# LABOR DEFENDER

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Nov.1927

CHILDREN of the PASSAIC STRIKE PRISONERS

# Call for the 3rd Annual Conference of International Labor Defence

To All Locals and Branches of International Labor Defense and to All Labor Unions and Other Working Class Organizations

Sympathetic to Its Work:—

Greetings:

In compliance with the provisions of the Constitution which provide for the holding of a National Conference every year, the Executive Committee at its last meeting decided to call the Third Annual Conference of International Labor Defense to be held in New York City on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 11, 12 and 13, on the 40th anniversary of the Haymarket Martyrs.

The frame-up system which kills and imprisons the flower of the workingclass is a growing menace to the further development of the labor movement and the struggle of the workers for a better and freer life. In recent weeks this frame-up system—which has become an established part of the police system of American capitalism—has claimed the lives of the two heroic labor fighters, Sacco and Vanzetti. Mooney and Billings still languish in a California prison and the Centralia victims are still confined at Walla Walla, Wash. Leading spirits of the Passaic and the New York strikes are paying the penalty of their militancy in New Jersey and New York penitentiaries and other prisons in different states hold working class prisoners. The prosecutions against the Communists in the Michigan cases are beginning again, and the drive against radicals and the foreign-born workers is taking on a new impetus.

The Third Annual Conference will sound the alarm against the frame-up system of American capitalism and call the workers to new struggles against it. All sections of the militant and conscious labor movement, regardless of other differences between them, must be mobilized for this fight against the regime of imprisonment, torture and murder, which is an important part of the fight for the liberation of the workers from the yoke of capitalism.

To this end, in keeping with the traditional practice of the I. L. D. as a non-partisan mass organization, provisions have been made for representation at the Conference for all work-

ing class bodies which are sympathetic to the work of International Labor Defense, as well as for the organized branches and local units of the I. L. D.

The representation at the National Third Annual Conference will be as follows:

- 1) Each local organization of the I. L. D. (in cities having more than one branch) is entitled to send two delegates, one of whom to be the local secretary.
- 2) Each branch of the I. L. D. is entitled to send one delegate for each 50 members.
- 3) Each National Language Section of the I. L. D. is entitled to two delegates.
- 4) All Trade Unions, Co-operatives, Workers Fraternal Societies, Defense Committees and other organizations sympathetic to the aims of International Labor Defense, are entitled to send delegates.
- 5) Former class-war prisoners and members of the National Committee of the I. L. D. are invited to attend the conference as fraternal delegates.

Active participation in the Third Annual Conference of all working class bodies which recognize the necessity of non-partisan labor defense will be the most effective means of showing that the spirit of the martyrs still lives in the hearts of the workers and inspires them to more heroic and determined struggles to prevent, by the organized power of the workers, a repetition of the frame-up and legal murder of other workers and to secure the release of all the class war prisoners confined today in the penitentiaries of America and other countries of the capitalist world.

All organizations which favor this idea are urgently requested to send delegates to the Conference and help to make it an imposing demonstration of national and international solidarity.

Yours fraternally,
National Executive Committee
International Labor Defense,
J. P. Cannon, Secretary



Views of the entrance and inside of Gajda Farm.



### The Cossacks Ride in Cheswick

NOTHER battle in the class war has been fought. This time it is the coal miners who have taken the onslaught and blows of the masters' soldiers and retainers on their heads. Once more the coal barons in order to impress upon their slaves that the power lies in the hands of the masters of bread, have seen fit to bring their spurred and mounted legions on the scene to brutally beat and maim the producers of their wealth, because they have dared to rebel against the unjust and inhuman conditions under which they toil.

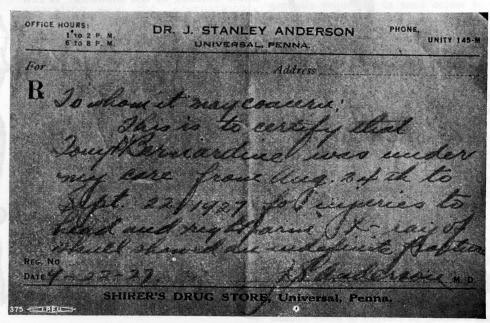
It is a very sad and sordid story, this story of Cheswick, with its hundreds of men, women and children being gassed, bombed and ridden down by the trained and paid troopers of the state, who, as ever, were on the field that day for that purpose, and well and truly did they do the bidding of the men who own the mineral wealth of the keystone state of the country.

The story of men and women who had done no wrong, and who had merely gathered for the purpose of protesting against the execution of two men of their class, being snagged on barbed wire fences, blinded from tear gas bombs and while in this condition beaten into insensibility by brutes in uniform. Little babies grabbed by the hair, and in spite of the cries for mercy by the mothers, being thrown to the ground. Then to finish off the bloody work, having the mother knocked insensible by a blow from this same trooper's club is not the kind of reading for social upliftBy W. J. White

ers, but it is one which should and will make red blooded men and women of the working class ask in all seriousness how long this must continue in order that men and women may wear fine rainment and loll in luxury and ease, while the producers of this wealth get their heads opened and their skulls fractured. Yet this is just what happened, on that August day in the year 1927 in a little grove on a private ground hired for the occasion to the workers in the town of Harwick and other surrounding coal mining towns.

Tony De Bernardini, an Italian coal miner and adopted citizen of the United States, a sober, industrious worker, was on the 22nd of August beaten by the state police of Pennsylvania so that his skull was fractured and his arm paralyzed, and while in this condition, bleeding from his mouth nose and ears, was thrown into a truck like a dead animal, haled before a company Justice of the Peace, held on 1500 dollars bail, then carted to the jail in Pittsburgh and held incommunicado until they found he was about to die on their hands. He was turned loose under \$1500, a probable cripple for the balance of his life.

Mrs. Mitchell, a mother of four children, the wife of a miner who has dug coal in this valley for the past sixteen years, who for the humane act of trying to assist an aged woman who was caught in the zone of the tear gas and had fallen down, was



A photographic copy of Dr. Anderson's affidavit

struck over the back with a night stick in the hands of an upholder of "law and order" as exemplified in a brute in the uniform of the State of Pennsylvania and is now unable to leave her home and will probably go to an untimely grave, an unfortunate victim of this class war which will go down to the future generations as the battle of Cheswick, altho why it should do so, as the miners were unarmed, may be a mystery to the student of history in the days to come. Yet such is the history of our class written and made up. Armed brutes against unarmed men, women and children. Such are not battles but massacres.

