



They Gave Their]Freedom-Give Them Your Support!

## MORE SUGGESTIONS TO MR. HEARST





HOW THE SOVIET UNION TREATS THE CHILDREN OF THE VICTIMS OF FASCISM.

The little refugees receive the best of everything.

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## LABOR DEFENDER

Official Organ of the International Labor Defense

Editors . Wm. L. Patterson, Sasha Small Associate Editor . . . Louis Colman Managing Editor . . Nicholas Wirth

MAY DAY, 1935

One of the proudest heritages of the American working class, is the knowledge that May Day, the international holiday of fighting labor, was born here in the United States out of the struggle for the right to live.

The International Labor Defense, which during the last ten years has been the staunchest defender of the workers Hundreds of political prisoners in the United States, who are serving long sentences for their activity in the labor movement will not be able to share in labor's holiday. Tom Mooney and J. B. McNamara, veterans of the American labor movement, have spent 18 and 24 May Days respectively in San Quentin. The Scottsboro boys, innocent victims parades, a living tribute to the work of the International Labor Defense which forced their freedom.

In every large city in the United States on May Day, 1935 members of the International Labor Defense, will focus the attention of their fellow workers and friends upon those behind the bars and the families—wives, mothers, not



Paris Commune Memorial at the grave of the Haymarket martyrs organized by the Chicago I.L.D. Similar pilgrimages were organized in other districts.

fighting for this right, wishes to call the attention of its members and friends to those who will not join in the celebrations and parades in which millions will mark the holiday. Thousands will celebrate May Day, 1935, behind cold stone walls and heavy steel bars. Perhaps some of them will hear the songs and cheers of the paraders. Most of them will not. Prison walls are high and thick.

of national oppression, will spend their fifth May Day in the shadow of the electric chair. In the countries where fascism rules, such heroes of labor as Thaelmann, Rakosi, Pena, Caballero, Terracini, and hundreds of "Unknown Soldiers" from the ranks will celebrate May Day in dark dungeons.

But it must be recorded that thousands of ex-political prisoners, free men once more, will march in the May Day children—they left outside behind them. Flowers will be sold in the streets to collect funds for the relief of political prisoners and their families. Not only for our own, here in America, but for the victims of terror and oppression in every country where they exist.

The LABOR DEFENDER calls on all its readers to send greetings for May Day to the political prisoners. Show your solidarity with those inside for us. Remember the political prisoners and their families on May Day.

THE LABOR DEFENDER—May, 1935. Vol. XI, No. 5. Published monthly by the International Labor Defense, 80 East 11th Street, Room 430, New York. Editors: Wm. L. Patterson, Sasha Small. Subscription \$1.00 a year. Entered as second class matter November 9, 1927, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879. National Officer: Wm. L. Patterson, National Secretary.

# WILL YOU LET **US SPEAK** O, Men of America

The Story of May Day's Traditions By GRACE LUMPKIN

The other evening I tuned in on the radio-a symphony. Suddenly the music stopped. A crooner voice announced that the concert had been coming from Detroit, a present from Mister Ford of Dearborn to the people of America. Along with the music Mister Ford had a message he wished to send by a spokesman to the people of America.

There was a pause after the introduction. Another voice began, a suave unctious preacher's voice. It said:

"CONCERNING THIS IDEA OF REVOLU-TION.

The unctious persuasive voice, aloof and slightly contemptuous, continued. It said there will never be a revolution in the United States because there is no revolutionary tradition here. The war of 1776 was not a Revolutionary War. Americans are not fighters in the revolutionary sense. They only fight to preserve and keep what they have. They have never, and will never fight to get what they have not.

The voice ended having given a picture of a nation of workers who will lie down and take whatever comes, a nation of soft, apathetic cowards. The only exceptions were people like Mister Ford who would fight to the death (of others) for what they possess. Without knowing it, or intending it, the voice through which Mister Ford spoke-in the intermission between symphonies--gave this picture of our people-a nation of cowards. His insolence and contempt (partly hidden, or perhaps even unintended) toward the working class was amazing.

No revolutionary tradition in America?

Mister Ford, we workers of America, we have our revolutionary tradition. We have our revolutionary heroes, Joe Hill, Wesley Everest, Frank Little, many others who could be named, and among them the heroes of Haymarket.

No revolutionary tradition in America

Why is it that the workers of America have a tradition of the eight-hour day? Because the men who died on the scaffold in Chicago, murdered by men

(Below) Lucy Parsons, wife of Albert Parsons, one of the Haymarket martyrs, who is still de-voting her life to preserving the glorious tradition they left us.

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like you, Mister Ford, fought for that eight-hour day.

"Thus it was that the eight-hour movement got under way. Many other cities agitated for it, but Chicago was the storm center of the movement owing to the zeal and courage of the men and women of this city who worked day and night for it. The result was that when May 1, 1886, arrived it found Chicago well organized and demanding the eight-hour day, striking by the thousands where the demand was refused. It was a veritable holiday for the workers."—LUCY PARSONS.

Because they were leaders in this fight five men were sentenced to death,-Lingg, Spies, Engel, Fischer and Parsons.

In his speech to the court and to Judge Gary (we would like to remind you, Mister Ford, that along with out revolutionary tradition, we have a tradition of infamous men, and Judge Gary is one of them) after he and the other workers had been sentenced to hang, Albert Parsons said:

"My ancestors had a hand in drawing up and maintaining the Declaration of

(Above) A young marcher in a May Day Parade.

Independence. My great great granduncle lost a hand at the Battle of Bunker Hill. I had a great great grand-uncle with Washington at Brandywine. I have been here long enough, I think, to have rights guaranteed, at least in the constitution of this country. I am also an Internationalist.

