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NEWS

Stories of Labor

FACING 1935
With all the threatened anti-working class legislation scheduled to come before Congress at the very beginning of the Happy New Year—a legislation sponsored by the United States Chamber of Commerce, Congressmen Dickstein, aided by William Randolph Hearst and Nicholas Mirandacous Butler and William Green, facing 1931 is not a very hopeful prospect. What the New Deal will bring in the way of economic betterment for the victims of the unemployment and the employed too, is not hard to predict. But what its newly revealed face—open repression of all militant working class organizations—will show is not only something to shudder at, but something against which all must begin to organize and begin immediately widespread, fighting counteraction.

These new bills, discussed in detail on other pages of this issue, will mean complete violation of every democratic and civil right of the workers. They will mean complete suppression of freedom of political thought, speech, assembly and the press. They will encourage "bigger and better" bands of vigilantes, multi-colored shirts, Men of Truth and Thunder, moving through the country attempting to spread terror and destruction against workers and farmers.

UNLESS

A solid fighting front, a united front of action, of workers of all shades of political opinion, of every race, color and creed must be formed to combat this menace of fascism before it becomes a legal reality.

INTERNATIONAL FRONT

Terror on an international scale is daily adding new thousand-fold its victims. In Spain, sentences and executions are going on daily. In Bulgaria, the fascist government is arresting hundreds and executing the leaders of the struggle against fascism and war. In Poland the concentration camps are being filled with fascists against Fascism and for national liberation. In Germany the People's Courts are handing down sentences of death by the executioner's ax, or "mad" ones of 21 years hard labor, and still working feverishly on preparing the trial of Ernst Thalmann. Never before was international solidarity such a vital necessity for the working class throughout the world. The I.L.D. calls on all its members and friends to intensify their actions of international solidarity—to raise their voices in protest, to do all in their power to aid the victims of fascism in blood. In this struggle, fascist, consuls, consulates and ambassadors in this country with concrete declarations of international solidarity—protests—resolutions condemning the actions of their governments and demanding immediate and unconditional freedom for all the victims of fascism.

THE U. S. Supreme Court

With four major cases of outstanding political prisoners coming before the bar of this court of illusory justice—the Mooney case, the Herndon case, and the cases of Haywood Patterson and Clarence Norris, the LABOR DEFENDER wishes to call one very significant fact to the attention of its readers. We all learn in school that one of the most important functions of the Supreme Court is to safeguard the Constitution and to see that Constitutional rights are not violated. Remember? Very recently the Supreme Court handed down a decision which, to say the least, contradicts this most sacred duty. In connection with the problem of whether or not land grant colleges (schools receiving money from government sources) could enforce compulsory military training on their students, the Supreme Court ruled—by a unanimous decision which includes the vote of the so-called liberals like Cardozo and Brandeis and Hughes—that they could and what was more, this would violate the Bill of Rights. (The first ten amendments to the Constitution) the augurs jurists are declared in essence that the Constitution had nothing to do with this case. In cruder language, they brushed the Constitution aside when it stood in the way of a decision dictated by the ruling class and its war-making policies. What's the connection between this decision and the four cases facing them? Only too clear.

In every one of these cases definite violations of the Constitution are involved. They could never have been before the Supreme Court if this were not the case. To prevent the Supreme Court from handing down decisions that will say, in essence—they will not dare to say so openly, "The Constitution has nothing to do with this case." Nothing but the organized might of millions, shouting their protest, roasting their demand that these victims of ruling class justice be immediately and unconditionally freed. Nothing but the most widespread, united support of the defense which will be filed on their behalf. Rally to the defense of Mooney, Herndon and the Scotsboro Boys.

WHAT IS THE I.L.D.

The I.L.D. is a defense organization—a mass defense organization of, by and for the American workers, farmers, professional and other workers. The I.L.D. seeks to defend the American workers, farmers, professionals, and other workers against all forms of attack by the ruling class. The I.L.D. seeks to aid the victims of such attacks. It is in the common struggle of all workers, farmers, professionals and other workers against the system of private ownership and exploitation, and to the families of murdered revolutionaries. It fights for the unconditional freedom of all political prisoners, the restoration of the right of freedom of speech, press and assembly, for workers' rights to organize, strike and picket. The I.L.D. fights against national oppression andlynchings, against injustices and all anti-labor legislation. Its program is based on the fact that our law makers try very hard to deny—to the fact that there is a class struggle and it brings this fact right into the consciousness of the ruling class.
IT HAPPENED IN 1934
A Summary of Terror, Action and Victory

Against Strikers

MINNESOTA: Two killed, 4,000 Na- tional Guardsmen mobilized to break a strike of 40,000 truck drivers and building trades workers. Hundreds injured, including two guardsman killed by train. Troops routed picket lines at New- hall, arrest dozens of pickets. Send them to stockade.

OHIO: Two killed. Over 3,000 ar- restes in Toledo. Additional troops poured in to augment 4,000 militia. Pitons used. Pickets, num- bered as high as 40,000 at times, de- fended themselves heroically. Hundreds wounded by bayonets and tear gas.

ALABAMA: Nine killed during one mine strikes. Many wounded and ar- rested. National Guard called out sup- plemented by cavalry and airplanes.

CALIFORNIA: Five killed, 310 ar- rested, 110 beaten in San Pedro during longshore strike. Head of local sits in committee and union raised five times. Total number arrested during first six months of year 1,150. 419 arrested in San Francisco during marine and gen- eral strike. 62 homes occupied by 12 fam- ilies driven from their homes, 14 ordered deported. Vigilantes raid, smash all workers' meetings.

GEORGIA: Three killed, Hundreds wounded during textile strike. More than 250 arrested. 175 injured. 20 women, held in first American concentra- tion camp. Two girls in Atlanta ar- rested for distributing leaflets on picket line, charged and held in jail under slave law used against Herndon. 19 strike leaders in Sstavon, recaptured by vigilantes, run out of town and threat- ened with death on return. 506 militia men take over Rome during foundry strike. Entire National Guard mobilized in strike.

TEXAS: Two killed during longshore strike. 20 Mexican sheep sheers held in jail. Charge "unsavory as- sembly" for trying to organize.

Against TERROR

PENDCENTA: Three killed. Hundreds arrested during textile strike. Strike called off. 200,000 troops deployed. 100 armed guards waiting at rail yards. Troops arrested 20 injured when police charged demonstration before Department of Welfare. One cop fired into crowd. 15 arrested charged with "inciting to riot." Three others arrested on same charge for protecting arrest of the 13. 100 arrested in Albany during Hunger March. 60 injured.

MINNESOTA: 37, including duly elected committeeman of 21, arrested in Minneapolis during protest demonstration of 20,000 demanding relief and re- peal of "soak-up-quick" programs. Running to 90 days in work-house hands-down.

OHIO: Two killed, one a Negro woman picketing Cleveland relief station. Cleveland police attack demonstration of 2,000 demanding relief. Women and children caged. Four members of Universal Neutrality Council arrested on assault charges. "It would be dangerous," said the judge, "for these organizers of the workers to go free during the coming winter."

Pennsylvania: 16 arrested for "rioting" at Suseton, two weeks after putting evicted farmer back on his land. Civil invasion against 92 others prohibiting any protest movement, col- lection of funds for defense of 37, or distributing any defense literature.

NEBRASKA: Mother Bleu and five other farm leaders sentenced to 30 days and $180 fine for assisting creamery strikers.

