We Fight Hunger

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HARLAN

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CUBA — Island of Torture

JANUARY, 1932 10¢
Upper left: Hunger Marchers carrying I.L.D. banners. They demanded release of Mooney and all class-war prisoners.


Middle left: January is the anniversary of the murder by Tammany police of Steve Katoris. This is the scene of his funeral, when 50,000 workers told Tammany what they thought of it. And Tammany Walker dares to pretend to plead for Mooney!

Middle Right: Scene is New York City. Homeless couple housed in stable with horses. What do you think of that, Mr. Hoover?

Lower left: Hoover's thugs "guarding" Capitol against the Hunger Marchers.

Lower right: Chinese poster on Canton Commune—when thousands of Chinese workers were murdered by war-lords and world imperialists.
WE FIGHT HUNGER

By Joseph North

The I. L. D. participated in the National Hunger March, which in addition to its fight for unemployment insurance demanded the immediate release of Mooney and "Amnesty." All arrested workers on the way of the march are being held in the J.D. (Jail) which is now mobilizing its membership for February 4th, a Jobless demonstration.

HUNGER March in America. Word of it flashed from mouth to mouth with radio speed through the slums of a thousand cities and towns. Main Street and Middletown; village and city were agog with the news.

Imagine if you can, 12,000,000 faces of America's jobless—hard, bony, an ocean of eyes, staring in one direction—fastened with frightful intensity on one spot of the globe—Washington, D. C. If you can, you may glean an idea of Mr. Hoover's psychology that memorable day, December 7, when the 1665 Hunger Marchers massed before his warm hearth — and thunders, "WE DEMAND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE!"

For the Hunger Marchers—delegates of the hungry and homeless—pitched camp in the capital of the world's richest nation. Representatives of America's starving millions, hungry, half-frozen, cramped in bone from the body-wracking trek across America's plains to the capital, drew up in military formation on Capitol Hill.

The Secret Service Department at Hoover's instigation, had wasted a heavy brush in buckets of red paint and smeared their propaganda across the front pages of America, on November 29. "Moscow inspired — armed — hoodlums — subsidized" — were charges that rang across the continent.

Hammond, Indiana — town of steel — turned the tide. It revealed to the Department of Justice and to Mr. Hoover the way the wind blew. In Hammond, the hungry townpeople turned out to defend the Hunger Marchers against the police attack.

Mr. Hoover and his administration opened their eyes. "This is a mass movement." These Hunger Marchers swept forward inexorably on the crest of a mass movement. For they are directly elected delegates of Unemployed Councils in 300 cities of the United States. No comparison with Coxey's disorganized brigades of the 1890's. Disciplined proletarians—these from 30 states in the union—a irresistible force swept on to Washington.

Scenes of inspiring fraternization between farmers and the Hunger Marchers occurred constantly. Near Cumberland, Md., farmers abandoned their fields to heed the message of the Hunger Marchers. Many offered gifts of food, fruits, vegetables. "Tell Hoover for us" farmers shouted to the Hunger Marchers throughout Maryland.

December 7. We marched in ranks four abreast through the streets of Washington. The marble structure atop Capitol Hill—which with Wall Street symbolizes world domination today fairly shook.

"We Demand Unemployment Insurance"—the cry of the Hunger Marchers echoed and re-echoed against the Capitol Buildings. I wager the reverberations were heard across America. The senators and Congressmen driving up in their shiny blue limousines to the 72nd session of Congress were forced to elbow their way through the delegation of the Hunger Marchers waiting at the entrance to the building.

The Congressmen got in. The Hunger Marchers did not. The Sergeant-at-Arms—flanked by brigades of blue-coats — ejected the representatives of America's hungry millions.

Then we marched to the White House—and again the refusal to meet these delegates of the starving masses of America. Mr. Hoover may have been peeping at the crowds from behind the curtains of his bedroom, but certainly he dared not make his appearance to his "constituents."

Mr. Green, of the American Federation of Labor, surrounded by hosts of cigar-smoking thugs, was next on the list. A delegation chosen from among themselves of members of the American Federation of Labor in the Hunger March, visited him with the following message:

1—You lie when you say the American workers do not want unemployment insurance. 2—You and the other backers of the A. F. of L. leadership must heed a rank and file referendum in the A. F. of L. on this proposition. 3—You and Matthew Woll are hostile to this Hunger March—which represents the unemployed masses of America. You are agents of the employers—not of the workers—in your opposition to the Hunger Marchers.

The Hunger Marchers, disciplined legions of the American working-class, then returned to their cities—to the hundreds of thousands and millions awaiting them.

"You refused to listen to us this time" they said to Congress, "but wait."

And they set their minds on hard day-to-day organization of their fellow-workers and jobless. Set their minds on February 4th, when the jobless and employed, will flood the streets of America, with their not-to-be-denied cry, "We demand Unemployment Insurance."
Tammany's Walker Turns to "Justice"

By Bill Dunne

The imprisonment of Tom Mooney and Warren Billings for fifteen years after conviction by paid-for perjury, following the long torture of Mooney during the trial and while he was kept in the shadow of the gallows under death sentence, is an indictment of American capitalist justice against which it has no defense except the ruthlessness symbolized by its continual grip on the lives and bodies of these two militant workers.

It is likewise an indictment of the fascist leadership of the American Federation of Labor. They are just as much the jailers of Mooney and Billings as are the California courts, Fickert and Rolph, the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (in which the Catholic church owned $3,000,000 worth of stock while Mooney and Billings were being railroaded), and the American government.

The Mooney and Billings case is like ground glass in the entrails of capitalist democracy. It is a historical example of the special American method of the frame up. The continual imprisonment of Mooney and Billings is bad for the American capitalist democracy. But their release, which is now clearer than ever before that only united mass action can force, will be worse for capitalist justice and the capitalist system.

This is the dilemma which capitalist justice faces. And it is this that explains the contemptible motive behind the recent ballyhoo engineered by some of the clever agents of capitalism like Frank P. Walsh, Norman Thomas and Heywood Broun of the socialist party; Fitzpatrick of the Chicago Federation of Labor; the "National Catholic Welfare Council," etc., and Tammany Hall, with Walker, who heads the most corrupt and brutal New York City government in history, as its "popular" expression.

These elements degenerated the "appeals" for the release of Mooney to the level of a Parisian pimp's show "for male tourists only," conceived in corruption and born in the black night of capitalist decay, the Walker adventure shows capitalist justice convicted by its own advocates.

The hearing was a society affair. The press reported the gathering as it does the opening of the opera season at the Metropolitan or the horse show of the four hundred. Everybody who was anybody in California society was present. It was undoubtedly a new thrill for the jaded dowagers and the faded debutantes to feel that they were present at a hearing where the liberty and life of two workers was the question at issue. "So exciting, isn't it?"

California capitalism, Fickert, the district attorney, who spent the power trust's money to procure the perjury of Oxman and McDonald, Matheson, the chief detective of the United Railways, one of the leaders of the frame-up, Mayor — now Governor — Rolph, Swanson, chief of the San Francisco detective force, and all the ragtag and bobtail of gangsters, sell-out labor leaders, the dregs and the scum of California's underworld, mobilized to railroad Mooney and Billings because of their militant work in the labor movement, were shivered by the Walker-Walsh-Sapiro combination.