"My patriotism covers more than the boundary lines of a single state; the world is my country, all mankind my countrymen. That is what the emblem of the red flag signifies; it is the symbol of the free, of emancipated labor. The workers are without a country. In all lands they are disinherited, and America is no exception."

Mister Ford's spokesman, the suave, subtly sarcastic voice tells us there is no revolutionary tradition in America.

On the scaffold August Spies said, "There will come a time when our silence will be more powerful than the voices you are strangling today."

Albert Parsons, standing beside him on the scaffold, with the noose around his neck said, "Will I be allowed to speak, O, men of America.'

And the workers of America, remembering those heroes, who gave them the right to demand an eight-hour day-in the silence under the suave voice that

comes over the radio, and after the suave voice has been cut off will hear in the silence the voices of Spies and Engel, Fischer and Parsons who were murdered because they were men and fought not for what they already had, the ideal which Mister Ford's voice sets for us, but for something the workers of America did *not* have, the eight-hour day.

And these workers hearing the voices of their revolutionary heroes will answer Parsons and say, "Yes, you will speak and through us who remember you and our revolutionary tradition. We are men, not cowards. We men and women of America, we workers, we will speak and we will fight, and through us you will speak and fight. Your silence in death shall become our articulate voice, the voice of millions."

No revolutionary tradition in America, Mister Ford?

Why do we have a song like "The Workers' Flag"?

"Then raise our scarlet banner high, Beneath its folds we'll live and die, Though cowards shrink and traitors sneer,

We'll keep the red flag flying here."

Why do we have a song like this? Because Joe Hill, a fighter for what the workers do *not* have, made that song.

We say to you, we men and women of America, Mister Ford, "We remember Frank Little who fought with the miners in the great strike of 1917 which



(Above) Engraving of the Haymarket trial in Chicago. (Below) The execution of the Haymarket martyrs on November 11, 1886.



closed the Anaconda Smelter, the largest in the world.

"Frank Little, crippled and able to walk only with a crutch, was slugged by thugs of the Anaconda Copper Company as he lay asleep in his bed in a cheap lodging house on North Wyoming Street, tied to the back of an automobile and dragged to a trestle where his body was found hangine.

ing. "The metal miners of the west remember Frank Little and not one among them thinks that the struggle in which Little gave his life was ended with his death." --WILLIAM F. DUNNE.

We say to you, Mister Ford, "We remember Wesley Everest."

"Wesley Everest and his comrades facing odds of 500 to 1 in Centralia on Armistice Day, November 11, 1919, put a sudden and decisive stop to the terrorist campaign waged by the American Legion against workers and workers' meetings. When at a pre-arranged whistle signal, armed paraders turned from the line of march and broke in the door of the I. W. W. hall, Wesley Everest and his fellow-fighters fired on the marauders and killed three of them. Wesley Everest died at the bands of a white-collared patriotic mob, under torture as devilish as that inflicted upon the Negro victims of the southern white ruling class."—DUNNE.

The workers will say, "We remember those who are living, Mooney and McNamara, Herndon, and a thousand others who are now in jails for fighting for what the workers have *not*, these men and women who have fought courageously for the disinherited, for those who have nothing. And we not only remember, but we fight for their freedom."

But while we are fighting for the freedom of these workers who are in prison we must remember that part of the fight is in maintaining their families, their wives and children, left without

support. We must remember that those who are in jail are human beings with needs. In the dead monotony of prison they need the feeling of solidarity with the fellow-workers, with sympathizers, with comrades on the outside. In order to fill these needs the Prisoners Relief was begun and is being continued, building up an organization which is systematically answering by money, by regular correspondence, the physical and spiritual needs of these prisoners whom men like Mister Ford have put into the jails of this country.

No revolutionary tradition, Mister Ford?

Let us answer the soft, suave, slightly contemptuous voice that comes from Detroit. Let us show, by sending all the money we can put our hands on to the Prisoners Relief Fund, that we do not forget, that we have our

tradition. That we remember the Haymarket heroes, we remember Joe Hill and Everest, and Frank Little, Sacco and Vanzetti. And in remembering them we remember those who are now in prison. Let us remember, let us preserve our tradition, by preserving our living prisoners, their families, by sharing with them.

Workers and those sympathetic with workers:

Instead of fighting for the men of property, for their property, let us fight for what workers of America have *not*, for freedom and a good life. Let us share what we have with prisoners who are carrying on the tradition of Frank Little, Joe Hill, Wesley Everest, and those heroes of Chicago who died because they fought for the eight-hour day, and established the workers' day of protest, May the first.

Let those dead speak through us to the living.

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# COURT MARTIAL IN CUBA

Arbitrariness and abuse of power are the standards for law in Cuba where the people have lost all hope of finding legal protection for their rights. The Mendieta government has revealed its true character in order to at-

tack the growing protests of the people. The arm which sustains the government is the military dictatorship. At its head is a man who retains his position only through the protection of the American Embassy which he serves with blind obedience. The present government is run by Caffery and Batista. President Mendieta is merely a figurehead who legalizes the existing state of barbarism and assists in the violation of the most elemental democratic rights of the people.

Truly monstrous is the system of Decree Laws by which the government maintains itself. All protest, all discontent, all human right of defense meet in the Decree Laws a hard formula of punishment. Judges, magistrates and unscrupulous lawyers serve as cogs in the hateful fascist apparatus of repression.