NEW JERSEY: Attacks by vigilante groups on men and deputies against bank- ers on Seabrook Farms. Dozens arrested, clubbed, beaten. Women and children attacked with tear gas—and have been arrested. Summary sentences handed out in the office of Sheriff. Two men were sent to Farm, turned into courtroom by justice of the peace.

ARKANSAS: Member Share Coppers Union killed by landlord. Self com- plimented murderer on "good job."

Against Anti-Fascists

M A S S A C H U S E T T S : 23 arrested and given sentences ranging from 3 months and $210 fines for activity in demonstra- tion against Nazi cruisers Karlsruhe in Boston harbor, and official welcome to its crew.

Pennsylvania: Two in Phila- delphia received one year sentences, whereas others six months each for picketing German consulate, demanding freedom for Kurt Ebert Thaelmann. 13 held for grand jury in Philadelphia. Charge: "Breath of peace and inciting to riot." For $1,100, a sign- ing in demonstration reading. "NRA Needs War and Fascism."

WASHINGTON: 50 arrested as re- sults of injuries received at hands of Milwaukee police during protest dem- onstration. Two efforts to prevent Hans La- ter from speaking.

Against the Negro People

ALABAMA: White Legion proposes bill to protect the courts and the laws of the state against a repetition of that which happened at Huntsville and Decatur and what happened in Tuscumbia in the Hardin County case. To other words, a bill which would make it impossible for an Negro lawyer to practice in the state of Alabama to the extent of embarrassing our courts and jury service.

Terror is so bad, political violence is bad, and have a healthy life you better leave the Share Coppers Union alone."

TEN: "You'll talk or we'll knock your head in." With this threat two deputies secured false evidence against Henry Teal, Negro, sentenced to 50 years, charged with "killing white men and attacking white per- sons on Seabrook Farms. Dozens arrested, clubbed, beaten. Women and children attacked with tear gas—and have been arrested. Summary sentences handed out in the office of Sheriff. Two men were sent to Farm, turned into courtroom by justice of the peace.

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ACTION

JANUARY

I.L.D. calls on all members and branches to intensify fight to free Moloney and to organize support of Mooney-Molders Defense Committee petition move for habeas corpus writ from U. S. Supreme Court. I.L.D. mobilizes nation-wide protest movement demanding immediate release of Dimitrov, Torgler, Tamer, and Winters, and acquittal by Nazi courts in Reichstag fire frame-up.

FEBRUARY

Western Regional Anti-Lynch conference held in San Jose, Calif. 134 delegates representing 78,000 from 11 states present.

Leo Gallagher, immediately upon his return to this country from the Reichstag Fire Trial goes to Canada as an advisory council in the defense of A. E. Smith, Secretary C.L.D.I.

MARCH

I.L.D. cables greetings to Dimitrov and his committee of Moscow "AMERICAN WORKERS GROUP" congratulating them on RELEASE OF THEAEL MANN TORGLER AND ALL CLASS WAR PRISONERS."

BERNARD ADAMS, I.L.D. attorney, and D. C. Morgan, testify before House of Representatives Committee of Immigration and Naturalization bringing forward C.P.R.F. bill for the right of asylum for foreign workers.

Milwaukee I.L.D. appeals revocation of Emil Gardsen’s citizenship as attempt to disrupt political consciousness and activities of all foreign born.

Chicago, Cleveland and Philadelphia I.L.D. organize city-wide mass demonstration demanding freedom of Ernst Thaelmann, I.L.D. mobilizes nation-wide Thaelmann campaign and forwarding right of foreign doctors to examine him, foreign lawyers to interview him and to participate in his trial in defense council.

I.L.D. reports 150,000 strong funds to raise in national anti-fascist funds. Several districts organize tag days to raise national funds.

New York I.L.D. initiates campaign for removal of Judge Corrigan who sentenced 14 youths of the Long Island Needles Trades demonstration and arrested for 1st degree assault; 1 year sentence given by Corrigan. "affidavit of an example of him and put an end to group filibuster.

Philadelphia I.L.D. organizes joint committee with 4,000 knit goods strikers, each shop electing defense captain.

New York, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Jersey City, hold Scottsboro demonstration after scottboro protest meetings as part of Mrs. Wright-Leo Gallagher tour.

Mass march from every part of Oregon to Salem to demand release of Jordans from the Supreme Court and sentenced by I.L.D.

APRIL

Delegation representing 8 organizations on Polish Embassy in Washington demanding release of 57 inductees.


I.L.D. demonstration before New York Cuban consulate demands release of 5,000 Cuban political prisoners.

Chicago I.L.D. announces defense of 12 scottboros from Sept. 13th to March 31st 1934. All freed except 2 whose cases are on appeal.

I.L.D. issues 110,000 post cards demanding release of Angelo Falcone. Cards addressed to President Roosevelt and Georgia State Supreme Court.

MAY

L. Patterson, National Secretary I.L.D.izzo declares immigration authorities and appears in Canada to address Wobblies in Toronto May Day mass meeting.

Five Scottsboro mothers lead May Day parade of 100,000 New York City.

Buffalo I.L.D. organizes present meeting of over 7,000 protesting shooting of 26 men and 3 women on picket lines

JUNE

I.L.D. celebrates 9th anniversary by series of mass meetings, delegations to World Congress of Protestors and prison wards.


Wm. J. Patterson addresses National Congress of Cuban Workers.

Bill of Civil Rights for Negro people and the Suppression of Lynching drawn up by L.N.R. and endorsed by the I.L.D.

Walter Miller of Julie Mella joins in protest for Scottsboro boys, "that I may, in memory of my son, to join this fight.

JULY

Non-line-wide demonstrations, pickets, delegations before German consulates, demanding release of Ernst Thaelmann.

Scottsboro Mothers send appeal to Interwartie Women’s Congress against war in Spain.

I.L.D. joins with A.C.L.U. and other delegations in setting up joint committee for workers rights to organize protest and defense of west coast workers.

AUGUST

California: 30 prisoners including two women organize hunger strike protest movement demanding immediate release of Dimitrov, Torgler, Tamer, and Winters, acquittal by Nazi courts in Reichstag frame-up.

SEPTEMBER

Haywood Patterson sends condolences to Tom Mooney on death of his mother.

20 prominent intellectuals and trade union leaders endorse protest of I.L.D. on terror against strike leaders.

I.L.D. leads trade union delegation to Department of Labor in Washington demanding end of black-listing, discrimination against militant textile strikers and immediate release of all arrested.

OCTOBER

Calls for nation-wide solidarity campaign with the thousands of victims of Spanish Fascist.

November 27th as Scottsboro protest day in Cuba by Cuban I.L.D.

United Front Scottsboro Conference held in New Orleans. Secretary of local S.P. and many prominent Negro ministers endorse call.

Similar conferences initiated by I.L.D. held in Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, New York City.

Delegation of prominent Negro and White labor go to Washington demanding President Roosevelt’s intervention in Scottsboro case.

Scottsboro defense organizes wide intensification of fight to win complete freedom for Tom Mooney as U. S. Supreme Court is due to hear his case.

I.L.D. covers 70,000 strong protest of Negro Industrial Workers of the World.

I.L.D. coverage of Wobblies in Scottsboro.

November 24th to Dec. 2nd declared National Scottsboro Day.