Sapiro said:
"Oxman fooled the San Francisco police, the district attorney, the courts and in fact the entire state of California."

While this theatrical phase of the conspiracy whose object was to jerk the Mooney and Billings case out of its class setting was in progress, twenty thousand San Francisco workers, meeting in front of the Civic Center under the auspices of the International Labor Defense, demanded the unconditional release of Mooney and Billings. They elected two delegations to present this demand to the governor's committee. Both delegations were promptly arrested.

After the cynical Walker-Walsh-Sapiro burlesque of Mooney, after they threw Billings to the wolves, Governor Rolph deferred his decision for 3 months. The jailers of Mooney and Billings hope that the mass protest will die down during these three months. They proceed on the theory voiced by Sapiro, the betrayer of the interests of the thousands of ruined farmers, at the Rolph hearing: "If the pardon is denied, no one will ever raise his voice in behalf of Mooney again."

Such a foul lie could have been spawned only in the brain of a lawyer lackey of Wall Street and Tammany Hall justice.

The workers of San Francisco, twenty thousand of them, answered this lie before it was uttered.

The Washington Hunger March and the demonstrations and mass meetings of hundreds of thousands of workers, hurled this lie back into the teeth of the betrayers of Mooney and Billings from the very doorstep of the White House.

The American working class, increasingly conscious and militant, led by its revolutionary advance guard, will free Mooney and Billings. In this alone lies their hope—and their strength.
THEY DEPORT ME!

(An interview with Patrick Devine, just before his deportation to Scotland, by a representative of the International Labor Defense.)

THE ferry dumps us before the gloomy fortress on Ellis Island and we give up an hour to red tape. Then we are ushered into a large, wire-fenced room where relatives huddle in gloomy knots around a few of the 500 foreign-born workers being shipped out of the country in bulk by Doak's deportation squads.

Here we meet Pat Devine, national secretary of the National Textile Union, leader in the Pittsburgh coal area and in the Lawrence textile strike. He has just been released from the federal penitentiary in Atlanta, where he served seven months for strike activities. Here, in this deportation pen, we find him without any money, dressed in shabby prison clothes and prison shoes, which threaten to fall apart at every move. Before he leaves the country, the International Labor Defense and the Trade Union Unity League supply him with clothes for the trip.

"The United States government boasts of being a 'merciful jailor,'" Pat told us when we asked about his life in Atlanta. "But in reality, it is a vicious, brutal oppressor."

"Take the federal detention house on West Street, New York City, a gold brick sold by Al Smith to the government for over a million dollars. It used to be a garage for Smith's trucking company. As a prison it is a death trap. There is little or no ventilation. The men get no outside exercise whatsoever. The food is disgraceful and means starvation for those unable to supplement it by personal supplies."

"Then there is the federal penitentiary in Atlanta, which is supposed to be a 'model institution' under direction of Mr. Sanford Bates, eminent penologist. The institution was built to house 1,800. Today it holds 4,000. Men are crowded together like cattle. The lucky ones are in dormitories which house 400 men and have five toilets, two of which are always out of order."

"The food is a scandal. Beans, beans — and more beans. There is an efficient officer named Mr. Boyle in charge. Boyle prides himself on saving $24,000 in the last year on the food appropriation. That means $500 a day was taken from the prisoner's food fund. What went from the same fund to graft, nobody knows."

"Because of these terrible conditions, there is a near epidemic of spinal meningitis in the penitentiary. From July, 1931 to the time I left there were about thirty cases of the disease. Nine of them died."

"A window dressing clean-up of a few of the worst evils is going on to try to prevent the spread of the disease. But the inmates know that this is a farce and they are scared to death.

"Discipline of prisoners in the dungeon remains brutal and severe. Prisoners are still clubbed, still put 'in the hole'—solitary confinement on bread and water—for the slightest infraction of the prison rules. I was once arrested in prison and punished on charges of 'inciting to riot' and 'boisterous conduct' for some minute offense I did not even know I had committed."

"The county jails in America are even worse. In Savannah, Ga., the cells are foul dens which breed disease. The men never get fresh air. There are only two meals a day and the food is positively unfit for human consumption."

For breakfast at 7 A.M. it is coffee — without sugar or milk — and bread. For dinner it's a vichyssoise, nameless, tasteless concoction that turns the stomach.

(Continued next month)
LENIN AND "DEMOCRACY"

By J. Louis EngdaHL

In the stormy August days of 1918 Lenin delivered a talk at Moscow, "On Equality," that must carry increasing weight with the American working class on the eighth anniversary of his death, January 22, 1932. Lenin was replying to the charges of the boss class world that the Bolsheviks violated the slogans of equality and fraternity. Lenin said:

"America is a democratic republic. And what is the result? We have the shameless rule of a clique, not of millionaires but of multi-millionaires, and the entire nation is enslaved and oppressed. If the factories and works, the banks and all the riches of the nation belong to the capitalists; if, by the side of the democratic republic we observe a perpetual enslavement of millions of toilers and a continuous poverty, we have a right to ask: where is all your lauded equality and fraternity?"

"Far from it! The rule of democracy is accompanied by an unadulterated savage banditry. We understand the true nature of so-called democracies."

On the eighth anniversary of the death of Lenin, the American working class finds itself in the third winter of unemployment—hunger, misery, death. It may be said that American workers today understand better than ever "the true nature of so-called democracies," especially in the tear gas, machine gun reception planned for the Hunger Marchers at Washington, the vicious persecution of Tom Mooney and all the class war prisoners; the death sentences facing the Scottsboro Negro boys and the Harlan, Kentucky coal miners; the Doak deportation program that sends militant strike leaders to death or imprisonment in fascist lands; more frequentynchings of Negro workers; Hoover-inspired government attacks on the foreign-born.

In the same talk, delivered before the Soviet Union had reached its first anniversary, and while it was being beset with enemies within and on every frontier, Lenin said:

"We have faith in the creative energy and the social zeal of the vanguard of the revolution—the proletariat of the factories and shops."

It must be equally clear to an increasing number of the great masses of American labor how correct Lenin was in this statement. The eighth anniversary of Lenin's death coincides with the beginning of the fourth and final year of the Five-Year Plan. The Third Decisive Year has been successfully bridged. The "creative energy" of the Soviet masses presses forward to new triumphs. The proud "initiative" of the "unadulterated savage banditry" of American boss class rule meets its rival in the social zeal of the workers and peasants of the Soviet Union. Already at the end of June, 1931, the Soviet Union surpassed both Great Britain and France as a world producer, taking third place after the United States and Germany. An analysis by the German Economic Research Institute of world economic conditions for August, 1931, indicate that industrial production in the U. S. S. R. for that month was twelve per cent ahead of Germany. This would make the U. S. S. R. second only to the United States in industrial production, bringing it above that of Great Britain and Germany. Since last August, especially on October first, and again on the Fourteenth Anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution on November Seventh, production has started in a whole series of new industrial giants, the soldiers of planned economy. Thus the U. S. S. R. is now first in the production of timber and peat, second in world oil production, fourth place in coal output. It occupies second rank in the manufacture of agricultural machinery, while in machine building it holds fourth place, being also fourth among world producers of steel and pig iron. Thus the Soviet Union is catching up with and passing the most advanced capitalist countries, including the United States of America.