To this challenge, the proletariat has answered with tremendous struggles. The government is confronted with the disconcerting reality of the broad laboring masses, together with the students, public employees, professionals and

teachers, openly enrolled in the struggle against the state of force. The government cannot solve the crisis and so it uses the most brutal means to lessen the number of those who protest. The Decree Laws which prohibit strikes and the organization of public employees have been answered with great strike movements and trade union organization.

The sentences imposed, first by the tribunals for the "Defense of the Republic" and later by the Emergency Courts, have not been sufficient to stop the movement.

#### By OFELIA DOMIGOEZ NAVARRO

Head of the legal staff and member of the National Executive Committee of the Cuban I.L.D. At present a political refugee from Cuba. Further, their violent methods caused Defensa Obrera Internacional (Cuban I. L. D.), to initiate strong protests through its lawyers, not only against the defenseless position of the accused, but also against the barbarous jail sys-

tem. In the jails of the Republic, inquisitorial methods of punishment are employed. The legal buro of DOI called a strike in the Lawyers College, of Havana, which lasted 2 days, not a single lawyer going before the tribunals, not even the defense attorneys employed by the government! Only terror and treachery of the leaders of the College broke the strike.

To give a faint idea of how the Extraordinary Tribunals function, I shall tell of the cases of the sugar workers Jose Alvarez Rodriguez and the painter's apprentice Ignacio Hervaz. These two workers were accused of killing the strike breaker Agripino Quintero during the transport strike last summer. They were tried by four different tribunals. First they were judged by the Emergency Correctional Court which sentenced them to 100 days for using arms. Then another court condemned them to six months in prison and the Emergency Criminal Court of Havana to 14 years in the penitentiary.

Another case which aroused indignation throughout the country and raised a strong wave of protest, not only in Cuba, but also in other countries, was the arbitrary sentence of the editors of the anti-imperialist review "Masas," who were accused of slander and inciting to rebellion in one of their editorials. They were denied the right to challenge Magistrate Smith, and were condemned to six months in prison.

Proof that the discontent and rebellion in Cuba is not limited to an isolated group, was the last general strike, which was broken by the most savage and bloody methods. Batista took the last vestige of power from the civil government. In the streets, in the public parks, in the sugar mills, in the cane fields, men and women were attacked with clubs, guns and machetes. They were given doses of castor oil and tortured with hot tar. The jails of the Republic are full of thousands of workers and oppositionists. In five days alone more than a thousand men were jailed in Havana and eighty women were sent to the jail of Guanabacoa.

This is in brief the situation of the Cuban people under the bloody military dictatorship. Certainly this violence of a system historically on its deathbed has inspired in the people a spirit of militant struggle. The Mendieta-Batista-Caffery government by attempting to suppress all opposition through its unbridled terror has been placed in the seat of the accused by international opinion. History has already passed its verdict condemning it.



A Havana court-martial in action. Before such a court the military authorities dragged two fearsome "terrorists", charged with setting fire to a cane-field, demanding that they face a firing squad. They were two little boys, five and nine years old respectively.

# SCOTTSBORO VICTORY **ROCKS THE** SOUTH

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

(Below) Mother Wright and J. Louis Engdahl embarking for the European Scottsboro tour.



The Scottsboro ruling of the United States Supreme Court is rocking the South with its revolutionary implications. Once more the Alabama lynchers see the nine boys snatched from their grasp by a decision wrested from the highest court. But this time more is involved than a reversal of the death sentences against the Scottsboro boys. For the first time in its history, the Supreme Court has been forced, by the excellent legal arguments of Osmond K. Fraenkel and Walter H. Pollak and by the furious pressure of the masses, to give a clear-cut, decision on the right of the Negro people to serve on juries.

For the white ruling class, the denial to the Negroes of their right to vote and of their right to sit on juries has become a symbol of its political rule over an oppressed nationality. For the Negroes, these two important rights have become the symbol of their status as an oppressed group.

The Scottsboro decision sent the officials of the law below the Mason-Dixon line scurrying about in search of legal technicalities and other tricks whereby they could nullify the ef-fect of the Supreme Court ruling. New legislation is being introduced whose plain, and indeed, admitted intent is to keep Negroes off juries. The Southern attorney-generals list this new legislation, preemptory challenges, and actual terror among the methods whereby Negroes may be deprived of their jury rights, in the future as in the past. Meanwhile, the Alabama authorities proceed in a most determined and bloodthirsty manner with plans to re-indict the Scottsboro boys.

What does this mean? Does it mean that the Scottsboro decision was not a victory? On the contrary, we have won a great victory. But, like the fourteenth and fifteenth amend-

States Supreme C nce Norris, is anoth e and mass protes anized and led by arty during the ild have been SE OF The revers-

> (Left to Right) Haywood Patterson and Clarence Norris.

ments, the Scottsboro decision will remain on paper unless mass struggles are organized to put it into effect.

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The road to Scottsboro freedom, to civil rights for the Negroes, is still a long and uphill road. To conduct the struggles to come, organization is needed. And in the work of organization, we have not begun to achieve the progress that our many splendid victories have made possible.

In the four-year struggle on Scottsboro, the I.L.D. has withstood the attacks of our enemies the lynchers, and the more underhanded attacks of Negro and white misleaders who object to making a militant campaign on the Scottsboro case and waging around these boys a fight for the rights of the Negro people-the only way in which the boys' freedom can be won. Despite all these attacks the Negro people and the white workers have joined the I.L.D. by the thousands. Yet

our membership remains stationary. Why is this? What is there lacking? Certainly our I.L.D. members and organizers are devoted to the defense struggle; certainly they are doing good work. Yet there is in the I.L.D. districts and branches a lack of understanding as to how to hold new members. Little attention is given to educating and developing the members we draw in. There is a lack of attention to the basic problems of holding regular meetings and carrying them on in an interesting and well-organized way; keeping the dues payments up to date; visiting members who do not come to the meetings; of building the LABOR DEFENDER. There is far too little attention given to the very basic task of prisoners' relief.