I.L.D. mobilizes 17 national and local organizations in a drive to secure information and to act against reign of terror in Spain.

Scottsboro N.Y. N.R. brief with U. S. Supreme Court.

DECEMBER

November 14th set aside as national day of action for week for the freedom of white terror in Spain.

I.L.D. files Patterson brief with U. S. Supreme Court.

BUFFALO: 11 Aero-Works strikers free by I.L.D.

TOLEDO: Mass defense in jail court stops all arrests as part of mass defense at Free Theaelmann demonstration.

NEW YORK: I.L.D. obtains stay of execution for all arrested.

KENTUCKY: Poll pardon for Wm. Burnham, coal miner, freed on murder charges in 1931, won by the I.L.D. so far pardoned 100 men from hundreds of miles over state gathering signatures for pardon petition.

NEW YORK: David Marcus, first deportation department, brought charges for the right of political prisoners on Welfare Island, Raymond Street and other jointly files to receive LABOR DEFENDER, DAILY WOOL WORKER, and other working class literature.

OREGON: Governor Meier forced to appoint commission to investigate Jordan case. Continued mass actions wins commutation to life sentence for Jordan.

NEW YORK: Walter H. Pullen, brilliant constitutional authority who won first Scottsboro appeal to Supreme Court, wins one more appeal before Supreme Court a second time.


CALIFORNIA: 27 men of those arrested demand trial and public strike-unionally released, arrested.

ALABAMA: I.L.D. forces release of Fred Bedel, Negro worker, charged with criminal anarchy and forced judge to declare that the Southern Worker and its content are illegal.

NEW YORK: Arnold Hendron released on bail. Bail fund of $120,000 I.L.D. oversubscribed by $1,000.

CALIFORNIA: Working class organizing breaks through the terror in San Francisco as a result of the action of a mass of workers, an example of how things can be done.

NEW YORK: Clarence Roth and Anna Smith, beaten and arrested, in court for protesting against mistreatment of 9 workers arrested for demonstrating against Home Relief Bureau. Released after police Hometown Court.

OHIO: Cleveland I.L.D. files LeRoy Bundy, Negro City councilman to appear before the Court of Common Pleas directed at Jim Crow segregation in the Cleveland city council.

NEW YORK: Committee for Protection of Foreign Halls deports 3 from Poland and Finland.

ALABY: All 100 arraigned murderers unconditionally released and given permit to parley to Capital steps.

VICTORY

In the fight to the end.

NEW YORK: I.L.D. sends $1,000 raised by the committee in N. J. to Spain to aid victims.

PHILADELPHIA: Hundreds crowding Philadelphia Free Room forced complete release of 46 knit goods strikers arrested in police attack on picket line.

OREGON: Farris and Bergland, unemployed leaders Portland, released and savved from heavy fines and long sentences for leading demonstration of unemployed, by I.L.D. mass defense.

PENNSYLVANIA: Sam Jesup, organizer Turtle Creek Unemployed Councils, released from Blairsville for serving 5 weeks of a one year sentence as a result of mass protest organized by the I.L.D. He was sentenced in connection with a farm sale of 23 cows and other farm implements which were sold for $1.10.

S. DAKOTA: Two judges forced to withdraw from hearings on the injunctions against the defense of 18 farmers charged for refusing foreclosures, by bills showing prejudice.

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OHIO: Cleveland I.L.D. files LeRoy Bundy, Negro City councilman to appear before the Court of Common Pleas directed at Jim Crow segregation in the Cleveland city council.

CONNECTICUT: 6 charged with disorderly conduct for picketing leading in Bridgeport calls for mass defense of unemployed arrested for pay for unemployed snowshovelers from Socialist city administration, freed.

ILLINOIS: 34 arrested for free speech stop mass of unemployed, arrested.

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"I HAVE NO ILLUSIONS"

An Interview With Tom Mooney

By ANGELO HERDON

(Written in the inset: Angelo Herndon, Tom Mooney being taken to San Quentin 18 years ago.)

WHAT do you think the United States Supreme Court will do about your case, Tom? Do you think they will let you go?

As one political prisoner whose case is coming up before the court of last illusions to another, I asked that question of Tom Mooney. It was one of a hole series I asked in the hour I had with him, visiting him in San Quentin prison. His answer—much the same answer, allowing for different circumstances, that I would have given had anyone asked me: "What do you think the United States Supreme Court will do about your case, Angelo?"—was: "I have had to face the fact that they will do. For eighteen years they have refused to have anything to do with my case. In fact they have kicked and tossed me around so much, I can't expect anything from them unless the protectors of the working-class will force them to free me."

I asked another question along the same line: "I suppose you know that Professor Moley has asked Governor Merriam to pardon you so the workers will stop making such a noise about your frame-up." "Yes, I know about that," Tom said. "But you see there is Scottsboro, your case, and mine, all coming up before the Supreme Court. Moley thinks that if Merriam pardons me, the case will not go up there, and so we will be saved further exposure." When I asked to see Mooney—I made the trip to San Quentin from San Francisco, where I had been speaking on the Scottsboro case—one of the guards dis- appeared behind trick steel walls and we could hear him yelling: "Mooney! Nine-two-two-one! Mooney! Three-one-nine-two-one!"

Within a few minutes, Mooney came out, dressed in his white prison garb. He was smiling. He leaned over the wooden partition between us to shake hands. One of the comrades from the San Francisco International Labor Defense Committee introduced us.

"I have heard all about the frame-up of the Scottsboro boys, and yourself," Tom said to me. "I am glad to see you out, and for you to pay me a visit is indeed a treat.

I know Georgia," he went on. "I remember away back before the ruling class of California framed me, how they used to treat Negroes. There was the "Williams Farm" down there, where they used to work the Negroes until they were almost dead. Then Williams, the plantation-owner, would make them dig their own graves, and kill them with an ax. I think he was put in prison, later. As savage as they are, it is surprising they let you go around the country speaking against your frame-up."

"Tell me how they handle the prisoners here," I said. "What privileges do you have, as one who has spent 18 years here?"

"I have been here a long time now," Tom said, "and they are forced to treat me with some respect. But when my dear old mother died, and her dead body was brought to the gates of the prison so that I might see the last remains of a dear old soul who had fought and suffered for her son and her class, they would not even let me go as far as the first door leading to the outside."

There were tears in Tom's eyes.

"She was a real fighter," he said, "who spent her last days on the battle-field, always agitating and organizing her class brothers and sisters for the final upheaval that will not only set her innocent son free, but break the chains that are bound around the necks of all workers."

In the Mooney's house were the last words of this man. The墙上挂着汤姆・穆尼的肖像，他被带到圣昆廷州立监狱18年前。汤姆说，他们试图让我听到囚犯的待遇。但当他亲爱的老母亲去世时，她的遗体被带到监狱的大门，以让我最后一次见到她，但他们甚至不让我不去，直到第一个门被打开。汤姆的眼睛里有泪水。

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FREED—FROM A SPANISH JAIL!

(An Interview with the Prisoner)

Simone Tery, French journalist, has just returned from Spain. She was sent there by the publication L'Oeuvre (Labor), only to be promptly arrested. The French Committee to Aid the Victims of Spanish Fascism helped secure her release. Her work has taken her to many countries. She has been to China, Germany, Ireland during critical moments in the histories of these countries. Lerroux, self-styled democrat, and nominal head of the Spanish fascist government has earned the sorry honor of being the first to arrest this journalist for going about her business.