Lenin urged the necessity of building and strengthening labor's defense organization in the difficult days in Russia during and following the Revolution of 1905, more than a quarter of a century ago. He stressed this task more than ever after the 1917 Revolution. He was ever intense in his efforts to smash the illusions of boss class "freedom" and "democracy." He declared:

"You will agree that to promise freedom to the workers and at the same time to leave the castles, the land, the factories and all the resources in the hands of the capitalists and land holders—that this has nothing to do with liberty and equality. We have only one slogan, one watchword: Every one who works has a right to enjoy the good things of life. Idlers, parasites, those who suck out the blood of the toiling masses, must be deprived of these blessings. And our cry is: To the workers—everything; to the toilers—everything!"

This is proletarian democracy.

Support the Labor Defender Drive for 60,000 circulation by May 1. Compete for the Soviet Union Trip!
Death in An American Dungeon

By Paul Peters

EVEN after they had stowed away Milan Resetar in prison for five years, the hate of the steel lords pursued him. It hovered over his dark little cell at Blawnox. It pressed down on him as he labored, sick and broken, in the prison workshop.

In the end it killed him.

For wasn't Milan Resetar a "dangerous criminal"? Hadn't he read Lenin in the realm of Jones and Laughlin, steel kaisers of Woodlawn, Aliquippa, and Pittsburgh? And hadn't the courts decreed that a man who read Lenin in the land of the steel lords was guilty of sedition, fit only to be buried away in a thick-walled dungeon with bootleggers and murderers?

Milan Resetar entered prison a robust man. Then the foul dungeon air began to fester in his lungs. The deadening prison diet began to gnaw at his bowels. He was wracked with pain. He wasted away.

"You are bluffing," sneered the prison doctor. "You are a malingerer. You pretend to be sick because you do not want to work. You think if you act sick, I will ask for your parole."

To his chief, this care-taker of slaves in the dungeons of the steel kings reported that "Resetar was a peculiar man mentally—not insane by any means, but peculiar and eccentric." (Hadn't he read Lenin? Hadn't he had faith in the triumph of the workers?) Otherwise, the doctor added, "I found him to be without physical defects."

"Dr. Mitchell did not like Resetar, or Tom Zima, or me either," writes Peter Muselin, one of these three friends, raided, arrested, and sentenced together. "He does not like anyone who is here for sedition."

When he could hardly stand any longer they sent Milan Resetar to the prison infirmary. "Palpitation of the heart," they called his ailment. Five days later they thrust him out again, back to the grim prison workshop and the bleak prison cell. They said he was "improved."

And then the old doctor went off on a vacation and a new doctor took his place. He saw this sick man staggering in anguish. The sweat of death was already on his face. A week after he had been dismissed from the infirmary as healed, they carried him to a bed again.

They found his lungs eaten up by tuberculosis, his heart enveloped in a pus sac.

And now they saw that Milan Resetar—Resetar the "malingering," Resetar, the "actor" and bluffer—now they saw that he was dying.

The International Labor Defense tried to get him out of prison, into a hospital. They wrote letters, sent telegrams, made protests. They appealed to the judge, to parole board members, to the prison superintendent, to Governor Gifford Pinchot.

Some flatly refused to act; some said they could not; some passed the buck; the governor never replied.

Within a month Milan Resetar was dead.

Then came alibis, excuses. "I gave Resetar every possible medical care and attention," chants the doctor in a pious prison report. "Nothing more could have been done for him in an outside hospital. He came to his death by natural causes."

To the last Milan Resetar stood by his revolutionary faith. Even with death in his veins, he refused to yield by a titlue. "Before his death we offered to furnish him with the benefit of clergy," reads the prison report with an air of rebuffed magnanimity, "but he refused this service, although he had been raised in the Catholic church."

They buried Milan Resetar at a mass funeral.

Instead of the hypocritical cant of the preachers, fellow workers spoke of his belief in the fight of the workers, of his steady faith in their ultimate victory. Something of this faith rose up and pervaded the crowd of mourning men—as it will spread and strengthen workers everywhere: to stand more firmly together till the steel lords are overthrown and the prison walls are broken down.
I Am from Kentucky Born

By Aunt Molly Jackson

Aunt Molly, who puts into song the sufferings of her people. "Bound Down in prison" is her song.

Three more Harlan Miners are facing murder charges in Harlan, Kentucky.
Virgil Hatton, Kiko Hall, and Leonard Farmer, active members of the National Miners Union, were arrested for shooting Deputy Sheriff Virgil Simmons, December 23. They were distributing N. M. U. leaflets calling for a general strike on January 1 when a band of drunken thugs attacked them. Hatton's head was split open. One sheriff's gunman was killed.

The International Labor Defense sees in this new instance of terror Sheriff Blair's plans to crush the National Miners Union and cripple the strike. The attack on Hatton, Hall and Farmer, and the murder charges brought against them will also be used by the coal company courts to influence the jury against William Hightower, miner from Erwin, who went on trial Dec. 8 at Mt. Sterling.

I AM from Kentucky. Borned and raised in the Kentucky coal fields. I know all about just how the coal miners and their famlies have ben treated by coal operators from the time I was old enuf to remember till this date. I will tell you a few sad storeys that has befell the coal miners in the last few weeks.

One is this. One of my own dear brothers was taken from his wife and three small children and placed in the county jail in Pineville, Bell County, Ky., charged with criminal syndicalism when he sertenley was not guilty. The miners at Glendon mines and Straight Creek came out on strike on a count of the operator refusing to let them have a checkwayman to way their coal. My brother and seven of the other miners went to the operator and ask him to allow them a checkwayman and this made the operator so mad that he had my brother, W. M. Garland, and seven other miners arrested and took them and put them in jail and would not allow them any bonds for six days. Then allowed them to fill bonds amounting to six thousand dollars each.

My brother and five other miners have filed bonds and one poor coal miner by the name of Ebbe Payne is still in jail. Payne has a wife and six children needing his seport. Payne's wife came to me and told me her children were starving and that the operators had framed up a lot of lies on her husband and had tuck him an put him behind the coal iron bars and her children were suffering all most death from hunger and coal.

Dear comrades, I have had a lot of heart rendering things happen to me. The next I shall tell you is this. On the same night after I had ben working all day long trying to get bond for my friend Payne, I had just got home and dropped down in a chair an' said to my husband, "Oh, my god, I am all most tired to death," when some one rapped on my shack door and it was my own dear baby-brother running away from the deputy sheriff and gun thugs to keep from bein' tuck to jail for criminal syndicalism when he was not gilty. But he knew he would be put in if they caught him. So J. C. Garland, my youngest brother, left his loving wife and four heart broken sisters and a dear loving mother and two other brothers, to weep over his departure.

Not long a go a man an his wife were cooking at a soup house of the National Miners an the gun thugs came in an said, "The coal operator sent us down here to kill your husband an blow up this soup kitchen so if you want to save your life an' your three children's life, beat it, we're going to kill your husband and dynamite hell out of this National Miners Union kitchen."

Just after they had said this to the

BOUND DOWN IN PRISON

It is sad to be bound down in prison,
In a cold prison cell all alone,
With the cold iron bars all around me
And my head on a pillow of stone.

The coal operators and the bosses
Had me placed in this cold lonely jail;
I heard them tell the jailer this morning
They never would allow me any bail.