These problems must be given greater attention by the I.L.D. districts and branches, and ways must be found to solve them. The question of holding the new members, of making them an integral part of the organization, of involving them directly in the work-these must be considered in every branch. To conduct the struggle ahead of us, to free the Scottsboro boys, Angelo Herndon, the Sacramento defend-ants, to fight back the terror in New Mexico, to give adequate aid to the political prisoners and their families; we need a large and a well-functioning I.L.D.

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## On the CHAIN GANG Model 1935 By LOUIS COLMAN

"Our Lord Saviour had a picnic compared with those poor niggers."

That was the testimony before a legislative committee in North Carolina, on conditions in chain-gang camps there, by a local white mountaineer, "from what he heard coming out of that little dark cell-house."



(Above) An investigator gets a sample of chain-gang torture. The prisoner's legs are locked into stocks. His hands are tied behind him. He must stand in this position for hours because the chain around his neck is fastened to the foor.

(Right) Woodrow Wilson Shropshire whose torture on a North Carolina chain gang is described in this article. His feet were amputated after days of neglect in the hospital. ANGELO HERNDON MUST BE SAVED FRATE. Whether in North or South Carolina, in Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, or Georgia, a chain-gang is a chain-gang. Perhaps the only distinction that can be drawn is that Georgia chain-gangs are worse, if anything, than those in North Carolina or the other chain-gang states.

Recent revelations of conditions in the North Carolina chain-gangs, and the way they were uncovered, in the light of this distinction, give us a picture of the tortures which await Angelo Herndon, heroic young Negro organizer of white and black unemployed, if the United States Supreme Court is not forced to reverse the conviction and sentence to 18 to 20 years, against him.

Two Negro prisoners were taken to a hospital, suffering so Dr. C. S. Mc-Laughlin, the "physician in charge" of the camps in Mecklenburg County, said, from "erysipelas." The prisoners were Woodrow Wilson Shropshire, and Robert Barnes.

After a few days in the hospital, their feet began to smell so that the people passing their beds complained.

A newspaper reporter investigated. He found that the feet of the prisoners were rotting and falling off from



the torture they had received. "Dr." Mc-Laughlin had never even taken their socks off to examine their feet.

These facts were published in the paper, and about the same time, the feet of the two prisoners were amputated. This was too much for the authorities. They were being exposed. So they decided to do some exposing themselves. They found plenty—so much that Dr. McLaughlin and four of the gang-wardens and guards had to be indicted by their own buddies on the grand-jury, for trial before their own buddies the local judges.

Barnes and Shropshire, it was found, were put into a solitary confinement cell. It was zero weather. There was no heat. They were chained to a steelbarred door, one on each side, their hands high above their heads, so they had to stand up all the time. Each was given half a biscuit, with the soft bread whittled out of the middle, twice a day, and "just enough water to make them thirsty."

Their feet swelled up after a few days, so their shoes burst.

Finally they were sent to a hospital, after five days of this torture, and would have died there (their death certificates no doubt endorsed by McLaughlin to say they died of "pneumonia," as it was shown he had done for at least one other convict who had been beaten to death), of the gangrene that ate up their feet, if the smell had not been so unbearable.

This was one camp, and one incident. The investigating committee restricted the whole investigation very closely. Their purpose was to cover themselves by "exposing" those who carried out their orders. But one more among the other incidents which became public knowledge through the investigation, is enlightening. That is the story of Herman Sloan:

Herman Sloan is white. He is a very small, frail man. He is sick. He was put to work on the gang. The guards picked out the heaviest pick in the camp equipment and told him to use it. He couldn't lift it. He complained of illness.

The guards forced a cupful of castoroil down his throat and chained him to the bars of the punishment cell for several days, as they had done Shropshire and Barnes.

And what did the legislators recommend? The first recommendation was restoring the whipping-post to take the place of the sweat-box!

This, fellow-workers, is the chaingang, model 1935.

We cannot let Angelo Herndon go to the chain-gang.

Demand that the U. S. Supreme Court free him!



Above: J. P. Hoggard Right: Howard Overman, two of the defendants.



W ORD-OF-MOUTH tradition, handed down from one generation to the next, in Burlington, North Carolina, gives to the story of the rise to power of the great Holt family a most unsavory character. I do not repeat this story as an ordinary bit of gossip. In this textile town of 9,700 people, the Holts are the ruling power. They are, moreover, the moving force in the frame-up that is trying to send six mill-workers, three of them members of the United Textile Workers Union, to the penitentiary, to work at hard labor for terms ranging from two to ten years.

As long ago as 1750, the first Holt came to Alamance County. He arrived, not a penniless young man, but a person of sufficient wealth to buy up the best of the land. "Gold dollars laid edgewise over my land," he is reputed to have said, "wouldn't make up its price."

Through slave labor, this wealth increased by leaps and bounds. The immediate descendants of Michael Holt one of whom was a governor of the state—built the first cotton mills in North Carolina, using the water-power which other members of the family had already cornered. While the Holts lived in what is described in the newspapers of those days as "elegant c o u n t r y homes," they built for their workers among whom were some of the first women mill-workers in the United States—one-room log cabins.

