’s Wife
Garfield, N. J.

International Labor Defense, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

My children and I have received your check for New Year’s and I am very thankful for helping me a great deal.

Respectfully yours,
Clara Wisniewski and the Children.
THE NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of The Lab Defender, published for the months of March, will be commemorative of the Faris Commune of 1871. The anniversary of the Paris Commune is the international day of working class defense, and The Lab Defender will contain rich material in tribute to the fighters of the last century.

The March number of The Lab Defender will contain, in addition to the regular features, a report de picta of pictures on the situation in China. Our magazine has received a number of exclusive photographs never published in this country, which give an unusually graphic picture of the struggle of the Chinese workers and peasants and the terrible fortresses which the Chinese people suffer in the regions controlled by the war lords of the imperialist powers.

As we go to press we are informed by cable that the new Fascist government of Lithuania has executed the labor leaders, Pujelis, Kuznecoff, and Medvis, the latter a member of the central committee of the International Red Aid. Mass arrests continue, and the court martial is in constant operation. Prominent men in the labor movement have been arrested, Bar- th, Kowno, Saw- ih, Poniewiez, and Meinert. More than thirty of these are reported dead at the hands of the Fascists. The next number of The Lab Defender will carry a more detailed story on the recent developments in Lithuania, with illustrations.
International Labor Defense sends monthly $5 to each class-war prisoner and $20 to several dependent families.

This Pledge Fund must be broadened and increased so as to make it possible for the I. L. D. to assist more dependent families and to render aid to released prisoners who re-enter the world with a suit of shoddy clothes on their backs and a few dollars (usually $5) in their pockets which the prison authorities supply.

Join the
Friends of Class-War
Prisoners!
SIGN TODAY!

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE,
23 South Lincoln Street, Chicago, Ill.

Enclosed please find $............... toward the Pledge Fund.
Also please consider me one of the Friends of Class-War Prisoners.
I agree to send regularly each month $............... toward the Prisoners' Pledge Fund, beginning ____________________________ to help the I. L. D. continue sending $5 monthly to class-war prisoners and $20 monthly to dependent families as well as to help released prisoners. Please send me a Pledge Card and assign to me one of the class-war prisoners with whom I can communicate.

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY .................. STATE ..................

NOTE: Names of the Friends of Class-War Prisoners will be published in The Labor Defender each month.