Sandwiches and pop were stolen by these same guardians of "law and order" and while their bleeding victims were being carted off to jail, they joked and laughed over the day's work, while washing their bloody black jacks and clubs in the tubs in which the pop had been packed in ice.

Let me close this story of brutality by saying that it is well for the men and women of Cheswick and of the country that there is such an organization as the International Labor Defense, for were it not for this organization, which furnished bail, secured lawyers, and saw to it that these workers received a mead of the care they should have and to the best of its ability is going into the capitalist controlled and owned courts to give these 21 workers every protection, for after beating and maiming some 300 of the men and women at the meeting, they have now had arrested twenty one of them who face a term in prison of from six to ten years for "rioting," "inciting to riot," "unlawful assembly," and "resisting officers."

### The Assault on the Cheswick Miners

By A. Jakira

OVER a month has passed since the state police of Pennsylvania staged its bloody attack upon the several thousand men, women and little children peacefully assembled at the Gajda Farm in Cheswick, Pa.

The State Cossacks, however, do not rest in peace. They are still hunting for some suitable man, preferably an Italian, whom they could frame up in connection with the death of state trooper Downey, who was shot shortly after the meeting in Cheswick was dispersed on August 22nd.

Recently John Latanzie of Arnold, Pa., was arrested, taken to barracks of the police at Greensburgh, Pa., where he was questioned for a whole day and compelled to sign a statement on what he saw at the meeting. Steve Kurepa, a miner of Harwick, Pa., who is now under three thousand dollars bail in connection with the Cheswick affair, was recently rearrested late at night. put thru a third degree and was decorated with a

black eye after he insisted that he knew nothing of the shooting. A few days later a woman of Cheswick was

RIGHT: Two of the workers indicted in the Cheswick case. LEFT: Mrs. C. H. Hampson, of Harmersville, crippled by the Cossacks'

clubs in Gajda Farm.

Drawings by Don Brown

arrested and held under five hundred dollars bail, which was later on released.

According to reports, the well known ex-Department of Justice agent and "expert on Communism" was engaged by the prosecution for a time to help in the frame up. The same Lennon was recently exposed as a participant in a daring blackmail case which also involves the Pittsburgh Chief of Police, Walsh, and alleged booze fighters of the city.

Meanwhile, the numerous stories as told by eye witnesses reveal more and more of the brutalities used by



the powers that be against the helpless workers.

One man, for instance, had his neck and arm broken by the clubs of the state troopers. He will remain a cripple for the rest of his life.

"The first time the state trooper hit me," tells another man, "he knocked me down and after he hit me lots. I did not feel then how much he gave me. I had sore legs and felt pains all over after I got up. He hit me behind, and I can not hear any more."

This miner spent over two weeks in the hospital and then was taken to jail for several days, and the charges against him dismissed. Indications are that he lost his hearing for the rest of his life. He was at the meeting for about 5 minutes and hardly had an opportunity to listen to what either the speakers or the troopers had to say.

"When the officer said 'Charge the ponies,'" according to the story of another eye witness, "the mob started to run. I did so too. I saw State Troopers knock them down on all sides—men, women and children. I picked myself up and just glanced from side to side. I saw a woman laying there as she yelled for help. A State Trooper came by and poked

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Mrs. William Mitchell, dying from a trooper's beating.

her with a club and said, 'Get up,' and left her laying there. I also saw children laying there but do not know whether they were knocked down by the mob or the police. As the people were waiting for the busses and trucks and tried to go home, the troopers, any one they met there they just clubbed them there and told them to get home and they did not take no excuse of any kind, waiting for street car or trucks."

Twenty one men, mostly Italian miners, are awaiting trial as a result of these unwarranted, bestial assaults of the Pennsylvania Cossacks against a peaceful assemblage of workers. These men must be defended. The American Civil Liberties Union, the Anti-Fascist Alliance of Pittsburgh and several other organizations are cooperating with the International Labor Defence in order to provide these workers with the necessary legal aid and to prevent another Sacco and



Lennon the Sleuth

Vanzetti frame-up. Other organizations and individuals should follow and help in this work. Quick action is necessary.

## The Tour of James P. Cannon Against the Frame-Up System

As soon after the Third Annual Conference of International Labor Defense as possible it is planned to begin a coast-tocoast tour for the I. L. D. with James P. Cannon, national secretary, at the speaker. One of the main tasks of the Conference will be the organization of the campaign against the frame-up system and the fight against this vicious American anti-labor institution will be the subject of Comrade Cannon's tour. Preparations are already now being begun for this nation-wide tour which is assured of success by the interest already aroused, as well as the importance of the subject and the speaker's knowledge of it. All locals of I. L. D., as well as other labor organizations, that desire to secure dates for the tour of Comrade Cannon are advised to send in their requests to the national office so that further information and arrangements can be obtained. All requests should be sent to International Labor Defense, 80 East 11th Street, Room 402, New York City.

#### OLD DEFENSE PAMPHLETS WANTED

The ILD is undertaking to compile a complete record of labor persecutions in America and needs for this task copies of all defense pamphlets, magazines, books, leaflets and posters which have been issued in various cases in the past.

Readers of The Labor Defender who have any of this material in hand, are urgently requested to send copies to the national office, 80 East 11th St., Room 402, New York City.

#### **AFTERMATH**

SIDNEY, Australia (FP).—The various labor councils in Australia which set going a continuous agitation for the release of Sacco and Vanzetti, during which seamen and waterside workers held stop-work meetings and large demonstrations were witnessed in the leading Australian cities, have begun a movement to boycott American-made goods as a final protest.

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News reports add that similar action has been taken by the labor movement in Finland and in some Scandinavian countries.

We are further informed that the Sacco-Vanzetti United Front Conference of Seattle voted to boycott all products manufactured in the state of Massachusetts.