"I was arrested at this session and spent the night in a guard house, seated on a bench surrounded by armed soldiers. From here I was taken before the minister of War; the military power is supreme in Spain. At dawn I was taken to the women's prison where I was thrown into a large cell. It was almost noon when they finally brought me something to eat. For the next three days I remained there. I was neither questioned nor indicted."

"How many women were imprisoned?"

"In what seemed to be space enough to hold no more than 200, there were about 350. Many of the women had been arrested during the course of the general strike. They inspired everybody with their splendid courage and behavior.

To the Toilers of All Countries:

Great and boundless is the misery and need of relief for the tens of thousands of political prisoners languishing in the prisons of Spain. Infinite is the poverty of the widows and orphans of the fallen fighters. Thousands of workers in Asturias, in Catalonia, in the Basque and other provinces, have fallen victims of the fascist reaction.

Time is pressing—the fascist terror is raging with ever greater intensity. United action in relief for our Spanish brothers, united action against the fascist reaction in Spain is imperative. The Executive Committee of the International Red Aid calls upon all organizations—Communist, Socialist, Anarchist—upon all the trade unions, and all other organizations, and societies and to every individual to unite with us in order to guarantee the widest scope and the very best success to this vital work.

It depends upon you, men and women workers, upon you, toilers in the fields, upon you, intellectuals and students, to render moral and material assistance to the Spanish anti-fascist fighters to relieve their misery and to inspire them with new revolutionary courage and firmness.

Long live the heroic working class of Spain.
The Executive Committee of the IRA.

"Taking advantage of the constant shiftings of the prisoners, I managed to get myself into a smaller room with two young girls, Carmen and Carmina. Carmen is the niece of a socialist deputy. This was the sole reason for her arrest. Some of the prisoners—to mention their names would be to expose them to the greatest dangers,—told me about the horrible cries they had heard from prisoners beaten all over the body with clubs.

"Most of the women, arrested more than a month ago, have not yet been tried or questioned. They were arrested under the most fantastic charges, like 'insulting the army.' Two janitors were arrested because soldiers claimed that they had been fired upon from the roofs of the houses in which they worked. All of the arrests were arbitrary. No defense is provided for. The state of siege which was proclaimed over a month ago has been extended indefinitely. A very real dictatorship is crushing Spain."

"Do you think that the Spanish people will submit to this dictatorship?"

"Certainly not. One of the lieutenants of General Lopez Ochoa, who directed the suppression of the Asturian soviets, told me that Gil Robles would never have triumphed had the unity of revolutionary action which was achieved in Asturias, been achieved in the other provinces of Spain.

"They have learned a terrible lesson. But it will not be forgotten. United action will be realized all over Spain, under the leadership of the workers who realize its absolute necessity. A great feeling of sympathy exists all over the country for the innumerable victims of the repression and Gil Robles' victory is

This interview is reprinted from the French Labor Defender, "La Defense."
UNITED FRONT!
To Free the Scottsboro Boys!

By RICHARD B. MOORE
National Field Organizer I.L.D.

BEFORE the U.S. Supreme Court—the court of last illusions—now pend the appeals, filed by attorneys Fraenkel and Pollak for the I.L.D., against the legal lynching sentences of the Alabama courts upon Haywood Patterson and Clarence Norris—now set for execution on February 8th.

Our sole hope at this crucial moment is to develop further the mass defense which has kept the boys alive during the three and a half year defense battle, on the broadest basis and to the highest point of militant struggle, with the utmost speed. This is the urgent need and the immediate imperative task in the fateful fight to save the Scottsboro boys. And the main essential lever with which to do this is the United Front.

The United Front is all the more imperative to meet the new, dangerous attack upon the Scottsboro defense, launched precisely at this critical stage. For despite their claims to provide a “better defense,” what is the real effect of the activities of Samuel Leibowitz, Wm. H. Davis, George E. Haynes, Rev. L. H. King and other leaders of the newly formed American Scottsboro Committee upon the vital defense movement?

What is the meaning of their rabid, red-scare propaganda and their slandering attacks upon the I.L.D. and its attorneys; their bullying attempts to turn the boys against their own mothers and the defense movement which saved these boys’ lives until now; their recent refusal of the proposal of the National Scottsboro-Herndon Action Committee for a United Front?

These actions have no other meaning and no other effect except—Unite in ideas and practice with the forces of fascist lynch reaction who drive to the murder of the Scottsboro boys! Confuse the defense forces; prevent the masses from rallying around their tried and proved defense leadership—the I.L.D., etc.; split and smash the United Front of militant defense struggle which alone can force the freedom of these innocent boys!

But the masses, Negro and white, more and more desire and demand the united front of struggle. They are learning from their bitter experiences, not only in the Scottsboro case, but also from every development of the worsening situation which daily menaces their lives.

This is clearly to be seen in the united front recently achieved between the Socialist and Communist parties in five southern states—one of the six points being support of the I.L.D. in the Scottsboro struggle. It is seen in similar action of the Conference just held in Washington under the auspices of the American Civil Liberties Union.

The united front developed in New Orleans which linked up Scottsboro with the fight against the terror and murder of striking longshoremen; the fairly broad conference in Pittsburgh drawing in the Colored Ministerial Alliance; the conference which set up the National Scottsboro-Herndon Action Committee and the development of local conferences and committees in Detroit—all show the wide possibility and growing realization of the essential united front.

But all these united front achievements have been realized through the pressure of the masses from below in spite of the opposition of the national leaders of the Socialist Party, of the top leaders of the N.A.A.C.P.—Walter White, Charles Houston—of Arthur Garfield Hays in the A.C.L.U. Conference, the leaders of the American Scottsboro Committee, etc.

This is clear from our failures also. The leaders of the S.P. in New York were able to reject the proposal of the I.L.D. for the Scottsboro struggle, because not enough was done to reach the workers in the local S.P. branches, though full recognition must be given to the difficulties involved. Thus, the key to the building of the united front is the basic approach to the masses from below at the same time that we approach the leaders also from above.

From this experience, we can realize how true and important is the statement of the Executive Committee of the (Continued on page 23)
This picture was drawn in jail by Mike Plesh, one of the 18 on trial under the vicious c.s. law in California.
IT HAPPENED IN 1934

JAN.: Louis, Liebknecht, Luxemburg. 1934 marked the 10th anniversary of the death of the first and the 15th anniversary of the murder of the last two. FEB.: Austrian revolutionists face firing squad. MARCH: Dimitrov, free, in Moscow. APRIL: Minneapolis CWA demonstration.

FACING 1935

Laws for Subversive Activities that would put the President in Jail

By LOUIS COLMAN

DEPORTATION OF MILITANT ALIENS EASIER.
This, mind you, is just a preview, just a peep at what is being prepared.

GREEN’S IDEA
Testifying before the Dickstein Committee “investigating un-American activities,” President William F. Green of the proposed legislation is first of all directed. Green is cagey about actually sponsoring such legislation. There’s a powerful militant movement stirring within the A. F. of L. He said:

“IN A DEMOCRACY, you have great difficulties. AT THE MOMENT I can’t see how we can accomplish our purpose by legislation.”

FASCIST STORM TROOPS NOW, and later on a STATE WITHOUT DEMOCRACY, is Green’s idea of how it should be done.