The coal operators and the bosses
Want to keep me in prison all my life,
But there is no use to count on losses,
I want you to take this letter to my wife.

I want her to know I am in prison,
Just as lonely as a poor man can be;
Go tell her to write me a letter
And send it to the dear old I.L.D.

This I.L.D. works for prisoners,
And I know they will work wonders for me;
Write and tell them I'm a Harlan County prisoner
Depending on the dear old I.L.D.

poor union miner's wife these gun thugs shot the poor woman's husband down dead by her side. Then the woman grabbed her baby up and ran away and the other two children after her.

So let us all unite together and fight starvation, wage cuts. Uniting is what it takes to win our libberty at an freedom.
I remain your true friend and faithful worker. —AUNT MOLLIE JACKSON.
Workers, Scottsboro!

Rights, was held at Chattanooga, only 75 miles from Scottsboro.

But today — what are we doing to save them?

The case is in danger! January 18 the Alabama supreme court reviews it. A second tidal wave of protest must rise to shake these supreme court justices, to force release of the Scottsboro boys. The time is to be counted in hours and minutes between now and the 18th of January! Demand immediate release!

I was in Scottsboro the day nine Negro boys were tried.

I saw the seething mob worrying whether the machine guns around the court house would really go off; knowing they would not. I saw prominent citizens spreading the word, "costing the country thousands of dollars — burn the nigger bastards—six hundred armed niggers on the way here from Chattanooga to take them away from us. . . ." I saw the bottles go the rounds for the hundredth time (in the dry South), the shotguns under overalls, pistols under shirts, on hips.

"I felt the shock of the first protest smash against that lynching mob. Telegram from New York.

"Circuit Court, Scottsboro, Alabama: "In name of masses white and Negro workers, we protest attempt to legally lynch nine young Negro workers in Scottsboro on frame-up rape charges. We demand immediate change venue. New trial. Dismissal defense lawyers openly advocating quick execution. Imminent danger lynching mob. Guardsmen openly advocate lynching. We hold you responsible for lives these nine workers.

"(Signed.) International Labor Defense.""

I knew what saved those boys April 6. I was there and saw.

Still the leaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People claim to have been "defending" the Scottsboro boys. The basis? Supposed employment of Stephen Roddy "on the quiet."

How quiet!

So quiet that Roddy did not know they had employed him.

So quiet the parents of the boys received no word, no visit from them.

So quiet the boys had never heard of them.

But what if they did employ Steve Roddy of Chattanooga "on the quiet" during the trial? They are employing him now in order to strike the defense. Crime enough!

Pickens, White, the others of the N. A. C. P., have betrayed the struggle. More reason for tremendous protest!

By Lowell Wakefield

THREE young Negro workers were just electrocuted at Kilby prison, state of Alabama.

Eight other Negro boys, cramped in Kilby death cells, watched the preparations; shaving legs, clipping hair, preacher’s final phrases. Those eight Negro boys were wondering how soon they, too, would become burnt offerings on the electric altar of their white southern rulers. Those eight are the Scottsboro boys. What are we doing to save them?

Eight months ago the International Labor Defense stirred a world to action. There came a roar of protest that shook the columns in the state house at Montgomery, former capital of the Confederacy — that made Scottsboro a world symbol. The great scientist Einstein and the illiterate peasant of South Africa lifted their voices. White and Negro workers marched through Harlem streets in New York City. Windows crashed in America's Berlin embassy as young German workers demonstrated outside. Negro and white representatives of workers organizations met in scores of conferences. One, called by the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro
SINCE the first mass struggles of the American proletariat in the '70's, not a day has dawned whose light failed to cast striped shadows into the cell of a working class fighter. The legal arm of capitalism has taken and will take thousands of hostages from the fighting fronts of the multitudes' movement. They and their dependents are a direct charge upon the working class. It is easier for blood to stir and enthusiasm run high phosphoric a working class victim in the heat of a defense battle than to remember him and care for his family when he is rotting in a cell. But the American working class cannot afford to forget. This is especially true in periods of crisis such as the present when the tide of the class struggle is rising and when, in consequence, the number of victims of capitalist injustice increases. The first duty of the working class towards those of its fighters who are singled out for frame-up or railroad to prison is to defend them by every possible means and prevent their removal from the struggle. If the defense battle is lost, the second duty, no less important, is to fight for their release and to give whatever physical aid can be given to one behind bars and relieve an already burdened mind of worry about dependents. These are mandates that every class-conscious worker will support. But he is prone to lapse in the fulfillment of the second one.

International Labor Defense was formed somewhat over six years ago to give organized expression to these two principles. Everyone familiar with the working class movement during these years is well aware of the roll the International Labor Defense has played in defending militant workers and strikers in every part of the country. And though the strain of fighting many defense battles, large and small, has been great, the International Labor Defense has not forgotten the ones who have passed from the courts to the penitentiaries, nor their families.

Five dollars a month isn't much. But it offers some comfort to a prisoner: books, writing materials, tobacco. It is perhaps a greater comfort to know there are those on the outside who have not forgotten. Twenty dollars a month isn't much for a prisoner's family, but the wives and children whose breadwinners have been taken from them are grateful. This is what the I. L. D. has been doing. With a mounting number of working class prisoners being railroaded daily, it is a difficult job to spend thousands of dollars in their defense and then find still more money to look after them when they are put in prison, and to carry on the movement for their release.

Read the list in the next column. These are the prisoners International Labor Defense have been looking after. The list grows steadily because there are more sent to prison than are released. Add to these names, those of workers who have been deported and whose families are left helpless here with no one to look to for support but the I.L.D.

The Prisoners' Winter Aid drive of the I.L.D. now in progress is to augment a special fund that is used only for relief to prisoners and their dependents. It is being linked up with an amnesty campaign for the release of all political prisoners.

Contributions may take the form of a direct gift of money to the fund; a pledge to pay a specified sum at intervals for a year; or individuals and organizations may undertake to supply the needs of a prisoner and his family. Remember the working class fighters behind the bars! Join in the movement for their relief and contribute to the Prisoners' Winter AID.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE

Class War Prisoners the I.L.D. Aids. Help goes also to their families.

SAN QUENTIN PRISON, CALIFORNIA

Edwards Holmes
Dorothy Evans
Bessie Thomas
Evelyn Waller
Tom Murnane
Mary Wallace

PENNOX PRISON, PENNSYLVANIA

Pitt Mason
Tom Hardin
Dr. Pennsylvania
Harry Wilkins

WASHINGTON COUNTY CAMPS

Clyde Ferris
Fred Boddie

WEATLAND CAMPS

Alvin Sowards
Hattie Poole

CLARK COUNTY JAIL, WINCHESTER, KY.

C. L. Boyd
Frank Davis

COOK COUNTY JAIL, CHICAGO

Henry Green

HUNTINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Thomas Holmes

BLOOMING GROVE, PENNSYLVANIA

Paul Bollard

DANVILLE JAIL, LITITZ, PA.

Amy Harris

CLINTON COUNTY JAIL, CHICAGO, ILL.

Sue McFadden

COUNTY JAIL, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

C. B. Bollinger

COUNTY JAIL, GLENROSEN, PA.

M. M. Wilson

HUNTINGTON JAIL, LITITZ, PA.