# The Long Arm of Mussolini

N May 30 (Memorial Day) of this year a band of fascisti, members of the Fascisti League of North America, were on their way to march in a Memorial Day parade in New York City. They were the standard



Donato Carrillo

fascist regalia, black shirts, tassled caps, high boots and loud, militaristic riding breeches. On their shirts they had the fascist insignia which reads, "Intolerance to the enemy; death to the foe."

As two members of the party approached the 183rd Street station on the Third Avenue elevated line, an unknown assassin sprang out from behind a hiding place and stabbed and shot Joseph Carisi and Nicholas Amoroso, both active in Bronx fascist circles and members of the "squadrista," the guerrilla branch of the fascist movement The men collapsed in a pool of their blood and the murderer made off unidentified.

They were rushed to Fordham Hospital and they died on the way before the ambulance arrived there.

The East Side of New York with its venal criminal gangs is a fertile field for the well-heeled recruiting agents of the fascisti. Some time before the Memorial Day murders, occurred the ranks of the Fascist League was torn by a factional struggle for supremacy; as a result Giaco-

By Charles Yale Harrison

mo Caldora broke away and formed Il Duce Fascist Alliance. The break rankled in the breasts of the fascist leaders and on many occasions Caldora's life was threatened. On the day of the murders Caldora was standing within ten feet of the scene of the assassination and since then he has expressed the belief that the assassin meant to kill him and an associate and that they mistook Carisi and Amoroso for two members of the Il Duce Alliance.

On hearing the news of the murders fascist circles in New York went insane with fury. Irresponsible charges were made against nearly every prominent antifascist and Italian labor leader in the city.

When the news of the murder reached Rome, Premier Mussolini and all his ministers and deputies stood in salute to the dead members of the "squadrista." Deputy Alfieri rose in the Italian Chamber of Deputies and called upon the Italian Fascisti to avenge the daths of Carisi and Amoroso. Two days later Il Popolo d'Italia, a venomous fascist sheet said editorially, "The double assassination of the fascisti perpetrated by the refuse of Italy who have come together especially in New York city cannot



Joseph Carisi

leave us indifferent. The measure is full. It is necessary for us to take up the fight without mercy against these anti-fascisti who are living in foreign cities, against renegades who are exercising criminal propaganda against



Calogero Greco

Italy and the lives of Italians themselves.

"We must crush the traitors as we would a viper that bites at our heel."

The New York Italian capitalistic papers (which are notoriously profascist) took up the cry for blood and clamored for a victim.

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Six weeks went by and there were no arrests. Suddendly, on July 11th, the New York police working in conjunction with agents of the Italian Secret Service threw out what the newspapers are pleased to call a dragnet and arrested fourteen prominent anti-fascisti. The offices of Il Nuovo Mondo, an Italian socialist pubblication was raided and Mario D'Amico and Frank Cancellieri were taken into custody. The raiding party then went next door and burst into the offices of Il Martello, of which Carlo Tresca is editor, and arrested Mario Tresca, Carlo's brother; Luigi Quintilliano and Mario Buzzi.

Earlier in the day the American and Italian fascists raided two workingulass homes in Brooklyn and arrested Calogero Greco and Donato Carrillo. Greco and Carrillo are active members of local 63 of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. They were also members of the Anti-Fascist Alliance of North America, with which Carlo Tresca is prominently identified. Being workers and at the same time anti-fascists they were "suspicious characters" to the raiding party.

Instead of being taken to police headquarters for examination the "suspects" were taken to the Highbridge police station in a deserted locality of the Bronx and there submitted to official "questioning."

After hours of grilling all but Greco and Carrillo were released and they were then charged with murder in the first degree.

During the questioning members of the New York fascisti were brought face to face with the accused and asked to identify them. The usual procedure, even in New York, is to put a suspect in the line-up with other suspects and then the witness is asked to pick out the culprit.

In the case of Greco and Carrillo, District Attorney McGeehan led the "witnesses" into a room where the suspects were sitting and asked, "Is this the man?" Of course they were identified.

The fascists who identified Greco and Carrillo were all members of the "squadrista," the punitive arm of fascism whose duty it is according to its oath "to defend at all costs the facist regime at home or abroad."

As soon as Greco and Carrillo were properly "identified" in keeping with the best traditions of the Palmer-Burleson methods, Dr. Di Marzio, general secretary of the fascist branches in foreign countries began to give the case that deft touch which may eventually make it a case of international significance.

Di Marzio wrote to the American Ambassador Fletcher and asked that the envoy do everything in his power to see that Greco and Carrillo be electrocuted for the murder of the Bronx Fascists. Fletcher relied to Di Marzio as follows:

"I received your most courteous letter dated July 12, in regard to late arrests made in New York in relation to the killing of Carisi and D'Ambrosoli. I am sure that every attempt will be made to secure the guilty justice. With cordial salutations,"

(Signed) Fletcher

It will be noted that in Fletcher's letter to Di Marzio Amoroso is referred to as *D'Ambrosoli*. Why did A-

moroso use an alias for his operations in America? Why did Mussolini himself rise to honor two apparently obscure members of the "squadrista?" Why were they sent to America from Italy? These are questions which will have a bearing when the case is heard.

Caldora, the head of the Il Duce Fascist Alliance, when interviewed by reporters had this to say. "I saw Amoroso killed. The man who killed Amoroso didn't look like Greco or Carrillo. If I ever see him again I will know him; I could pick him out of a million men. Greco and Carrillo are innocent."

In the meantime five fascists have sworn that Greco and Carrillo *are* the murderers and the entire legal machinery of the State of New York is being oiled for speedy action when the men come up for trial.

The case has all the earmarks of a frame-up. All the characters of the familiar railroading act are here. Two militant workers, the forces of professional patriots (in this case fascist patriots), the prejured testimony or affidavits and the usual "murder" charge. In all its aspects the Greco-Carrillo case bids fair to become another Sacco-Vanzetti case.

Two more workers are being groomed for the electric chair.

### CONTRIBUTORS TO THE PLEDGE FUND

he following have pledged themselves to send \$5 monthly to class-war prisoners and \$20 to dependants.

Remember the class-war prisoners and their pependants!