So much is in the history books. But there is additional information concerning the Holt fortunes, which is not to be found in the books, but which everyone in the county knows and which no-one has denied. The story is this:

When, at the close of the Civil War, Sherman's army marched to the sea, the Southern growers and the Confederate army were anxious to keep their cotton from falling into Union hands. Enormous quantities of cotton were

## WHO IS BEHIND The Burlington Dynamite Plot

By ELIZABETH LAWSON

therefore stored in Alamance County. It proved to be safe from Sherman it was not safe from the local textile barons, the Holts. The seizure of hundreds of bales of Confederate cotton, without payment, put the Holts on the road to enormous riches.

Today the descendants of the first Holts still keep their grip on the resources of Burlington and Alamance County. They are the chief owners of the most important rayonweaving mills in the town. By judicious investments in the local paper; by regular payments, in the form of quarterly and yearly "contributions"



#### John Anderson

to the local preachers; and by the political manipulations familiar to every small-town resident, the local mill-owners control the press, the church, and the officials. The Holts exploit their mill-workers today almost as ruthlessly as their ancestors exploited their slaves whom they owned body and soul. As in the early days of Alamance County they built log cabins for their workers and great mansions for themselves, so, today, they have set off an entire square of beautiful homes for their own use, while their mill-workers live in company cabins, on unpaved streets to which the local residents have given such vividly descriptive names as "Bedbug Row."

The first attempt of the workers of Burlington to organize into a union, in 1900, was met by the owners with a notice of eviction from the mill houses. Some of the older inhabitants of the town have kept these notices to feed their growing bitterness. "On and after the 15th day of October, 1900," the notice stated, "this mill will not employ any operative who belongs to a Labor Union, but will be run by Non-Union labor only. All operatives who object to the above and will not withdraw from Labor Unions will please consider this as Notice and vacate any house and premises belonging to us."

The tide of organization and struggle which swept the Burlington workers into the United Textile Workers Union and the great textile strike of September, 1934, could not be stemmed by a mere notice of eviction. Stronger methods were needed—and now the Holts resorted to the honored custom of the frameup. Looking back over events, we can reconstruct, step by step, the plot of the mill-owners.

m of While refusing to recognize the ons" United Textile Workers Union, the Burlington bosses sent stool-pigeons into its ranks. It was the purpose of these stoolpigeons to enveigle the union members—or, better yet if they could manage it—the union officials, into committing some act of terror that would allow the mill-owners to unleash the full force of law and terror against the organization. In and out of the union hall, the stoolpigeons preached dynamiting, shooting, burning and killing. At odd moments, they would corner the union officials, and, assuring them that they had only the best of intentions, would

inform them where dynamite was to be obtained.

In this plot, the stool pigeons were completely unsuccessful.

The mill-owners, however, were not to be stopped so easily. At three o'clock on the morning of September 14-at the height of the strike-a few sticks of dynamite exploded in the yard of the E. M. Holt Plaid Mill. This was the signal that set the wheels of the frameup machinery turning. Six mill-workers, union men or known to be sympathetic to the union, were placed in jail. These men were John Anderson, President of the Piedmont Textile Council; Tom Canipe; J. F. Haraway; J. P. Hoggard; Florence Blaylock; Howard Overman. With these men were arrested — no doubt by careful pre-arrangement-three of the most notorious characters in town, who had been acting as union spies.

Once in jail, the spies promptly "confessed" to dynamiting the Plaid Mill. It is noteworthy that between the arrests and the trial, all three were given excellent jobs with the very companies whose mills they said they had planned to dynamite!

Not trusting local talent, the millowners had brought in from Pennsyl-(Continued on Page 23)



Above: J. P. Hoggard Right: Howard Overman, two of the defendants.



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# LABOR'S ENEMY-HUEY LONG

The International Labor Defense is comparatively young in Louisiana, but it has had sufficient contact with the Long machine to know what a vicious foe they have to contend with.

The I. L. D. members recall the stormy strike of the street-car men several years ago, when at least one striker was killed and scores were slugged by the police and hired thugs of the Public Service of New Orleans. A delegation of labor men went to Long, who was then governor, with the request that he take over the Public Service. He not only declined to act, but kept perfect silence over the murder, sluggings and arrests of the street-car strikers.

This was characteristic of this noisy "enemy of the corporations." For Long would be reluctant indeed to embarrass the Electric Bond and Share Company, a subsidiary of J. P. Morgan Company, by seeking to take over the Public Service.

The numerous strikes of the longshoremen in New Orleans, one of the most important ports in the United States, have also shown on what side Huey P. Long stands.

But no labor episode in Louisiana so graphically illustrates the cynical and vicious attitude of the Huey Long dictatorship as the now-famous "trappers' war" in St. Bernard and Placquemine parishes (counties). The struggle of

Huey Long in a pensive mood.



these fur trappers is one of the most dramatic incidents in contemporary American labor history.

When folks see an expensive fur piece on the shoulders of a blithe debutante they think that it emerged rather mysteriously from the show windows of one of the ritzy Fifth Avenue shops. But actually it was probably the result of the labor of trappers in the swamps and bayous of Louisiana.

Louisiana is an important fur state with more than 100,000 people dependent upon the industry

#### By SENDER GARLIN

for a living. Up to 1924, the fur trappers set their traps for muskrats and other fur-bearing animals and were compelled to pay only a tax of \$2 to the state.

Bright minds began to work, however, and shortly thereafter a slick lawyer by the name of Leander Perez, now the district attorney of St. Bernard and Placquemine parishes cooked up the bright idea that the trappers should be compelled to pay tribute. Perez obtained a lease on land in and around Delacroix Island from the state. Other leases rapidly followed, and the trappers were confronted with the demand that they turn over one-half of their earnings for the right to earn a livelihood.