The United States Government, the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, and all the Chambers of Commerce and Industrial (ists) Associations of the country, always figure on two-fisted play in planning their offensive—a right to the jaw and a left to the solar-plexis (and a knife in the back at the same time.) You have criminal syndicalism and related laws for native-born, and the American Federation of Labor let out the following hint. He was speaking of the difficulties of outlawing the Communist Party, against which most deportation laws for aliens, and Green and his cohorts for the back-stabbing act.

The famous West Coast strike-break-
ing combination of police-militia-vigilante-stool-and-Frances-Perkins sharpened up two special weapons which the "planned terror" legislation described above is figured to put into mass production.

These are the weapons of criminal syndicalism and "vag" laws, and of deportation terror. With one they hit the native-born militant and his organization, with the other they try to eliminate the foreign-born.

DEPORTATION MILL

Already the deportation mill is busy grinding horrors. Its main aim is, through illegalization of militant activities and organization of the foreign-born, to outlaw strikes, all sorts of working-class struggles, and the organizations of the working-class, the Communist Party, the Socialist Party, the trade unions, the International Labor Defense, etc. This year's deportable activity for the foreign-born becomes next year's outlawed activity for the native-born.

An I.L.D. delegate who visited Commissioner McCormack at Washington recently asked him:

"If Jefferson and Lincoln were alive today, would they be deported?"

"Yes," McCormack said. "If they were aliens, I suppose they would."

THE PRESIDENT IS LIABLE

And Jefferson, Lincoln, and dozens of other early American statesmen, would be liable to hundreds of years of imprisonment for their writings and statements, under the criminal syndicalism law.

In Ohio, the c.s. law covers so much ground that anyone would be liable under it—if it were not an instrument of class-justice but really the kind of law they talk about in fairy-tales, that knows no distinction of classes—for possessing, printing, distributing, or reading, the Declaration of Independence.

If the President of the United States issued his proclamation declaring July 4 to be a public holiday in a state with a c.s. law, instead of in the District of Columbia, he would technically and legally be liable to a long prison term for doing so, because in so doing he cannot avoid "defending" "revolutionary overthrow of government by force and violence."

This is the kind of law which is held over the heads of militant workers in 36 states now. The proposed legislation would extend this like a blanket of poison gas over the entire country—more poisonous, more vicious, by the broader generalities of the charges, the vicious punishment provided, MORE DRASTIC THAN ANY THAT HAVE EVER BEEN HEARD OF IN AMERICA BEFORE, EVEN IN WAR-TIME.

Green's statement let the cat out of the bag.

TODAY, foreign-born militant workers are deported to FASCIST COUNTRIES ACROSS THE SEA, to be imprisoned, tortured, and murdered. TOMORROW, we face FASCISM IN AMERICA AS A HORRIBLE REALITY.

As we enter 1935, Perkins and McCormack are determined to send FIVE MILITANT WORKERS TO HITLER'S GERMANY, where they face prison, concentration-camp, the brown torture, and death; THREE TO FINLAND, where the hate of anti-fascists in a fascist land awaits them; TWO TO MUSSOLINI'S torture dungeons described by Romain Rolland in the December "Labor Defender;" ONE TO SPAIN, land of the firing-squad and gallows, of the Foreign Legion and un-speakable torture; ONE TO BULGARIA; TWO TO POLAND, which has just set up a concentration-camp that rivals those of Hitler; TWO TO ROUMANIA, the playground where King Carol wades in the blood of slaughtered workers and keeps his puppet court of pretty ladies—and dozens more to other countries.

The proposed legislation is a long step toward depriving the native-born workers of those constitutional guarantees, won through blood and revolution, of whose protection the foreign-born have already been robbed by judicial decree.

The fight for the protection of the foreign-born, for the RIGHT OF POLITICAL ASYLUM in AMERICA, is the fight for the democratic rights of the native-born, the fight TO SAVE THE LIVES OF OUR OWN FIGHTERS AGAINST FASCISM.

We, the workers of America, the oppressed Negro people, the friends of Labor's struggles, must build our own UNITED FRONT OF DEFENSE AND RELIEF FOR THE VICTIMS OF TERROR AND FASCISM THE WORLD OVER.

Facing 1935, this is our task.
THE black cloud of reaction sweeping over the United States under the New Deal has brought with it a wave of terror which stands out in all its horrors in the review of 1934, in this issue of the Labor Defender.

It has also brought forward some heroes of the working-class, and it has developed, in the counter-offensive, important gains in the unified front of working-class defense, as will be seen in the review of the highlights only of last month’s developments, below.

ALABAMA—POSSESSION OF LEAFLETS

The “Downs Law,” which prohibits possession of more than one copy of any writing or printing which the police may feel to be “seditious,” and prescribes the chain-gang for those found guilty under its provisions, originated in Birmingham.

The law has already spread to two other cities. It is being pushed by state officials, the Ku Klux Klan, the White Legion, the Black Shirts, Knights of the Green Dragon, and a dozen other extra-legale fascist organizations. It is supported by the most violent reign of terror unleashed against the militant workers here in years.

OKLAHOMA—FEDERAL SEDITION LAW

The Federal Sedition Law is held to be too mild to be any good at all, by the gentlemen who are proposing drastic anti-working-class legislation by Congress this winter.

But in Oklahoma City, this law has held four workers in jail since last May, and a fourth, previously released on his own recognizance, for the past two months. They are due to come up for trial in January.

They are charged with “attempting to seize goods of the federal government,” with “interfering with the performance of their duty by federal officers,” and with “conspiring” to do these things.

What are the facts? These workers organized a demonstration before the offices of the FERA on May 21, to demand distribution of federal relief. They were dispersed with tear-gas and fire-hose. Sixteen were arrested, of whom 12 were later released to strengthen the case against the other four.

George Hopkins and George Taylor, Negros, George Wilson, section organizer of the Communist Party, and Hougardy, section organizer of the Communist Party, Caroline Decker, of the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union, and Martin Wilson, I.L.L.D. organizer, are defending themselves. The rest of the defendants are represented in court by Leo Gallagher, who took part in the Leipzig trial of the Reichstag fire defendants, and who is one of Tom Mooney’s attorneys.

A broad mass movement has been developed in defense of these workers. Truckloads of workers from distant towns are trekking in to attend the trial. The united front of defense includes workers and sympathizers of every political belief, nationality, and religion.

ILLINOIS—THE UNITED FRONT

The trial of the 14 Hillsboro, Ill., relief fighters has been set for January 7.

All efforts are being strained to spread the united front of defense which exists among the defendants and throughout the mining regions of Southern Illinois, over the state.

The International Labor Defense has proposed united action to the Illinois executive committee of the Socialist Party, in defense of the Hillsboro 14, and for the repeal of the Illinois Criminal Syndicalism law.

The defendants are preparing to defend themselves, and have elected a committee from among themselves to lead the self-defense.

OREGON—THIRTEEN YEARS IN PRISON

Dirk DeJonge, Young Communist League leader, has been sentenced to 7 years’ imprisonment on criminal syndicalism charges, and Sam Cluster to one year, in Portland. Kyle Pugh has been sentenced to 5 years under the same law at Medford. All three cases are being appealed by the I.L.L.D.

“Yes, ladies and gentlemen of the jury,” DeJonge hurled at the court in a brilliant defense speech, “you may convict DeJonge, but that will not stop the growth of the Communist Party. That cannot stop the rising tide of the revolutionary proletariat. If you send DeJonge to prison, you do not send the Communist Party to prison. The working-class, the revolutionary proletariat, will go marching on to victory.”