Andy Cates

ILS DE PINOS, CUBA

Cayo River

JOHNSON CITY JAIL, JOHNSTOWN, PA.

Ray Anderson

Baltimore City Jail, Baltimore, Md.

R. M. Johnson

LAURAT LEE PRISON, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

Domingo Bautista

PARIS PRISON, PENNSYLVANIA

Tom Hardin

WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON

Willie Blacker

Jesse Lamb

WILLOWOOD CASES

Tom Murnane

Tom Yung

Mary Wallace

Jesse Lamb

Carol Holmes

Tyra Holmes

Janet Lamb

WALLED WALLA, WASHINGTON

Joe Lamb

Jesse Lamb
sentenced to two years imprisonment, and (lower left corner) starving Negro children of Birmingham, Ala., where hundreds of Negro workers are being jailed, beaten and many murdered.

The prison at top center is the death house at San Quentin, the prison where Tom Mooney and most of the Imperial Valley prisoners are jailed; the cartoon in the center is that of a class-war prisoner’s family. Below is an evicted family.
CHINA — Land of White Terror

By R. DOONPING

JAPANESE imperialism and the Chinese Kuomintang militarists have a common enemy—the rising revolutionary mass movement of the workers, peasants, soldiers and students. The forward sweep of this mass force which is gaining momentum every minute seriously threatens to destroy the domination of the oppressors in China. The Japanese imperialists and the Chinese Kuomintang militarists realize this fact and they are both doing their best to suppress this mass movement. One of the methods they both use in this connection is white terror.

White terror precedes and follows every step in the advance of Japanese imperialism in Manchuria. Before the Japanese military occupation of Manchuria, several “incidents” of mass massacre of Chinese and Korean peasants were instigated and organized secretly by agents of Japanese imperialism. These massacres naturally aroused very strong antagonistic feelings between the innocent and oppressed Chinese and Korean peasant population in Manchuria, thus putting obstacles in the way and attempting to prevent their united resistance to Japanese domination. These “incidents,” at the same time, also provide the usual pretext for the imperialist militarist occupation of a foreign territory—“the protection of the life and property of the nationals” of the aggressive country. Thus the road for Japanese occupation in Manchuria was first prepared by indirect terroristic methods, by spilling the blood of several thousands of Korean and Chinese peasants.

After the military occupation, the terror became more direct and open. Mass slaughter of groups of Chinese workers and peasants who refuse to submit to the Japanese rule under the pretext of “suppressing banditry” has been an every-day occurrence in Manchuria ever since the Japanese army entered Mukden in the middle of September. Frederick Kuh, United Press correspondent now stationed in Manchuria, reported December 14 that “The parts of Manchuria now occupied by Japanese troops are being transformed into a country resembling a Japanese colony.” And it is a well-known fact how a Japanese colony is ruled — by the worst imaginable terroristic methods.

But white terrorism in China is not limited to Manchuria, and the oppressors of the Chinese masses are not only the Japanese imperialists. The territory under Nanking’s control, as well as the other provinces in China proper under the indirect domination of other imperialists, especially the United States, Great Britain, France and Italy, are well known to be a land of the most brutal white terror in history. Recently the terror has been intensified together with the growth of the mass movement against the Japanese occupation in Manchuria. While paying lip-service to their anti-Japanese feelings, the Chinese militarists are doing their best to suppress the anti-Japanese revolutionary mass movement. Chang Hsueh-liang jailed anti-Japanese speakers in Peiping and dissolved anti-Japanese organizations in Tientsin. The police commissioner of Shanghai gave orders to shoot to kill anti-Japanese masses in Shanghai, after he had visited Nanking and received instructions from Chiang Kai Shek. Student representatives in Nanking were repeatedly arrested and several students in the military academy were shot for their anti-Japanese revolutionary activities. The so-called left-Kuomintang government in Canton vied with Nanking in its white terroristic activities, arrested anti-Japanese students and instructed the Cantonese police to fire on anti-Japanese masses during demonstrations.

But the Chinese masses have definitely arisen in a new mighty revolutionary wave. They are rallying behind the Red Flag of Soviet China which already occupies a territory one-sixth of that of China proper! This force, the force of mass revolution, is the only force that will destroy the rule of the semi-feudal Kuomintang militarists, our new Japanese imperialists from Manchuria and other imperialists from other parts of China and establish a real free and independent Soviet Republic of Workers, Peasants and Soldiers of China!
Camp Hill—Slavery That Is Legal

By Melvin P. Levy

IN THE rich center of that belt of wonderful red soil which extends from the Carolinas to the Gulf of Mexico, is Camp Hill, Alabama and the plantation area, a hundred miles in diameter which surrounds it and has become famous under its name. The land here is rich, so rich that it need be hardly more than planted to yield abundant crops of corn, peanuts, yams, peas, and cotton—much cotton: food and clothing spring alike from this soil. In the midst of this plenty, however, there is starvation and nakedness. The men, women and children—Negro and white alike—who raise the cotton and the corn have neither shirts, underwear, nor sufficient food. They have begun, however, a powerful mass movement, the Share Croppers Union, led by the Trade Union Unity League. It has already enabled them to wrest from the landlords who are their bosses certain concessions and has given to them hope, the vigorous power of an arising working class moving toward the ultimate victory which it can already see ahead.

In the town of Dadeville, fifteen miles north of Camp Hill town, a storekeeper told me that he had increased his landholdings from 280 acres to more than 14,000 acres, all through foreclosures. Two banks in this community “failed.” The president of one of them came out of the “failure” with some 20,000 acres of rich land which cost him not one cent.

As the crisis grew more intense these two signs which mark the road to fascism became plainer and more abundant. On the one hand was growing up a small ruling group in whose hands all land was centralized. On the other was the mass of poor tenant farmers, constantly swelled by additions from the ranks of the small owners. As their numbers increased their condition grew worse. They had always been treated as slaves. Those of them who are Negroes have been constantly assured by the white rulers that they never had been freed. Chattel slavery may be “illegal”; but the Negro cropper knew that if he wished to move from the land of one owner to that of another he must be bought off by the second man. He knew that he might not leave his employer without permission (escape is the word used) on pain of being hunted, brought back, beaten and, perhaps, killed.

Now, however, to actual hunger was added oppression. The cropper was never allowed to have, for his own use, a garden on the land he tilled. When cotton brought a good price he had been able to purchase from the foodstuffs he raised “for” the landlord enough corn, beans and fatback to keep himself, his wife and his children—also forced to become workers from the time they were eight years of age—from starving. With “bad times” this was no longer true. The landlord could no longer “afford” to supply his tenants such luxuries as food. However, they need not starve so long as a good providence provided grass which could be boiled and eaten.

In April of last year there were distributed through the Camp Hill district leaflets telling of the attempted legal murder of nine Negro boys at Scottsboro, Alabama, and of the part of the International Labor Defense in organizing the workers, Negro and white alike, to save these lives and to expose the infamous conspiracy by which they were to be sacrificed on the altar of class oppression. The Negro farmers recognized the leadership of the great workingclass movement of which the LL.D. is a part. As one of them later told me: “When the movement speaks we can hear our own voices talking.

There were meetings. More and more croppers began to hear their “own voice.” The Share Croppers Union expressed their needs and showed the path by which they might be attained. The Workers International Relief gave the promise of physical support from other workers and poor farmers in time of need during the impending struggle. The LL.D. taught defense against the landlords’ counter offensive, sure to follow any move of workers to improve their conditions.