INDIVIDUALS

Estelle Torkoff, Boulder, Colo.
Mrs. A. Kratofil, Norwalk, Ohio.
Joseph Wilson, Long Beach, Wash.
The Siegel Family, Ontario, Calif.
Sophie Katz, Chicago, Ill.
Jens Jensen, Bridgeport, Conn.
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I. L. D. BRANCHES
Local Arden. Local Denven.
Local Perth Amboy. Local Canton.
Local Avella. Local Newberry.

Local Chicago: Barnett branch. Billings branch. Bulgarian branch. Hungarian branch. Cicero International branch. Irving Park English branch. Italian branch. Northwest Jewish branch. Karl Marx branch. Lettish branch. South Slavic branch. Ukrainian branch. Northwest Mothers' League.

Lithuanian Section, Chicago.

Local Boston: Malden branch. Roxbury Lettish branch. Boston Lettish branch. Roxbury Jewish branch. Boston Russian branch.

New England District (family).

Local Detroit: Anti-Fascist branch.

Greek branch. Hungarian branch. Tom

Mooney branch. Lithuanian branch. No.

Ladies' Prog. Society branch. Painters' branch. South Slavie branch. Scandinavian branch. Women's branch. West Side Russian branch. Bulgarian branch. Finnish branch. I. L. D. Women's Educational Circle. East Side Polish branch.

Local New York: Brownsville English branch. German Yorkville branch. Lithuanian Brooklyn branch. Richmond German branch. Bronx Hungarian branch. Bronx Hungarian branch. Yorkville Hungarian branch.

Local New York (family).

Local Cleveland: Ukrainian branch. Local Cleveland.

Local Philadelphia: Kensington branch. Lithunanian branch. Strawberry Mansion branch. Anti-Fascist League.

Local Seattle: English branch. Esthonian branch. Finnish branch. Women's Educational League.

Local Oakland (prisoner and family). Anita Whitney branch of Oakland.

Local Newark: English branch.

# The Red Month of November - FO R THE THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF







Adolph Fisher



A. Rabinowitz

to sharpen the hatred of labor to jailors and have for our fighters. On the eleventh day of Nevember 1887,

Albert R. Parson, August Spies, Adolph Fisher and George Engel were hung on the scaffold of Cook County. Louis Lingg was either murdered or committed suicide in the death cell. Other of their comrades were sent to serve long terms in prison. They were heroes of an early day. They were the pioneers of the eighthour day movement, and their crime was so heinous in the eyes of the master class that nothing but their blood would satisfy the vampires whose profits and power they menaced.

On November 19, 1915, a worker was stood up against the stone wall of the penitentiary at Salt Lake City. At the command, the firing squad sent its deadly bullets through the body of Joe Hill. We know why Joe Hill died, and it was not because of the "murder" he was charged with committing. We know that Joe Hill died for the class he fought for, for whom he composed his rebel songs, whom he organized to break their chains. Member of the I. W. W., a migratory worker who tasted the lash of exploitation in railroad and construction work, in the harvest fields and the lumber camps, he combined shrewd common sense with a vision of the future society where workers are not legally murdered behind tall stone walls to keep out the protests of the labor movement.

A year later, the black reaction took its toll again. Ten score of workers, on their way by steamer from Seattle to Everett for a free speech fight were ambushed from the dock by

red stream runs through the month of power and whisky drunk deputies. Fusilades November, marking in its course many were fired into the gay and determined group struggles of the working class of this country, from every direction. The workers, cornered here with defeat there with victory, always with by the hidden "heroes" fought back against inspiring record of working class courage, ex- tremendous odds. When the last shot had been emplary in its noble devotion to the cause of the fired, and the last note of Hold the Fort had oppressed, magnificent incidents of solidarity died away, the workers counted Felix Baran, and self-sacrifice, instructive milestones along John Looney, Hugo Gerlot, Abraham Rabinothe difficult road to liberation. It is a record witz and Gustav Johnson among their martyred dead. Others were swept away by the sea. assassins, to increase the respect and pride we Scores were frightfully wounded. Frenchman, Irishman, German, Jew and Swede-all gave their lives in the fight. To this day, and for many days to come, the workers pledge themselves to these brave spirits in the words of the northwest rebels: We never forget!

> Centralia on November 11th, 1919. The attack on the I. W. W. hall by the business men's uniformed mob, and the kidnapping of Wesley Everest to be diabolically tortured, mutilated, suffering a dozen deaths in one before he was hung and shot. And the aftermath: the farcical trial and conviction of Eugene Barnett, John Lamb, Bland, McInerney and their fellow workers for a crime that should have been charged to their enemies. The Centralia I. W. W. are still in prison at Walla Walla, victims of capitalist vengeance.

November 7, 1917! The rising of tens of millions, the liberation of all the Russias! The open ing of a new epoch for all the exploited and oppressed is marked by this day of the seizure of power by the Russian workers and peasants. Who but the working class could maintain its power for ten years in the face of such obstacles and poisonous opposition! The brush of revolution has covered one sixth of the earth with the red of freedom, and it sweeps on inexorably over the rest of the world.

It is no accident that the Third Annal Conference of International Labor Defense is being held on the fortieth anniversary of the execution of the Haymarket martyrs. The day was deliberately chosen to commemorate this historic episode in the American class struggle, and



Eugene Barnett



O. C. Bland



John Lamb



James McInerney

# INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE

to carry the Haymarket tradition forward in the building of a powerful class defense move-

It is only little over a year now since the close of the Second Annual Conference of International Labor Defense but the events of this period have confirmed many times over the basic idea of non-partisan working class defense movement which is the rock upon which the I. L. D. is being built.

Whatever skepticism existed about International Labor Defense must now have disappeared in the past year, particularly since the last conference. When the I. L. D. got into its full stride, as it did in the great agitation for Sacco and Vanzetti, there was no need for further proof that there was a strong necessity for jail. such a movement and that its right to existence and support could not be challenged.