The trappers, of course, resisted this tyranny and refused to abide by the terms set by the owners. As a result the latter imported trappers from Western Louisiana, but failed to tell them of the labor difficulties. When the imported trappers arrived with their families and approached the canals on their way to the marshes, the local trappers organized a picket line, pleading with them to return.

The majority turned their boats around and left. Soon after, however, the owners brought in a small army of thugs from New Orleans, equipped them with machine guns and sawed-off rifles, who proceeded to the canal. The

gunmen, as they approached in their boat, "The Dolores," opened fire. The trappers retreated to their shacks and seized their rifles.

Shots were rapidly exchanged, and one deputy was killed.

Local authorities, subservient to Huey P. Long, at once arrested three of the members of the militant Trappers' and Fishermen's Union, including its president, Albert Gonzales. So great was the indignation of the trappers as well as the workers of New Orleans and other cities, that the authorities were compelled to free the men.

More recently, the fur companies obtained a federal injunction to prevent the trappers from "trespassing," that is, from trapping on state land. Workers were taken from bed in the middle of the night and jailed by District Attorney Perez, who is one of the principal stockholders of the Violet Trapping Company, and a close associate of Huey P. Long.

The Long machine tried to alibi itself out of the situation by declaring that they had nothing to do with the federal injunction, but it is significant that one of the last acts of the recent special session of the subservient Louisiana Legislature was to pass House Bill No. 78 which made it a misdemeanor for trappers to operate on leased land, that is to seek a livelihood on the land that they have used for decades.

I met District Attorney Perez in the office of Governor O. K. Allen in the Louisiana state capitol in Louisiana, and he made no attempt to hide the exploitation of the trappers, "That damn union is to blame for everything," he said.

Long is a bitter enemy of labor and of the Negro people. He has helped, directly and indirectly, to jail and persecute workers struggling for the right to live. He is the personification of the menace of fascism and has to be fought, and fought hard!

United front demonstration in New Orleans held despite Long terror.



## Still HOLDS THAELMANN!

That hand must be stayed!

On April 16, Ernst Thaelmann was 49 years old. From distant lands and neighboring countries hundreds and thousands of greetings poured in upon the dungeon where he is buried alive.

Hitler and the Nazi torture fiends who have kept him there for over two years, without a trial, without an accusation, thought that they could crush the memory of Thaelmann from the hearts of men as they have crushed thousands of bodies in their concentration camps and torture chambers.

But every heart that beats for freedom, remembers Ernst Thaelmann and pledges to continue the world wide battle for his freedom. This pledge, the LABOR DEFENDER wishes to renew upon his birthday.

The fascist rulers of Germany, having failed by terror, torture and forced labor to solve the economic crisis which is crushing the German people, are speedily preparing to cover up their failure by plunging the world into another war for plunder. The world which had to be made safe for democracy in 1914 must now be saved from Bolshevism, cry the fascists to the accompaniment of martial music, trial air raids, intensified manu-

facture of munitions and diplomatic bargaining with the other capitalist powers. On to Paris was the cry in 1914. On to Moscow is the cry of the German war lords today.

But even during these feverish war preparations, the Nazis do not for a moment lift the mailed fist of terroi beneath which they hold the German people enslaved. Brutal executions go on, torture in the concentration camps continues and Ernst Thaelmann the leader and the symbol of all anti-fascist fighters remains in jail!

The fight to free Thaelmann, is the fight against fascism. The fight to free Thaelmann is the fight against imperialist war. Swell the ranks of battle. Raise the cry until Hitler is forced to heed it!

FREE THAELMANN



The Nazis call to arms.

(Below) Ernst Thaelmann

The Monster



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FREE THAELMANN



The Nazis call to arms.

# THEY GAVE THEIR Freedom

The Prisoners' Relief Department of the International Labor Defense wishes, on labor's international holiday, May Day, to extend its warmest fraternal greetings and a hearty message of solidarity to all those working class fighters behind the bars in every dungeon of ruling class terror. We know that your only crime is loyalty to the class in whose ranks you fought for the right to live.

On this May Dav, 1935, the International Labor Defense renews its pledge a pledge made ten years ago when the organization first came into existence to use all of its resources and energies in the continued fight for the liberation of all those imprisoned for their working class activity and beliefs.

This pledge is not limited to the fight for your freedom. This pledge is extended to one of your most serious and urgent prisoned—and that is the gnawing worry about what is happening to those who are dearest to you while you are behind prison walls. We promise to support your family and care for your loved ones until you are free.

To those heroes of labor struggling valiantly day in and day out against exploitation and misery we say, fight on fellow-workers. We stand ready to champion your right to fight, and to do all in our power to defend you, to keep you from the cruel clutches of capitalist justice. Our nation-wide organization, when it came into being in 1925, proclaimed "that the I.L.D. is ever ready and ever willing to champion the defense of all workers attacked for their activity in the labor movement or for expression of political opinions," and during the ten years of our existence we have, to the best of our ability, made good this proclamation. We wish also, on this May Day, 1935, to extend our fraternal greetings to those hundreds of thousands of loyal friends and supporters, whose activity in behalf of all class war victims has made it possible for us to shoulder the enormous responsibility which conditions have forced upon us. Our responsibility grows daily. Developing fascism in the United States and the world over, is Developing taking an ever greater toll of victims. The number of class war prisoners mounts daily. Hundreds are thrown into jail because of their activities in the battle for bread and freedom. Vicious legislation against native and foreign born militants, unmasked



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attempts to deprive the American people of democratic rights and traditions they have won through years of bitter struggle, arbitrary and illegal sentences against those who fall into the hands of the ruling class courts—will bring the total of political prisoners higher and higher.