The counter offensive was not slow in coming. The homes of Negro croppers known to belong to the union, or suspected of membership, were raided. Men, women and children were beaten and thrown into jail. “Nigger hunts” (the middle class white of this district speaks of “Nigger hunts” and “rabbit hunts” in one breath) were organized. We know that Ralph Gray, a leader of the union, was murdered. We do not know how many more of our comrades died at this time, nor how many were flogged.

We know, too, that the struggle in Camp Hill led to victory. As a result of it the food allowance, formerly discontinued for tenants on July first (after that there was always grass and leaves) was continued until the early winter. The croppers have forced from the landlords the right to raise their own gardens; and have thus been relieved of a terrible burden—the purchase of their own labor at an enormous cost. The Negro in the Camp Hill district is treated better today than ever before (but still horribly), because the landlords recognize his growing power, the power of mass action.
The death sentence (through deportation to fascist lands) is the penalty for organizing into the Trade Union Unity League in Florida. This is another attempt of the administration to outlaw the Trade Union Unity League on the basis of membership in that revolutionary trade union center. Murdock, Berkman and Devine, T.U.U.L. organizers, are being deported for their activities in strikes. Secretary of Labor Doak has as his aim the illegalizing of the T.U.U.L., through persecutions of this type—and by means of reigns of terror in situations, as in Tampa, Florida.

A 72-hour political strike as a protest for the arrest of 17 workers on November 7 was answered with a lockout. A sweeping injunction—against which those infamous ones of the North hardly compare—was secured by the Tampa cigar manufacturers on the grounds that the newly-formed Tampa Tobacco Workers’ Industrial Union is an “organization advocating or encouraging belief in the destruction by force of organized government or in the destruction of private property as a means to that end.”

Victim of Floridaan fascism: MacDonald, beaten up by Tampa cops and thugs.

FLOREIDA — the Orange State—sunshine and roses — Gulf Stream breezes — and White Terror for striking workers.

Tampa, Florida, makes cigars for the nation. Big fat cigars for Wall Street brokers and chieftains of the American Federation of Labor to smoke.

Today terror’s clutches grip into the working class section of this city. Vigilant Committees (polite name for lynching squad) ride rough-shod; workers have been spirited out of their homes, smuggled into bleeding masses; given the infamous castor oil treatment Italian fascism made famous.

More than forty workers suffer every kind of torture in the county jail. Why?

Recently a delegate of the striking miners in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia came to Tampa to collect funds to help the strikers. The Tampa tobacco workers, chiefly of Latin American origin, dug into their meager funds and donated liberally.

The Tampa workers were vitally interested in the progress of the strike—in its leadership—the tactics of the National Miners Union and Trade Union Unity League. They decided that only with similar tactics and union could they improve the working conditions and dam the bosses’ wave of wage cuts and starvation wage.

After a series of meetings in every factory, and in the Workers’ Center, the Tampa Tobacco Workers Industrial Union was formed. It affiliated with the Trade Union Unity League. On November 7 the workers of every tobacco factory in Tampa put away their work and stood for two minutes in solidarity with the toilers of the Soviet Union.

A meeting to commemorate the Fourteenth Anniversary of the Soviet Union was to be held that evening.

Official Tampa went into an uproar. Tampa police, deputy sheriffs, American Legionnaires, the Citizens’ Committee, surrounded the Workers’ Center where the meeting was to be held, tried to halt all workers from entering, many of whom were beaten. A melee arose, the policemen fired, and one of their number was shot.

Twenty-two workers were arrested. Since that moment a wave of terror raged over the city. As a result a seventy-two hour strike of protest was held. Eighteen more workers were jailed. They now face long prison terms, deportations to fascist Cuba. Many of the workers are already in the chain gang awaiting their trials.

The International Labor Defense is conducting a campaign to save the workers from imprisonment, death by deportation, and from the lynch mobs of Southern “democracy.”

The working class of the United States, as well as of Latin America, must send protests to halt this crime of class justice and demand the right of every worker to organize and struggle for better conditions.

Glimpses of Latin-America
By CARLOS HERNANDEZ BUENADA

SALVADOR

Carlos Castillo, general secretary of the T. U. U. L. of Salvador, and Victor Angulo, a revolutionary leader, were arrested in San Salvador on Oct. 17 and deported to Puerto Barrios, Guatemala. The protest of the workers over this latest attempt of the government to heead the revolutionary movement by deporting its leaders, forced the government to permit the return of the two revolutionaries. They arrived back in San Salvador on Dec. 14.

Pedro Sergio de Leon, organizer of the ILD of Salvador, and his 14 year old son were arrested by the fascist police at Sonsonate and were forced to march on foot to the prison.

CURACAO (Dutch Colony)

As a result of a long strike against starvation wages and worsened living conditions in the oil industry (controlled by Dutch and British imperialism), 40 Chinese workers have been deported to China via Holland and 150 more are under arrest awaiting deportation. Five of the strike leaders have been tortured, most militant of which are Choy Yu Lim and Choy Ye Sen. Each if those deported to China is certain of death at the hands of the Kuomintang butchers.

Scene in Tampa, Nov. 7. Such scenes are being repeated throughout the U. S. A. today.

PHILIPPINES

An appeal has been filed for the workers arrested on Sept. 18 by the Philippine I. L. D.

A contribution for Prisoners’ Winter Aid has been sent to the Philippines by the I. L. D., New York District.

A campaign for a $1000 fund for Philippine Prisoners’ Winter Aid has been begun by the U. S. L. D. Quotas have been assigned to California, Seattle, Philadelphia, Chicago and New York districts. Workers not in these districts may send their contributions to the Prisoners’ Winter Aid Fund, Room 430, 80 East 11th Street, New York City.
CUBA—
Island of
Torture

By William Simoons

THE Machado Government of Cuba, "Pearl of the Antilles" now in the treasure box of American banks, is daily piling up terrors against the Cuban masses of workers and peasants.

The workers trade union centers have been closed down for several months. Now the doors of the Workers Confederation of Cuba in the various cities and headquarters of other organizations as the Cultural Sport Organizations and Unemployed Councils have been barred.

Once more martial law reigns, barring all meetings of militant trade unions.

Of 62 class conscious and revolutionary students in jail (this figure has increased to 300 through the arrests of the past weeks), about twenty have been held since June. Foreigners held for deportation remain in jail, until they can manage to raise enough money to pay for their passage.

The Secretary of the Manzanillo Workers Federation is being hunted by the soldiers, eager to shoot him down. The Cultural Club of Havana, where 700 Jewish workers would meet for reading, and enjoying workers' plays, was recently ordered closed down by the Havana Provincial Government, charged with being a "communist center" by Jewish stool pigeons. Six of the leaders of the Cultural Club were arrested and are being held for deportation. In Santiago de Cuba, in the province of Oriente, where only this spring, the streets ran red with blood from murders on the street of workers and other anti-Machado fighters by soldiers acting on the orders of Captain Arsenio Ortiz, against government opponents, are hunted down and brutally murdered. These are but a few of the examples of Cuban terror, made infamous under the rule of the Wall Street agent, Machado.