In the Sacco-Vanzetti case, the I. L. D. brought out with cameo clearness the main lines of its program. The first of these was unity of all working class forces. In the Sacco-Vanzetti conference it initiated could be found an all-embracing reflection of all elements in the labor movement: Communists, Socialists, Anarchists, Syndicalists, members of the American Federation of Labor and of the I. W. W. and other independent unions, and scores of fraternal organizations. Even when slanderous attacks were launched against the I. L. D. and attempts made to split the united movement, the International Labor Defense continued to forge forward with patient persistence for unified action.

Secondly, the reliance upon the class movement of the workers. We pointed out incessantly that the Sacco-Vanzetti case was an instance of class persecution and not an accidental case of the "miscarriage of justice". We drew therefrom the conclusion that only by the class action of the workers for whom Sacco and Vanzetti were being groomed to die could save them from such a fate. The history of the many Sacco-Vanzetti cases of the past decades

to work in a manner that will enable the I. L. D. in this country confirmed our belief that militant workers could expect no "justice" from capitalist courts and judges, and that their vindication could be guaranteed only by the workers' movement.

- By James P. Cannon

The Sacco-Vanzetti case was not only tied up with the other cases before the American workers, but also with the militant traditions of the American workers. Among the greatest of these is the tradition of the Haymarket Martyrs, whose history contains so many points that are similar to the history of their blood brothers of two score years later. They represent the spirit of courageous struggle for the cause of the working class, the spirit of selfsacrifice, the spirit of defiance to the mad capitalist class that hung them in Cook County

The third annual conference of the I. L. D., will honor the memory of the Haymarket martyrs by meeting on their fortieth anniversary and making their great tradition its own.

The necessity for the defense movement is shown not only by those fighters of the past and those still in prison, the Mooneys, Billingses, Barnetts, McNamaras and others, but by those who are about to be sent there-or to the electric chair, the miners in Cheswick, the Michigan Communists, the New York Italian workers Greco and Carrillo, the furriers and ladies garment workers in New York and Chicago and others in other parts of the country. To defend them is also to defend the labor movement, the working class.

Let the working class of America ring with our fighting slogan: Build a wall of labor defense against the frame-up system! We want to make the third annual conference of International Labor Defense a sounding board for this militant appeal.

Red November is for our heroes and martyrs, for our battles and for our victories! On with the glorious struggle for liberation, for the freedom of the workers from the prisons of capitalism and from the greater prison which is capitalism!







Louis Lingg



Gus Johnson







Wesley Everest



Bert Bland



Britt Smith



 $\mathbb{T}^0$  the list of class war prisoners

in the United States Samuel Mencher have to be added the

names of the nine furrier workers who are now on bail pending the out-

come of their appeal against a verdict of five years jail in the Mineola trial. McGrady, Hugh Frayne, Mathew Woll and other leaders of the Amer-



Leo Franklin

ican Federation of Labor played a direct role in framing up these nine workers and sentencing them to jail for periods ranging from two and a half to five years.

It was during the last general strike of the Furriers Union that the owners of a scab shop in Rockville Center, a town saturated with the spirit of Ku Klux Klan and anti-labor, had brought charges that their shop was raided and its owners beaten up. Three workers were arrested, brought to trial and found guilty. These were Bassoff, Malkin and Franklin. Bassoff was the only one who confessed after all the three of them went thru the infamous third degree method.

The Union as usual appealed the case and freed its members on bail. Here however, something happened. At this time the bureaucracy of the A. F. of L. raised the issue of Communism and attempted to wrest the leadership from the elected and beloved leaders of the Furriers Union. Failing in their attempts to take over the leadership, the bureaucracy began to resort to the aid of gangsters an police. Daily attacks upon furrier workers were made. Furriers were cut up by gangsters, arrested and beaten up.

The right wing bureaucracy succeeded in buying up one of the three



furriers who were convicted for the Rockville Centre charges; A. Bassoff came to the office of the Furriers Union

and demanded that he be paid \$60

By Ben Rubin

The Mineola Frame-up

weekly or he "will involve others in his case." The manager of the Furriers Union, Ben Gold, refused to make such deals and told him to do whatever he pleases. Bassoff then turned state witness. He came daily to the Furriers' market with detectives, and arrested workers. In a period of only a few days he suceeded in arresting eleven Furriers among whom were Ben Gold, the Manager of the Furriers Joint Board, and A. Shapiro, head of the Law committee



of the Furriers Strike Committee. All of them were accused of participating in the fight at Rockville Centre, New York.

Maurice Malkin

At the trial the undercurrent forces of the united front of labor betrayers, bosses and

judges, worked very hard to convict the eleven workers and send them off to long terms in prison. The jury was picked on a class basis. Such ques-



Oscar Mileaf

tions, as "Do you belong to any organization that is opposed to the American government?" and "Do you sympathize with the ideas of socialism and communism" were put to every candidate for the jury, in spite of the vigorous objections of the defense counsel. Every candidate who was suspected of the slightest sympathies with the labor movement was barred from jury duty. The jury consisted of bosses, contractors, and business men, all of them being prejudiced against the labor movement and if not directly belonging to the Ku Klux Klan, at least having deep sympathies with them.

Such were the gentlemen who tried the eleven active, devoted members of the working class.

The trial took place at Mineolathe nest of the K. K. K. elements in N.



Jack Schneider

Y. state. The atmosphere in the court room was charged with hatred and suspicion towards the defendants. They were looked upon as the worst criminals ever tried. During the time of the trial these eleven workers were kept in chains in their prison cells. No one except their lawyers was admitted to them. The local press was full of charges and lies about the accused.

The yellow Forward and the labor bureaucrats played an important role in creating such a lynching atmosphere and preparing the grounds for the convinction of nine of the eleven accused. On the very day of the trial the lawyer of the right wing in the needle trades issued a statement to the press charging that the leadership of the Furriers Union employed gangsters in their fight against the employers. These charges were never proven. They served however as a basis to prejudice the jurors still more and to determine the outcome of the trial.

It was also proven during the cross examination of the witnesses that the right wing bureaucracy closely collaborated with the industrial squad in order to frame up the workers.

The District attorney during the



Otto Lenhart

entire time referred to the statements made in the press by the right wing lawyers, that the Joint Board of the Furriers Union is employing gang-

sters. His main accusations were based not on any evidence because he

could not get such, but on the issue of communism. In this way he succeeded in getting a verdict of guilty from the 100% K. K. K. Jury.