The Prisoners' Relief Department is finding it more and more difficult to meet the demands of the hour—to provide small comforts to the increasing number of political prisoners and some measure of security to the destitute families they leave behind them. Letters from prison and from prisoners' families telling us how much it means to them to be able to look forward to some money every month to make life a little more bearable, show us that we must intensify our efforts and our work. We cannot fail our fellow workers behind the bars. While we battle for their freedom, while we fight to keep workers out of jail, we must do everything in our power to build our prisoners' relief work. Voices from prison, echoed by their wives and children call to you.

Rose Baron, Secretary, Prisoners' Relief Dept.

**Give Them** 

**Your Support** 

## SAN FRANCISCO I. L. D. SHOWS THE WAY

By CHARLES GORDON. San Francisco District Secretary, I.L.D.

The united front of defense for the Sacramento victims and for repeal of the California Criminal Syndicalism Law is growing in influence and spreading even more widely since conviction of 8 of the defendants. It is building around the appeal, taken by the I.L.D. against the sentences of 1 to 14 years.

When vigilante raids and police intimidation and arrests followed the San Francisco General Strike last year, District 13 of the I.L.D. laid the foundations for a broad united front campaign in defense of the 18 Sacramento victims of the Criminal Syndicalism law. Leo Gallagher, world famous labor attorney, was retained for legal defense. Protest cards were printed bearing the picture of the 18 defendants and addressed to Neil McAllister, red-baiting prosecutor and given nation-wide distribution.

December 21, 1934, when the trials had been in progress approximately one month, a united front mass meeting "Against the Criminal Syndicalism Law" and "For the Defense of the Sacramento Prisoners" was held in San Francisco, under the joint sponsorship of the Conference for Labor's Civil Rights, the E. P. I. C. League of San Francisco, the Democratic Open Forum, the A. F. of L. Trade Union Committee for Unemployment Insurance, and the International Labor Defense. Through the initiative of the I.L.D. the joint arrangements committee for this meeting introduced and secured the unanimous adoption of a resolution stating that "only the united action of all progressive and liberal organizations can secure the repeal of the vicious criminal syn-dicalism law," and calling upon the organizations sponsoring the meeting to initiate a united front conference for action, against the law, and for the defense of the 18 prisoners in Sacramento. The arrangements committee constituted itself the provisional "Anti C. S. Committee."

The committee went to work on a state wide conference against the C. S. law set for Feb. 10th. Among its members were several union delegates, including those from the International Longshoremen's Association, militant leaders of the great west coast maritime strike.

The Sacramento defendants, Norman



Part of Hearst's campaign against the workers of California. The two gentlemen are cops dressed in fake uniforms supposedly seized from the Young Communist League. Part of the evidence against the Sacramento defendants.

Mini included, issued a call to the The I.L.D. February Conference. printed 50,000 copies and secured wide distribution. The call was entitled "An S. O. S. for United Action."

Committees were formed by I.L.D. branches throughout the state to visit unions, workers and Epic clubs, the Socialist and Democratic Parties, etc. On February 10th, 110 delegates from 90 organizations, including eighteen A. F. of L. unions, met at Carpenters Hall, San Francisco, and in enthusiastic afternoon and evening sessions mapped out a campaign.

- 1. Actively to aid the defense of the vic-tims of the criminal syndicalism law in Sacramento.
- To demand the repeal of the criminal syndicalism law, as proposed in As-sembly bill No. 419.
- 3. To oppose the passage of new anti-labor and oppressive legislation already introduced into the current session of the California State Legislature.

In the furtherance of this comprehensive program, plans were laid to "canvass all labor organizations" to obtain their support in the campaign, "to organize and carry through mass meetings, radio broadcasts, and mass demonstrations, to send delegations to State and Municipal authorities in Sacramento in protest against the trial, and to legislative bodies and their appropriate committees to demand the repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act," and to organize local conferences throughout the state. In order to carry out these tasks, a broad General Executive Committee of 33 was elected and authorized to collect funds in the name of the Conference and to call future conferences.

(Left)

Leo Gallagher and Pat Chambers

(Right), one of the 8 convicted, in

Following out the decisions of the Conference, the I.L.D. threw all its forces into the mass campaign.

Delegations were sent to attend the trial and to call on city officials. A series of broadcasts over a San Francisco station was contracted for, and in these broadcasts the I.L.D. played an effective part. As a further contribution for the campaign, the I.L.D. ordered 10,000 anti-C. S. buttons from the National Office and inside of two weeks had disposed of the lot.

At this time, after persistent pressure had been brought to bear by rank and file Democrats and Epic workers en-listed in the Anti-C. S. movement, the San Francisco Council of the Democratic Party and two chartered Demo-cratic clubs entered the United Front. Building on this new and broader basis, a great mass rally was staged in Dreamland Rink, attended by 6,000 workers, many for the first time becoming acquainted with a movement of this kind. Speakers from organized labor, the church, the Democratic and Communist parties, and Republican and Democratic assemblymen addressed the

(Continued on Page 23)

# ISCO VS

N, y, I.L.D. (Left) Leo Gallagher and Pat Chambers (Right), one of the 8 convicted, in the court at Sacramento.

Part of Hearst's campaign against the workers of California. The two gentlemen are cops dressed in fake uniforms supposedly seized from the Young Communist League. Part of the evidence against the Sacramento defendants.

# "We Don't Want to Hear About the By WALLACE H. SPRADLING STATUE OF LIBERTY!"

Samuel Dickstein, Chairman of the House Committee on Immigration, and of the famous Dickstein-MacCormack Committee on un-American Activity, poses as a defender of the American traditions against propaganda from "foreign sources".