Why this increasing terror against the workers and other anti-imperialist fighters? Because the Machado Government finds its position constantly more insecure. Despite laying off of 10,000 government employees, despite increased taxation imposed by presidential decree, despite the general cut in wages of government employees, income continues to decline. The government leads the capitalists in cutting wages (Havana street carmen, tobacco workers, street carmen of Santiago de Cuba, etc.)

The Cuban government is faced this coming spring with the probability of strike movements by the workers of the Wall Street owned sugar mills and plantations, against the increased unemployment and wage cutting as a result of the enormous cut in the 1932 sugar crop. The army is not as safe, since the announced release of 3,000 soldiers from the army, due to the financial crisis. A recent leaflet to the soldiers by the Communist Party of Cuba found a healthy response. It is this background of increasing protest of the masses against the worsening of their conditions, against unemployment, wage cuts and starvation, that accounts for the new wave of terror directed by the Machado government and American imperialism against the Cuban masses. This terror should be met a mighty protest of the revolutionary workers, particularly of the United States of America.

We must prove to our colonial comrades that we understand our obligations toward them. In the case of Cuba, it is particularly the workers of the New York District who must give this support, since they have adopted the defense movement of Cuba, for directing campaigns throughout the country for their support and for rendering them financial assistance to carry on their defense work. Other districts must take the lead, similarly, for the defense movement of the country which they have adopted. But not merely financial support. Let us organize mass protest not only among the colonial workers in this country, but particularly among the native born American workers. The living standards of the working masses of Cuba are being undermined; their Communist Party and International Labor Defense outlawed, the National Workers Confederation being driven underground.

Let us organize meetings of protest! Take this issue into your organizations! Have them pass a resolution of protest and forward it to the Cuban Government! Save the lives of the Cuban working class and revolutionary student leaders! Demand the right of the revolutionary organizations to exist and carry on their work! Full support to the International Labor Defense of Cuba and the other revolutionary organizations of Cuba!
Cartoon in Cuban workers' paper of Wall Street's tool, Machado, "the butcher," who ordered the murder of Mella.
HELP WANTED—To Fight Terror

By George Maurer

HOW many hundreds of workers will be thrown into prison, how many will be murdered in the U. S. A. in 1932? How many Negro workers lynched? How many foreign-born workers deported—sent to their deaths in fascist countries? Will the terror in Cuba, the Philippines, Venezuela—colonies of Wall Street tyranny—claim many more victims?

When will Tom Mooney, the Imperial Valley and Centralia prisoners—all proven innocent—be released?

You, the readers of the Labor Defender—you workers, you friends of the workers’ struggle against hunger and terror, you and your shopmates and friends must give an answer.

Shall we stand idly by—while the elementary civil rights are more and more denied to the masses of impoverished workers? What about the right to organize, strike, picket, to free speech, assembly, and press, the right to live.

Lynching, lynch law, boss terror must stop. Political prisoners must be freed. Anti-labor laws, syndicalism and sedition laws must be declared "unconstitutional" by a mighty million-voiced protest.

This is our business. You will agree—everybody’s business. Then it must not be left to the other fellow.

"Help Wanted" by the millions to fight against terror!

There must be a backbone of hundreds and thousands of "active organizers"—voluntary, enthusiastic workers’ leaders for such a campaign. The work cannot be done by a few paid functionaries in I.L.D. offices, plus a few committees.

It is not a question of what the National or District "offices" of I.L.D. are or must do. It is a matter of what YOU are doing—thousands of workers and friends. Otherwise all that must be done cannot be done. A mass movement, a vast campaign must be led. Demonstrations must be staged on a vast scale. Quantities of literature and Labor Defenders and leaflets must be distributed. Masses of workers in factories, local unions, workers’ societies must be reached.

The need is for thousands of willing, self-disciplined members and leaders.

The need is for many thousands more members of the I.L.D.—active, organized members as the backbone of this defense, anti-terror and amnesty struggle.

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

1. Join the I. L. D., attend your branch meeting, pay your dues.

2. Volunteer your services for special work—serve on some committee.

3. Visit friends and new contacts.

4. Get your shopmates interested in the release of Mooney and others prisoners.

5. Distribute literature, sell Labor Defenders.

6. Canvas house-to-house.

7. Get signatures on amnesty petitions.


9. Go to local labor unions and workers’ societies—try especially the A. F. of L. membership.

10. Get your organization to pass resolutions of protest to the Governors of Alabama, Kentucky, California, Pennsylvania—President Hoover and Secretary of Labor Doak.

11. Get your organization to take part in the Scottsboro Harlan-Mooney campaign led by the I.L.D.

12. Organize an I.L.D. group in your society, club or union.

13. See that your branch or organization immediately takes up the fight around the local issues of arrest and persecution in your town or neighborhood.

14. Send in your order for leaflets on Scottsboro, on Harlan, on the Prisoners Aid campaign.

Addresses of District Offices:

Carl Hacker
799 Wabash, Rm. 410
New York

Joe Galt, c/o I.L.D.
Washington Sq. Bldg.
Rm. 315, 7th & Chestnut
Philadelphia

Bill Bruder
31 S. Lincoln St.
Chicago, Ill.

G. Kristalsky
1491 E. Ferry Ave.
Detroit, Mich.

J. Schiller, c/o I.L.D.
1426 W. 3rd St., Rm. 512
Cleveland, Ohio

Fred Bell, c/o I.L.D.
611 Penn Ave., Rm. 606
Pittsburgh, Pa.

F. Spectre, c/o I.L.D.
1179 Market St.
San Francisco, Calif.

A. Frommer
627 First Ave.
Seattle, Wash.

D. Ell
1018 15th St.
Denver, Colo.

J. Canter
113 Dudley St.
Boston, Mass.

J. Lukas
926 N. Plankinton Ave.
Milwaukee, Wis.

Tom Foley
124 S. 6 St.
Minneapolis, Minn.

Wm. Edelman, c/o I.L.D.
36 W. Huron St.
Chicago, Ill.

A. Tomkin
222 Lafayette St.
New Haven, Conn.

Owen Penney
912 Wyandotte St.
Kansas City, Mo.

M. Coline
2620 Bag Darner B
Ybor City, Florida
From Hungary's Prisons - Budapest,

"My Old Kentucky Home"

EVARTS, Ky. — While her husband lies in the Winchester County jail framed for murder, Mrs. Elbert Shadrick has given birth to a baby girl. Elbert and his father Charles Shadrick are two of the four Harlan County miners now in the Winchester County prison awaiting trial for their lives next week as a result of the death of three thugs in the battle of Evarts on May 5.

Her letter to Jessie Wakefield, former I.L. W. representative in Kentucky, says:

"I sure do appreciate the money and the box of clothes. They say the mines are shutting down at Black Mountain. All but the South Side and the superintendent, Mr. Childers, is leaving. The work is bad every place around, and what is working, they are just making enough to get by. There are several men around Evarts can't get work anywhere because they are blacklisted. There are lots of people in need. Hope times do get better soon.

"My daughter-in-law has a new baby. A fine girl. Her husband is in jail in Winchester. Hope the boys gets to come home soon.

My boys need shoes and clothes to wear to school worse than anything. I do my own sewing, and can make things over for the little girls. I'll never quit thanking you all for helping us in our time of need. Hope to hear from you soon again."