Pugh was convicted on the basis of circulation of working-class literature, chiefly pamphlets descriptive of the victories of developing socialism in the Soviet Union, and the “Daily Worker” and “Western Worker,” Communist Party organs.

Nine more workers, all arrested in the terror unleashed to smash the West Coast strike, face trial in this state.
VOICES FROM PRISON

A NEW COURAGE

You know, every day, month in and month out, is the same here. Breakfast, dinner, supper, a paper, book, a little talk here and there, nothing of any importance happens. It's been a humdrum, monotonous weary day. The loud gong pounds out the words, "Lock in, lock in." Another hour or so and the lights go out. Then think, think, and funny thoughts follow into dreams of tomorrow. I and my playmates arise at 5 a.m. promptly. I go with a few hundred fellow victims to the mess hall for our coffee and dough without the nuts. And another day is started—another colorless, drab, lifeless, inactive, brain-paralyzing day.

I certainly enjoy reading your welcome letters. They always reach me when I am feeling kind of blue. But after reading your warm and encouraging letters, this blue feeling goes. It is replaced by a wonderful feeling, a new courage and more of it each time, especially when I know that I am not forgotten.

It is not needful of you to tell me how busy you are right now, what with the Scottsboro boys, Ernst Thaelmann, Angelo Herndon and countless others, that you of the I.L.D. are fighting so hard for, fighting unendingly and unceasingly for their freedom.

Sincerely I hope that success will not desert you in these fights and struggles. I send my greetings and every ounce of admiration and hope and loyalty to each member of the I.L.D. Greetings.

JACK CARNEY, No. 59755,
Welfare Island, N. Y.

FROM A VICTIM OF THE TEXTILE STRIKE TERROR

Thanking you for the kind donation made to my wife and I. Here is hoping for a bigger and stronger union by the time I get out. Sure hope it isn't long. Everything that all of you good people do for me, while I am in prison, and also for my loved ones, will be highly appreciated by me. Send my best regards to other comrades all over the country that are unfortunate as I. Hope it won't be long before we all can be out, so that we can help to build up a great cause.

FRED McMahan,
Route No. 1, Box 408, Dallas, N. C.

WHERE IS MY DADDY

I received your letter and glad to hear from you. And I want to thank you for your kindness and generosity in sending me and my family the money as it is sure a great help to us. We are all well at present. And I wish you all luck. I do hope you will win out in getting them Scottsboro Boys free. As it is sure terrible for the parents and wife to see their men shut in. As I know how it is for there is no one else that has to suffer only wife, mother and their children. And it sure is terrible and an awful thing when a child comes to you and always asks where is my Daddy.

So I wish you luck again so you get them all free as I wish my husband was home with us.

Sincerely yours,
MRS. DAN BENNING & BABIES,
Millvale, Pa.

THOSE WHO WENT TO THE FRONT IN BEHALF OF THEIR CLASS

If it wasn't for the money we receive from the I.L.D. I am sure that we could not get by at all and now the winter months are coming on and that's going
THE SOVIET UNION BUILDS MEN

Portraits of prisoners who have become shock-workers exhibited to Soviet school children in Kharkov.

We can continue with numerous examples of what is going on in the big factories in the capital of the country. We can begin with the United States and go on to fascist Italy and take in Germany, France and England.

A GIANT PRISON

Huge factories, spread out like cities, are like prisons in which the worker obtains a bit of bread, tuberculosis or insanity. The various systems of rationalization have made the worker into an appendage of the machine, an automaton, a convict, around whom a whole organization is built up to watch his every move, to drive him to the limit of his endurance, to exploit him a few years and then throw him into the street, sick, ruined, incapable of working and with nothing left in the world.

The "humanitarians" do not see all this, even when it is right under their noses. The bourgeois and their social democratic friends expose "forced labor" on the Baltic-White Sea Canal, do not see what is going on around them at home, nor do they see what is going on in the British, French, Dutch and Italian colonies. The Italian fascists and their social democratic friends and the Pope worry themselves about "forced labor" in Russia, but say nothing about the work in the sulphur mines in Sicily, the work on the land improvement projects and in the mire of the rice fields, where women, to earn a little more, allowed blood-suckers to be applied to their legs so that they can sell them full of their blood to the speoility.

This is what the life of the "free" workers is like in the capitalist countries.

The capitalist regime is a huge prison, a penitentiary, where the worker is condemned to labor forced upon him in order to earn enough to keep himself on his feet, only to go hungry later for long periods of unemployment.

Ships are passing through the 19 locks which regulate the passage through the long canal. The slumbering land of Kardia has now been awakened to a new life, and new economic conditions have been established in the virgin forests and around the lakes. The former prisoners, who begin the difficult work here two years ago, have almost all left and are continuing to work in other regions—engineers, technicians and skilled workers, ennobled by work, setting forth to serve the proletariat.

Thousands, tens of thousands of them, who had never done any work in their lives, are today skilled workers. This is the work of the proletariat. This is what was accomplished in the service of the revolution, with former enemies of the proletarian state and of labor. This is a tremendous work, a double victory over nature and over man.

A court in Moscow. Two of the judges are workers and the third is a doctor.

HOW WE FREED BILL O'DONNELL!

By Vivian Dahl

"When I go to jail," Bill O'Donnell said, "The working class will speak. And they did—in such a way that the South Jersey authorities will not soon forget. And they will think twice before another such frame-up will be carried out against the working class.

In Bill's own locality the International Labor Defense and the O'DONNELL DEFENSE COMMITTEE mobilized the broadest possible united front of all people who believed that O'Donnell's sentence of 6 months had been the rawest frame-up in the history of the working class of South Jersey.

In addition, the South Jersey Committee in Defense of Labor and Farmer Rights issued an EMERGENCY CALL TO ACTION to all organizations in South Jersey and especially to industrial unions in Camden. Then the action began.

Soon, Tuvo the Prosecuting Attorney, and Cramer, the committing Magistrate were said to need Federal Guards to hold them up under the deluge of protests, telegrams, resolutions, delegations and meetings. Soon, those loyal officials of the rich-farmer-boss administration were begging the International Labor Defense to call off the offensive. "I will let Bill out, and no one will press all of the

Maybe this lawyer thought that, but if he should tell a South Jersey worker that, the worker would say, "You must be crazy."

The fact that no legal steps were needed his demonstration to the working class of South Jersey where their power is and how it can be used effectively to smash the terror of the employing class in its attempts to crush their organization.

(Opposite) Last year's longer march.

The I.L.D. heartily endorses H.R. 7598 Workers Unemployment Insurance Bill, which will be discussed at the National Congress for Unemployment Insurance held in Washington, January 3, 4, 7, 1935.

(Left): Unemployed—young and old—sleeping in an abandoned building. It happens to be in Pennsylvania, but it might be anywhere. By S. A. The same can be said for the rags feebly carrying this unemployed worker away from demonstration before relief station.

"Workers of Vineland! Help Stop the Steak-Up of your Working Class Brothers!"

W. H. O'DONNELL TORCHLIGHT PARADE WEDNESDAY NIGHT FOR O'DONNELL'S FREEDOM.
THE I.L.D. MUST GROW
1935 Will Present Greater Defense Problems to the American Workers

By ANNA DAMON
Acting National Secretary I.L.D.