Joe Katz

The appeal is soon coming up. The nine furriers whose only guilt consists of being good trade union members and class conscious workers, are in danger of being sent to rot in jail for a period of five years. Some of them are family men with wives and small children whom they have to support.

The labor movement must save the nine victims of the Mineola frame-up.



THEY came into our office and stood staring somewhat blankly at the picture of Lenin that hangs over one of the desks. Some of them smelled of cheap liquor after a night out. Others stood with felt hats rakishly cocked over one eye. Cocksure. Glib. Nice boys, but not knowing—typical newspaper reporters.

A hot story. Good copy. Strikes—demonstrations—riots—mobs attack City Hall—gimme the city desk—what's hot today? Another assignment. Some of them mispronounced the names—after all they were foreign names. Typical newspapermen. Good copy.

"Say, give us the low-down on this bombing stuff. Who did it? You're in the know. I won't quote you. Give us the low-down will yuh?"

"Who's financing this joint anyway?"

"Gimme something hot will-you—

## "Good Copy"

By Charles Yale Harrison

I've got an edition in twenty minutes. Something on the bombing. Do you think there'll be a riot tomorrow on the Square?"

"This is the hottest story I've been on since the Brooklyn trolley crash."

Nice, well-meaning boys. Good English, some of them, correct manner—"thanks very much—awfully decent of you, I'll try and get it in the lead, yes, thanks a lot"—good reporters—good blotters; take impressions. Tomorrow the paper will be left on a subway seat, crumpled next to a tired flapper coming home from a dance-hall.

#### "Remember, Dante"

A two by four office. Two desks, a filing cabinet, a few chairs. A picture of Sacco and Vanzetti. Volunteer workers come in and out. Great activity. Telegrams, reports, committee meetings, the secretary hustling to and fro. The telephone screams a startling alarm.

Outside in the street newsboys shout the extras. Sacco and Vanzetti! Sacco and Vanzetti! The tabloids



have taken up the cry. New strata of the masses are being touched. They come into the office of the Emergency Committee—bewildered—moved by the infamy.

An elderly American woman comes in with her two daughters.

"Do you think they will kill these two men."

"It looks that way. We are trying to prevent it."

"Give me a petition—I will get people to sign it."

"We have millions of signatures it is too late for that."

"But we must do something—something. I am an American mother—I gave two sons in the war—they can't do it. I gave two sons in the war. What can I do to help, tell me."

"Now, Dante, Be Brave"

Day and night the work goes on. Letters to trade unions, appeals, conferences. Tired-eyed people crowd







LEFT and RIGHT: Sacco-Vanzetti meetings in St. Paul

CENTER: At the Cleveland Public Square

into the room, typing, sealing letters,

Reporters hang around waiting for the next release. A girl is arrested for distributing strike leaflets. The reporters ask questions, name, address, age, what station was she taken to? Good copy. Hot story.

\*\*\*

A man comes into the office. It is Saturday. He comes from the country—from a worker's resort. He has collected some money. How well the workers understand that these efforts require financial help. All through the feverish weeks they came with their offerings. The worker from the country speaks:

"We are out in the country, you know. Yesterday I made a collection to help our imprisoned comrades. Not much—but I told everyone to chip in. Twenty dollars and sixteen cents. A mother took sixteen cents from her two year old boy's bank. She said ne would want to give too if he knew. It's not much but it will help."

"We Are Not Criminals, Dante"

Ineffectual liberals come into the office. Their illusions are being shattered. Justice, fairmindedness, protest, deplorable, prominent people. They flutter about helplessly.

"Oh, I don't think they will dare do it."

"I'll get Oswald Hayes to protest—he's a brilliant lawyer, and a Harvard graduate, you know. That'll help—don't you think?"

"Did you see Grace O'Leary's poem. Wonderful. Wonderful."

They clog the office and hamper movement. They are bewildered and impotent. They look a little frightened as we make preparations for a strike.

On Union Square one sees only workers. Union Square alive with enthusiasm, sweaty, virile—shouting itself harse with angry protests.

On Union Square the cops wielded ugly clubs. Machine guns perched squat on roof-tops. They clubbed girls in front of the Freiheit building. We sang the *The Internationale*—and frightened the liberals away.

"Soon You Will Understand, Dante"
The day of the strike. The streets are filled with workers. In the office we are harrassed by a million details.

She is a Christian Scientist. She wants to speak to a member of the committee.

"I am a scientist, you know. I know that these men will not die. I have prayed for them. There can be no evil where good abounds. God, the father of all good, will not allow it. I know they will not die. I am a scientist, you know."

Another. He is a Hindu. He speaks correct Oxford English.

"I dreamed last night that Sacco and Vanzetti were freed. I saw a roomful of men ready to kill them and then a great spirit came over everything. They loosed their bonds and set them free. There was great rejoicing among the people. I have dreamed before. It always comes true. You will see, my friend."

"Be Good To Your Mother, Dante"

It is one o'clock in the morning of August the twenty-third. The slick reporters crowd close.

"Are you going to make a statement?"

"Do you think there will be bombings?"

"They died game."

"Can we quote you on that?"

"Thanks, awfully—very decent of you."

The end of an assignment. A good story. Good copy.

We switched off the lights and went home through streets heavily guarded by police.

Pink tabloids flashed before our eyes. Extra! Extra! Sacco and Vanzetti Die! Sacco and Vanzetti Die!

## A REBEL WORKER'S LIFE

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

By Eugene Barnett

(Continued from last issue)

FTER the Armistice was signed it did not work steady, so by April, it was only working two days a week, and I could not make enough to pay my grocery bill. So I rented a farm, I mortgaged one of my teams for seed grain and put in seven acres of oats and planted a garden. Then I got a job on the county road with my team. I worked out \$110, and when I paid my board and for my horse feed, I just had \$27 left.