This is one of hundreds of letters received weekly by the International Labor Defense. Their husbands blacklisted and jailed, facing long prison terms for joining the National Miners Union and fighting coal company tyranny, hundreds of miners' wives and families in the Kentucky coal area are in actual danger of starvation. Workers must come to their rescue by sending contributions to the Kentucky Mine Prisoners Aid, Room 430, 80 East 11th Street, New York City, N. Y.

Winchester, Ky.,

DEAR COMRADE ENGDAHL:

I received your letter and was glad indeed to hear from you. I haven't got much to write about, but I want to answer your letter and I want to praise you all for what you have done for us and for our boys, and for what you are still doing and fighting for them, for you people have sure stood by us parents and our boys. I will write more next time.

From COMRADE MAMIE WILLIAMS,
2200 Read Ave.

Winchester, Ky.,

Dear Comrades:

We, the prisoners at Winchester, Kentucky, are writing you in regards to our eats. We only get two meals a day—breakfast and dinner. In other words, "lunch" at noon, and for breakfast we have gravy every morning, one piece of bacon and an average of about four pieces of light bread and one piece of corn bread, and once in a while we have fried apples with the peelings on them. At noon we get about five pieces of light bread and pinto beans with potatoes, by the pan full. No change whatever. Now and then we get a piece of onion. This is all the eats. This is from Chester Poore and the rest that are in here with me. Good bye. With best wishes, I remain

C. POORE

FROM A SCOTTSBORO BOY'S MOTHER

Chattanooga, Tenn.,

December 13, 1931.

Dear Comrade Engdahl:

I received your letter and was glad indeed to hear from you. I haven't got much to write about, but I want to answer your letter and I want to praise you all for what you have done for us and for our boys, and for what you are still doing and fighting for them, for you people have sure stood by us parents and our boys. I will write more next time.

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C. POORE
Six Years Old — Speed the Growth!

This month, six years ago, the workers of America brought into existence the Labor Defender — the only labor pictorial in the United States. Millions of toilers, since that time, have read this magazine, the official organ of the International Labor Defense. It has gone into the shacks of the miners of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Harlan — to the huts of the sharecroppers of the Black Belt, from West Coast to New York City.

Today, on its sixth anniversary greetings have come to the Labor Defender from all parts of the world. The I.L.D. sections of Germany, France, Switzerland, Austria, Soviet Union, Canada, Hungary, in their greetings referred to the Labor Defender as “one of the outstanding proletarian magazines in the world.”

Today, on the sixth anniversary, the Labor Defender has reached a circulation of between 36,000 and 40,000 per issue. Considering, as subscribers of the Labor Defender report, that five workers read each Labor Defender, this organ reaches approximately 175,000 workers.

The Labor Defender, on its sixth birthday, plans to reach 60,000 copies each month. It announces today a subscription drive for 5,000 new subscribers and 15,000 in additional bundle orders. The past drive resulted in 2,000 new subs and 7,000 in bundle orders. The magazine has now the widest circulation of any working-class magazine in America.

Many prizes are being offered to those workers who participate in our drive for 5,000 new subs by April 15. The first prize, the same as was offered in the last drive which was won by Sam Gerber, of Los Angeles, Calif., is a trip to the Soviet Union as guest of the MOPR, for the worker who gets the most subs, and he must obtain at least 300 yearly subs to cover expenses of the trip. The second prize is a set of Lenin’s Collected Works, and five working class novels of the winner’s choice. The third prize is a valuable camera.

In addition to these three prizes, the Labor Defender will offer three more: to every worker who gets 50 yearly subs we will give a working class novel of his choice, the value not to exceed $2. To every worker sending in 25 yearly subs, goes a bound volume of the Labor Defender for one year. And anyone sending in 10 yearly subs, will get a copy of Ralph Chaplin’s bound book, “Bars and Shadows.”

All workers who are anxious to participate in the drive and get a trip to the Soviet Union, should send their names in to the Labor Defender at once, and we will supply you with material and sub blanks, etc.

Get busy, Fellow Workers, get every member of your I.L.D. branch to subscribe, visit your neighbors, go around to the clubs in your neighborhood and get them to take a bundle of Labor Defenders for the club. If your Unemployed neighbors can’t give you a dollar, because of the crisis, collect dimes and nickels from them until they can make up the dollar.

Let’s see who goes to the Soviet Union to see how the Soviet Workers celebrate May 1st.

Forward to a 60,000 circulation by May 1st.

BOOKS AND STAGE

The choicest book I have yet read by an American woman on Soviet Russia, “Vanya of the Streets,” by Ruth Eggerson Kennel (Harper, $2.00), is not a cut and dried description of the Five Year Plan, nor an economic tract. A children’s story, adults will enjoy it even more.

Perhaps I would even recommend it to Ray Long, whose book, “An Editor Looks at Russia” (Ray Long & Richard Smith, $1), has just appeared. He writes that the U. S. A. should recognize Russia immediately, that Russia is the most constructive country in the world, and that the worker is certainly more secure in Communist Russia than in “democratic” America. Then he turns about and says, dogmatically, that “Russian Communism” would never succeed in America.

Margaret Bahrke White (“Eyes on Russia,” Simon & Schuster, $3.50) went to Russia merely to record with her camera the scope of the Five Year Plan. Now she has collected her photographs, written a good-humored, sympathetic account of her five weeks in the Soviet Union.

Readers of the Labor Defender will remember Ernst Toller for his articles on Tom Mooney. Now, Maurice Schwartz is presenting Toller’s “Bloody Laughter” at the Forty-ninth Street Theatre. The play is too well-known for me to relate the story — it has, of course, the revolutionary power always associated with its prolific author. A Chasanov.
Greetings to the Labor Defender from JUNEAU, ALASKA

Sam Goraloff
M. Goraloff
Roy Poloff
Mike Rosol
Tom Belkoff
J. Galush
H. M. Bigab
Nick Masol
Sam Mosol
Dave Avragsol

Sam Goraloff
M. Gosaloff
Alex Sabanoff
Sam Mosol
Alex Kapoff
Harry Brenoff
J. Difoff
A. Kapoff
C. Hansen
B. Ramonoff

M. A. Karon, Juneau, Alaska
E. Zanoff, Juneau, Alaska
A. Kabenoff, Juneau, Alaska
Bill Jassol, Juneau, Alaska
Alex Hodolf, Juneau, Alaska

PARKSIDE ELECTRIC SHOE REPAIR
H. Flcker, Prop.
1616 No. 52nd Street

Workers Center Barber Shop
2nd Floor, 50 East 13th Street
First rate work. Comradely treatment. Reduced Prices

Greetings to Labor Defender from SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

H. Roenthal
G. V. Burris
S. Abrahms
H. Weke
Asil Weke
C. E. Franklin
P. Dressen
O. Grillos

George Goldstone
Frank Berman
W. Rudick
R. Bogardus
S. B. Hancock
Don Dill
I. Schenck
Wm. Jamsage
Charles Wiley

Greetings to the LABOR DEFENDER

W. Hirsch
B. Rapoport
Rice Kaufman
L. Hirsch
Roisenfeld

Fish
Simand
Mosc
Tiltstain
S. Shlansky

JANUARY IS LENIN MONTH
Read the Writings of Lenin
Little Lenin Library

1. The Teachings of Karl Marx . . . . 15c
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