IN 1923, the working class was confronted with the absolute necessity for establishing a permanent, national defense organization. Worsening conditions, increased attacks against the workers,—organized and unorganized, native and foreign born alike—dictated the need for the I.L.D., and it was formed. Conditions today, repression, growing fascism, make the necessity for the I.L.D. greater than ever before.

In 1934, 57 workers were killed in economic struggles, shot down by armed forces, police, national guards, vigilantes organized by the bosses and their government. The New Deal promise of the Roosevelt administration—the “forgotten men”—turned out to be something very different from what it sounded like at first.

The New Deal for industrial workers, for the unemployed, for the poor farmers driven to struggle by starvation conditions, turned out to be an organized system of terror and repression and wholesale violation of all civil and democratic rights. In the South, this terror drive has taken on especially severe and widespread proportions. All the old repressive laws, a Southern slave law from the year 1861, Criminal Syndicalism laws drafted during and immediately after the World War, deportation laws, have been dusted off and put into operation against militant workers all over the country.

HOW DO THESE CONDITIONS AFFECT ORGANIZED WORKERS?

By organized workers, we mean not only those who belong to trade unions, but those who are members of all mass organizations, economic, fraternal and even cultural. All organizations that carry on any form of struggle for better conditions have been and surely will be to an increasing extent met with repression and terror. Most of these organizations have no defense apparatus. In many cases, when the necessity arose, various organizations have set up temporary defense committees, especially during strikes. The temporary character of this defense apparatus is obviously unsatisfactory. As soon as the particular action around which it was established is over, it ceases to function. And defense work is a daily necessity in the continued struggles for unemployment insurance, for relief, for higher wages, against evictions, for free speech, for the right of asylum for foreign born, etc.

Many organizations are not affiliated to the I.L.D. Whenever the need for defense arises, they immediately call on the local I.L.D., as an outside agency, to come to their aid.

HOW CAN THIS SITUATION BE REMEDIED?

The I.L.D. grew out of a number of temporary defense committees which dissolved immediately after the specific issue around which they were created was ended. The I.L.D. knows the experiences and weaknesses of such committees. It was created out of the necessity for a permanent, national, defense organization. Clearly then, one of the first necessary steps to meet the defense needs of a workers’ organization is immediate affiliation with the I.L.D. Whenever an organization is preparing action, it should at once contact the local I.L.D., to form a joint defense committee, to prepare to meet whatever defense emergency the situation will create.

The basis must be laid by all and every means to create for every worker, a defense apparatus to meet the daily needs of his organization. Another important step besides those already mentioned for accomplishing this aim, is the establishment of an I.L.D. committee of 2 or 3 or 5 in unions and other organizations whose special task it is to bring forward the I.L.D. as the only defense organization of the working class, to carry on preparatory work for defense struggles, to recruit individual members into the I.L.D. and to work for affiliation of the organization as a whole.

ADVANTAGES TO MEMBERS OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN JOINING THE I.L.D.

One of the greatest advantages, of course, is the accumulated experience of almost 10 years of defense struggles waged in defense of workers’ rights. Another, is the organized strength of thousands who can be swiftly mobilized into mass defense and mass protest action. There is still another advantage, not as readily recognized, but extremely important. The I.L.D. conducts a constant struggle for the recognition of the status of political prisoners. Legally, there is no such status in the United States today. Workers thrown into jail as a result of their working class activity are treated like common criminals, given no privileges, allowed no literature, etc. The fight to win this status is an important one and could gain tremendous force and impetus through the backing of affiliated trade unions, etc., with hundreds and thousands of members.

In addition, there is the Prisoners’ Relief Activity conducted by the I.L.D. which provides regular monthly relief to the families political prisoners leave behind them, and to the prisoners themselves so that they can purchase some small comforts to make prison days less dreary.

A WORD TO I.L.D. MEMBERS

It is, of course, the work of the districts and branches of the I.L.D. to reach into all workers organizations with the necessity of joining and building the I.L.D. This can be done only by engaging in the struggles of these workers and by agitation, by spreading information and bringing them to the realization of the necessity for building the I.L.D. through their own experience with it.

Every action of a workers’ organization must be considered by the I.L.D. as a means of utilization for building our organization and bringing about that relationship between the organizations that will achieve the unity of action so vital to the working class as a whole at the present time. Convince the workers of the necessity for the I.L.D. through concrete examples of action. Tell them of its role in the Denver FERA strike where as a result of I.L.D. participation in the picket lines and in the defense, 3 new branches were formed by the relief workers themselves.

Facing realities in 1935, must mean immediate action to build the I.L.D. into the powerful mass defense organization it must become in the fight against rapidly growing fascism in the United States.
I.L.D. AROUND THE WORLD

BULGARIA

A total of 80 death sentences has been passed on soldiers, sailors and other anti-fascists for anti-war activity in Bulgaria. Many of the 80 were sentenced in their absence. But the Greek government, in spite of its constitution which grants the right of political asylum, has already extradited 3 of these, of whom one has been executed. Five other Bulgarian political refugees are now in Greek prisons awaiting extradition. Encouraged by the example of fascist terror rampant in Spain, the Bulgarian fascists are intensifying all their terror actions. Twenty-two militant workers have been murdered outright without any trial at all. In order to expedite legal murders, the King has been relieved of the duty of ratifying all death sentences! The I.L.D. in response to a direct appeal from George Dimitroff has called for mass protest to the Bulgarian and Greek governments to prevent the execution of 43 more anti-fascist fighters. These protests should be addressed to Colonel Grigorieff, Sofia, Bulgaria and the Bulgarian and Greek embassies at Washington.

CHINA

The white terror raging in Kuomintang, China, threatens to claim eight more leaders of the Chinese masses. Yu Chi Chuan and seven other Chinese militants held with him are threatened with execution by the murderous Nanking police. Yu Chi Chuan and the seven other anti-imperialists—Tao Sung Hsu, Lin Tze Min, Lin Sung Wu, Lin Yu Ying, Chen Sui Yang, Wang Chin Sen and Chen Yu Lung—were arrested on June 26 for sponsoring and leading the movement for national armed self defense against the invasion of Japanese imperialism. They have been held since that time in a Nanking dungeon. Instead of fighting the Japanese and other imperialist bandits, Chang Kai Shek has entered into a united front with the imperialist oppressors of the Chinese people and is attempting to exterminate all who fight for the liberation of China.

In answer to the appeal of the Chinese I.L.D. for support to the victims of the Kuomintang terror, the International Red Aid, parent body of the American I.L.D., is organizing an International Delegation to investigate conditions in China and report back its findings. American workers should show their solidarity with their Chinese brothers in the Kuomintang dungeons and answer the murder drive of Chiang Kai Shek, by supporting the International Delegation.

VENEZUELA

Threatened by warring factions within his hitherto completely controlled and iron-fisted dictatorship bloody Gomez, celebrating the 26th anniversary of his murder rule, has released all the political prisoners from Venezuela jails and deported them out of the country. The Venezuelan I.L.D. which has fought for years against the brutal prison regime and for the release of the political prisoners, is not permitting its joy at the rescue of these comrades from living death, to halt its militant struggle for the right of Venezuelan militants to stay in the country of their birth and to fight in defense of the right to live.