I started kicking for more pay and got canned for agitating. I had hunted up a delegate in Centralia in March 1919 and joined the I. W. W. for, knowing their aims as I did and the good work they were doing, I knew I was shirking my duty in not

giving my support to the organization by becoming a member. Up to that time no man had ever asked me to become a member and I hunted all over town to find a man to line me up then. I became a member knowing I was liable to get in jail or tarred and feathered or beat up, or even hung at any time for I knew what had been done to others. But I saw my duty to my class and I have never been sorry of it.

After I got fired on the road job, I went to work for the farmers along the Chehalis river haying, and when I got through at one, I went to the next, I kept this up till August.

Soon after I started haying I traded one of my teams for a Jersey cow and a cayuse mare. I sold the

mare and paid the money on the mortgage at the feed store. Then I paid the balance out of the wages I worked out. When I cut my hay it did not do much more than pay for the seed. And one night about two weeks after I got the cow, I came home and found she had fallen into a hole and broken her neck.

In August I borrowed some money at the bank on my other team and moved back to the mines. They were opening up two new slopes, and I got a job digging. I had to neck a room for myself, and it was in a nest of niggerheads. So I did not make much the first two weeks. I took out as high as 15 niggerheads in a week, and a fellow gets nothing for that. We were working about 200 feet a-

head of the air, so some days we could not work at all. And always we went home weak and sick from the bad air when we did work. I was just getting my place so I could make a little in it when the strike call came and we went out.

Then I got a letter from the land office in Idaho, saying I had to live on my homestead another year, and November 11 I went to Centralia to send a reply to this letter, for I had to get them fixed up before a notary. I left home about 11 o'clock. I tried to get my wife to go in the buggy with me but she did not want to go, so I went horseback.

I got to Centralia between 12 and 1 o'clock. I went to the city park, and

tied my horse. Then I went to the Post office for I had a parcel post package to mail. I found the office closed. Then I went to Elmer Smith's office. There was a man in there and he said Smith was at lunch. I had told my wife I would be home early, so I thought I would go up to the Hall and get a paper, and when I get the land papers fixed up I would be ready to go home.

W' in I got up to the Hall there were five of six men there, and they were talking about the raid on the old hall. I picked up a paper and read a piece in it about the coal strike. All the fellows in the hall except the secretary were strangers to me so I went out to go back down town. I

saw Elmer Smith on the sidewalk in front of the Roderick Hotel. I asked him about fixing up the land papers and he said he could fix them for me.

I had noticed the old man McAllister in the hotel lobby alone, so I thought I would visit with him a few minutes and I told Elmer Smith I would be down to his office in half an hour and I then went into the hotel lobby.

Shortly after I went in Mrs. McAllister came in and started to prepare dinner, and I picked up a paper and started to read about the injunction against the miners. Then a man came in. He was a stranger to me, but he, McAllister and I sat there talking until the parade started to pass.

(To be continued)



Tom Hardy Thomaston, Maine.

Dear Comrade:

It is with pleasure that I answer your letter of recent date that brought to me the check for \$10, covering two months allowance, which I assure you is greatly appreciated.

Well, Comrade, my time is slipping away and it will be only a matter of eight or nine months when I can gain my liberty.

I note what you say about the National Conference, and I certainly hope that all your efforts will be crowned with success.

With kindest regards to all comrades, I remain

Fraternally yours,

Tom Hardy

#### John Lamb

Walla Walla, Wash.

Dear Friends & Fellow Workers:

I received your most kind and ever welcome letter of the 28th ult., with the ten dollar check enclosed for August and September prison relief and many thanks for same. We are hoping that the Third Annual Conference of International Labor Defense will be a perfect success. We received the Labor Defender for October and it is an excellent issue, and it has exactly the right ideas in regard to concentrating the energies of the I. L. D. toward gaining the immediate release of the remaining class war prisoners.

All labor organizations should be perfectly willing to cooperate and work in perfect harmony for the release of their imprisoned fellow workers for an injury to one

is an injury to all. The eleventh day of next month will be eight years in prison for the Centralia defendants and we do not know just how much longer we may have to stay in prison, unless we can get our friends and fellow workers to come to our rescue and show the powers that be that we have plenty of friends behind us that are demanding our immediate release. The powers that be know that lavor is not properly organized and that is why they take the advantage of labor. The capitalist class is properly organized for capitalism and the workers know that and that is why the workers is afraid to venture in their own behalf.

If the workers were organized as perfect as their masters of capitalism then labor would have at least an even break. The workers must organize hemselves into one perfect organization and quit fighting each other and show the boss what one unit of workers organized at the point of production means.

With the best wishes to all I am as ever yours for Industrial Freedom,

John Lamb

#### From San Quentin

San Quentin, Calif.

James P. Cannon, Dear Comrade:

I have just about served the sentence imposed upon me by the state of California. On the ninth of November I will be discharged. Before leaving this institution, I wish to thank you, thru you, the officials, members, and friends of the International Labor Defense for all the assistance and

comforts which they have so cheerfully given to me while incarcerated.

I have been told that the Third Annual Convention of the I. L. D. will be held early in November. Here's hoping that it will be the greatest and most successful convention held yet, and that the I. L. D. will grow and become a strong and powerful organization.

I am, with all good wishes, Fraternally yours,

John Bruns

#### McNamara

International Labor Defense, New York, N. Y.

Greetings:

I received prison relief for the months of June, July, August and September. I take this means of thanking all the members of the I. L. D. for same.

Several of the members have been over to see all the boys in the last few months. There are about eight left, but no telling when more will come. The leaders of the A. F. of L. play the leading part in sending lebor's militants to prison. Then they go out of their way in keeping them there. The rank and file don't know this, but they are to learn the true facts in the next few years.

I suggest that the I. L. D. at the Third Annual Conference take this case up and instruct its chairman to come out here and get the facts.

Wishing the I. L. D. success in all its undertakings. I am

Fraternally yours,

J. B. McNamara

### Legal Advice to Workers

Joseph R. Brodsky, attorney for International Labor Defense, will conduct this column regularly in **The Labor Defender**. Answers will be given to questions concerning strike matters, injunctions, deportation proceedings, wage claims, landlord and tenant proceedings, compensation claims and the like. Although advice may be given on legal steps that may be necessary, attorney Brodsky will be unable to undertake any legal work in connection with various matters inquired about.

By Joseph R. Brodsky

Dear Comrade Editor:

I entered the United States some years ago, in the year 1920, coming across the border from Canada without examination by the American immigration officers. Can I be deported if this fact is made known?

Answer: The right to deport you for illegal entry expired five years after such illegal entry was effected, if you entered before 1924. If you leave the country, however, you will not be re-admitted except in accordance with the immigration laws, and whatever rights you have by virtue of your present residence in the United States will be forfeited. You need not however, fear deportation, because a charge of illegal entry cannot be brought against you now if you have resided continuously in the United States since the date of your entry. The 1924 Immigration Law however, allows deportation at any time of aliens who enter in excess of quota.

Dear Comrade Editor:

I am in the country two years and want to become a citizen. What shall I do?

Answer: Go to the Naturalization Court in your district and apply for first papers, bringing with you two witnesses who can identfy you. Five years from the date of your entry into this country more you will be eligible to apply for your second or final papers. You can secure your first papers at any time after your entry into the country but they are only good for seven years, and if within that period second or final papers are not applied for

your first papers lapse and you will have to apply anew for them.

Dear Comrade Editor:

I am not a citizen although I have been in the country many years. I want to go to Europe. What must I do to make sure that I will be readmitted?

Answer: Secure from the immigration bureau in your city a re-entry permit application, which you will send to Washington, D. C., after you have filled same out, and within about thirty days you will receive the re-entry permit, which will enable you to return to the United States as an alien resident regardless of quota limitations.

#### Ellis On Sacco-Vanzetti

The Case of Sacco and Vanzetti. Cartoons. By Fred Ellis. The Daily Worker Publishing Co. 25 Cents.

No matter how small is your collection of books, this well-printed edition of more than a dozen of Fred Ellis' best cartoons on the Sacco-Vanzetti case should occupy a prominent place on your shelves. It contains one drawing of four ghastly fat bosses, in evening clothes, hovering around the electric chair and two open coffins as the clock strike twelve, which is done with such immemorably victriolic sharpness that it will not soon be forgotten. The cartoons are like flaming flowers strewn on the grave, but flowers that form a pattern from which to strengthen our hatred of the assassins of the two martyrs, and a banner to inspire us to struggle for the vindication of their life's work. The readers of The Labor Defender, who have been fortunate to find in its pages the work of Fred Ellis, and to appreciate it, will find in this collection of his cartoons the work of a labor artist himself a rebel who is instinct with the spirit of the struggle. S.

### Burning the Records

By Rose Baron

W ILL HAYS is the czar of moviedom. He decides what shall be shown on the motion picture screens throughout the country. Ostensibly his job is to see that nothing salacious or indecent is produced at Hollywood so that the morals of tens of millions of movie-goers shall not be corrupted.

Recently, however, Hay s showed his hand as a labor-baiting censor. The *Exhibitor's Herald*, a motion picture trade journal carried a news item to the effect that all news reels taken of the Sacco-Vanzetti demons-

trations, and so forth, are to be destroyed.

Thus all cinema records of this world-famous case will be lost to the working class forever. Not only are the prints to be destroyed but the negatives have been ordered to be burned also.

The united enemies of Sacco and Vanzetti want to close the books of the case; they want to have us all forget. But we will not forget, and reply to the murderers by the organization of our activities to build a labor defense movement to avenge the death of our two martyred comrades.





100,000 workers at the newly-named Sacco-Vanzetti Square in Clichy, a Paris suburb

#### ON THE PRESS

# SACCO and VANZETTI

■ HIS pamphlet just published by the International Labor Defense is a graphic record of the great labor case. Step by step it analvzes the machinery of the frame-up that was set into motion to send to their death two radical workers for a crime they never committed. It challenges the spurious "support" given Sacco and Vanzetti by the false "liberals" and gives an accurate account of the development of the class movement which became the chief sustenance of the two martyred rebels. The great importantance of the lessons of this historic case are here pointed out in all their aspects. It is a pamphlet that must become a part of every worker's bookshelf.

# Labor's Martyrs A NEW 64 PAGE PAMPHLET

By Max Shachtman ILLUSTRATED

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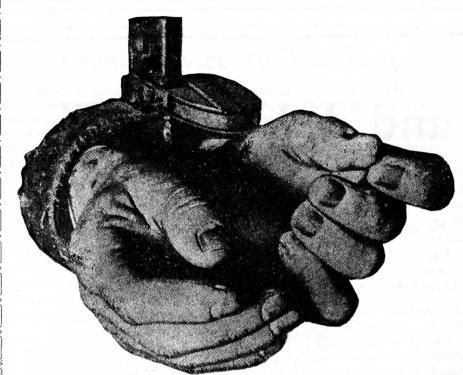
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#### Announcement

The next issue of The Labor Defender will have a review of "The Life and Death of Sacco and Vanzetti", by Eugene Lyons (International Publishers). A cursory glance at the volume already establishes it as an authoritative history of the case and a keen analysis of the clash of forces in the fight for the vindication of the two Italian rebels.



1887: The Haymarket Martyrs

1927: Sacco and Vanzetti

# Join the Fight Against

### THE FRAME-UP SYSTEM

Though forty years have passed since the legal murder of the Haymarket Martyrs, the Massachusetts bourbons dared to perpetrate a similar outrage in 1927. They were able to do this because there was no organized unified resistance, strong enough to prevent them from going through with their murderous deed.

International Labor Defense unites all forces in the labor movement willing to co-operate in a fight against the infamous frame-up system which results in persecution, deportation, imprisonment and execution of workers because of their activities in the interests of their class. It renders financial assistance to the class-war prisoners and their dependents. Each month it sends \$5 to the men in prison and \$20 to the dependents.

# For Christmas

International Labor Defense will send \$25 to each labor prisoner, \$50 each to their families and \$5 each to their children.

#### WILL YOU HELP?

Sell a book of 30 coupons at 10c each. Fill in and mail today!

International Labor Defense 80 East 11th Street, Room 402, New York City.

Enclosed find three dollars (\$3.00) for which please send me a book of 30 coupons at ten cents each which I will sell to my friends, neighbors, and shopmates.

Name

Address

City State