CUBA

On November 27, a peaceful demonstration of five hundred workers, led by the Cuban I.L.D. in protest against the legal lynching of the nine Scottsboro boys, victims of the same imperialism that oppresses Cuba, was attacked with machine-gun fire by the Mendieta-Batista regime. One worker murdered, many injured and thirty arrested was the toll of this murderous assault. This was followed on December 11 with the declaration of martial law in three more provinces of Cuba, making a total of five out of the six Cuban provinces under martial law. The declaration of martial law was accompanied with an announcement that the Wall Street dominated government would again attempt to drive the militant peasants of Realengo 18 off their lands with armed force. Two previous attempts to evict the peasants were defeated by the aroused workers and peasants. On December 13, the Cuban government issued a decree suspending the right of habeas corpus.
THE LITTLE ASTURIANS

The heroism of the men and women of Spain, especially in Asturias, where they fought like lions on the barricades, is matched by the wonderful bravery of the children. An example from Madrid: On the Four Roads Square, in the workers' quarter, an 8-year-old boy was busy putting rocks on the tramway tracks to hold up vehicles driven by police strike breakers. Four Civil Guards armed with machine guns, pounced on the child threatening to kill him. The child continued his work.

Finally one of the guards shot at him, wounding him in the leg. Instead of taking him to the hospital, they took him to the police station for questioning.

"Who is your father?" Silence.

"What's your mother's name?" Continued silence.

"Where do you live?" The same determined silence. This son of the workers who had tried so hard to hold back the scabs would never betray or surrender his own.

There are hundreds of orphans in Asturias, children of miners whose mothers and fathers were killed in the cause of the commune. And no one knows exactly how many little ones were abandoned in their homes while their parents retreated to the mountains still fighting.

The church is taking advantage of this situation and is herding these children of revolutionists, brave young fighters themselves, into miserable old convents. This seizure of the little Asturians by the church has enraged workers and anti-fascists throughout Spain. Committees have been organized to put the children among families who have offered with enthusiasm, to take one or more of them under their care.

(Editors' Note—Huge sums of money are needed to aid the victims of Spanish fascism. We are sure that every reader of the LABOR DEFENDER will not only shudder at the thought of the continued suffering of thousands of brave little Asturians and their parents, but will do all in his power to help raise these vital funds and send them to Spain through the National Office of the I.L.D., Room 610, 80 East 11th Street, N. Y. C.)

A LETTER FROM AN AUSTRIAN BOY

His father was killed in Vienna last February.

I want to tell you of our life in the Soviet Union. At the frontier a lot of Red Army men met us and we sang the International. We went on till we came to Nogoreloye where Young Pioneers, Red Army men and other comrades welcomed us. There we got lovely things to eat. Our welcome here was simply marvelous. Then we were given sleeping cars and we came to Moscow, traveling one night and half a day.

In Moscow we were welcomed by thousands of Young Pioneers. We were taken in automobiles to a good hotel. Here we had a very good time. We stayed five days in Moscow. Twice a day we went for drives in the automobiles. That was fine. After five days we left for the Crimea. We travelled two days in sleeping cars. Then we had a seven hour motor ride, and finally we arrived at the sanatorium. Here we are having a good time. Our sanatorium has the most nice house. We have a lovely view over the sea. We live at the foot of the Ai Petri, the highest mountain in the Crimea. I have never seen such a lovely place as this is. The food is very good. Its much better than I have ever had before. We get a lot of fruit, especially grapes.

HELLO!

We are back to stay—if you kids will send in letters and poems and stories and pictures to fill this page.

P.S.—Be sure to make your parents and your uncles and aunts read THE LITTLE ASTURIANS. The last paragraph is meant especially for them.

THEY MUST BE SET FREE!

By Naomi S., age 10

Our Comrades who are in jail
They must be set free,
It's up to the workers to free them,
And the workers are you and me.
We will hold protest meetings all over the world
Although at us tear gas bombs are hurled.

Those policemen and detectives—
They think that we will stand
When our Comrades are in danger
And not give a helping hand.
But we, the workers, know
That there's something wrong with their brain
For we will stick to our Comrades
In sunshine and in rain!

McNamara Young Defender Troop, Los Angeles, Calif.

A CALL

By Carol R.

Workers, farmers, everywhere,
Here and there, anywhere,
Come and hear the freedom call,
Climb the fences, scale the wall,
Workers, farmers, tall and small,
Comrades, join the I.L.D.

REPORT FROM LOS ANGELES

In a few weeks we will have some real good articles and pictures to send you. The McNamara Troop of the Young Defenders is holding a Scottsboro Wheel Parade on or around December 15th and we expect it to be quite a big thing. We will send you pictures and a write-up as soon as it is over. In case you want some news about our troops, we are having a Paper Drive to raise money for the Christmas Prisoners Relief Campaign and we are having a big party to welcome Angelo Herndon.

Now look here, the rest of you Young Defenders, how about sending in some reports like this one. Don't let the West Coast get away with all the publicity.
YOUNG DEFENDERS CORNER

TO THE YOUNG
Spain

(Continued from page 10)

very temporary. Yes—I am convinced of this and I am firmly in favor of united action to organize protests and aid for the victims. I want also to thank the Committee to Aid the Victims of Spanish fascism for its efforts in winning my freedom.

The experience of this journalist confirm all the reports that have managed to come out of Spain. Spain has been converted into a huge prison filled with thousands of victims. United action of those who are opposed to fascism all over the world, must be organized to aid these victims. We are living in times when silence is impossible, when those who do not come out openly and join the mass protest against the fascist murderers are indirectly aiding them in their horrible work.

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United Front

(Continued from page 11)

I.R.A. in its Resolution on the United Front. This “must be formed as a result of mass work from below conducted directly in the factories, works, trade unions, in the mass organizations of the toilers, in workers neighborhoods.”

In this way we must work to win every organization, even though small, so long as it includes honest workers and middle-class people, and is not a little splinter group of conscious disrupters with no mass following. And we enter into the united front with all who are willing to take even the first step, regardless of political, religious or any other differences. But, always we must surely maintain our basic minimum program of united action for the unconditional and safe release of the Scottsboro boys.

But here we must point out some of the most serious weaknesses in this work. Slowness in building the united front in proportion to the needs of the moment. Failure to systematically follow up the work of the committees set up; delegates, organizations not drawn actively into the work. The I.L.D. branches are not yet everywhere the vehicle of united front activity.

Decisive steps must be taken at once to wipe out these defects. A grave responsibility now rests upon every I.L.D. member, every worker, and everyone else who wants to save the Scottsboro boys—to work quickly to build the united front wherever you are. “History will not forgive delay.”

All the victories we have won in this long great struggle are directly due not only to the correct policy of the best legal and mightiest mass defense, but also to the united front which alone makes it possible to mobilize the broadest masses for the struggle.

In this fateful moment, let us speed the development of the united front of militant action. For only thus can we raise a solid wall of invincible mass defense, defeat the fascist lynching oppressors and their treacherous tools, and force unconditional and safe release of the nine innocent Scottsboro boys.

IT HAPPENED IN 1934

CONNECTICUT: Six arrested in Bridgeport. “There is not enough clubbing,” stated police captain during trial. City clerk declared: “I had had a club in my hand I would have used it as it should have been used.”

ARIZONA: Nine reported killed at un-

employed demonstration. 50 others seriously injured by tear gas and clubs. 25 arrested, charged with “riot.”

CUBA: 1600 political prisoners, as result of mass hunger-strike and militant support from the outside, unconditionally freed.
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