When at the public hearing on the Dies Bill—H.R. 7120 he was asked: "Do you know what the slogan was on the Statue of Liberty?" He jumped up in his chair and said: "We don't want to hear about the Statue of Liberty." He has been receiving postcards circulated by the International Labor Defense and the Committee for Protection of Foreign Born which picture him along with other politicians pulling down the Statue of Liberty.

Dwight Morgan, secretary of the Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, insisted on reminding him and the other members of the Committee what that slogan was: "Send us your huddled masses yearning to be free."

He had no sooner uttered these words than he was grabbed by committee members and handed over to a member of the "Red Squad" who shoved him down the aisle and threw him into a chair at the back of the room. How these Congressmen resent being reminded of American traditions!

Morgan was forcibly ejected from the hearing. Carol King, attorney, speaking for the International Labor Defense, was sharply questioned about personal matters which had nothing to do with the hearing. When I was finally allowed to give my testimony without interruption it was stricken from the record. These are the main facts brought out in the testimony which these "gentlemen" tried by every means at their dispossal to suppress: 1. American Traditions, as embodied

1. American Traditions, as embodied in the writings of Jefferson and Lincoln, are being destroyed by the deportation terror, which the Dies Bill and other measures seek to extend. The only tradition which could be quoted on their side, is that fabricated by William Randolph Hearst, the mouthpiece for the fascist pack in the United States.

2. The deportation laws have long been used to break strikes and terrorize both native and foreign-born workers. Arrests without warrants, and illegal detentions—already a common practice in the immigration department, would be increased and legalized by the passage of such measures as the Dies Bill. 3. Testimony showing the direct tieup between the personnel in the deportation drive and Nazi cells in America was stricken from the record by Dickstein. It was shown that Eric Becker is being ordered deported to Germany through the testimony of a police stool-pigeon with Nazi sympathies. John Adair, the arresting officer in the case, praised the program of the Friends of New Germany, and said he had attended several of their banquets.

The committee after boasting of its liberalism in listening to opponents of the Dies Bill, used every means to suppress this vital testimony. That which

was the most damaging to them was stricken from the record on a technicality.

The Dies Bill is only one of many bills which have been introduced in the present drive upon the foreign born. Scores of bills have been introduced by IDies, Dickstein, Fish, Kerr, etc., all with three main objectives:

1. Present deportation laws do not mention the term Communist. Dies, Dickstein, Kerr and others seek to define the term "Communist" to include all foreign-born workers who go on strike or believe in some change in the present economic system and make them subject to deportation. Thus they attempt to force the six million non-citizens into the position of scabs and strike-breakers by threat of deportation.

2. Many bills seek to deny jobs to foreign-born workers, and provide for wholesale deportation for foreign-born on relief.

3. The Kerr bill worked out by Commissioner of Immigration D. W. Mac-Cormack and introduced by Congressman Kerr from North Carolina contains a meaningless paragraph promising to guard against the separation from their families of "aliens" of the non-criminal classes who have been in the United States ten years or longer. This part of the bill is but a cover for the vicious srtike-breaking provisions which empower any employee of the immigration department to "detain" without warrant anyone suspected of being illegally (Continued on Page 23)



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Nazi symesting officer gram of the and said he eir banquets. asting of its opponents of neans to sup-That which (Continued on Page 23)

(Right) Congressman Dickstein (Below) Frances Perkins



# WHAT TO DO WHEN UNDER ARREST

(Continued from the April issue.)

#### MOVE FOR DISMISSAL OF CASE BEFORE PUTTING IN DEFENSE

After the prosecution has finished its case ask the court to dismiss the charge upon the ground that the State has not made out a case against you. You should make this motion before you put in your defense. In criminal cases, remember that you are presumed to be innocent until you are actually found guilty, and it is up to the prosecution to prove your guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, before you are required to put in any defense. If the judge denies the motion to dismiss the case after the prosecution has completed its case, take your exception. Then proceed to put in your defense.

#### YOUR DEFENSE

You have the right, just like the prosecutor, to call your witnesses and to take the stand yourself, and to ask your witnesses what they saw and what they heard and what they know about the situation. Bring out those facts which will prove your innocence, those which will expose the real reason for your arrest, and will prove that the prosecution witnesses are falsifying and not telling the truth.

#### MAKE THE COURT YOUR FORUM

Bring out the class issues at the trial. In most cases the judge and the prosecutor will try to evade the class character of the case. Force into the trial the real reason for your arrest. For instance: if you are charged with distributing leaflets, then the prosecutor will stick to the point that the streets were littened up with your leaflets in violation of the ordinance. You should insist on bringing out what was on the leaflet, why you were distributing it, etc.

If you are charged with criminal syndicalism, i.e., with teaching or advocating the overthrow of government by force or violence, or charged with membership in an organization that advocates and teaches such a doctrine, and the proof by the district attorney consists of speeches that you made, articles that you wrote, newspapers that you read and support, then it is absolutely necessary for you to use the court for a clear and correct explanation of the economic and social views which you hold, of the facts of the class struggle as applied to your case. [EDITOR'S NOTE—Every month from now on, this page, written in consultation with members of the legal staff of I.L.D., will discuss the various aspects of defense in court, legal, mass and self defense. It will attempt to explain not only courtroom procedure, but I.L.D. defense tactics in simple, practical terms, illustrated wherever possible by examples and experiences gathered in actual trials.]

#### SUMMING UP TO THE JURY

After both sides have finished, you, as well as the prosecutor, have the right to sum up the evidence in the case, and to point out to the jury that the evidence proves your innocence. Take advantage of this opportunity, in summing up, to point out why you are being prosecuted, and why you should be acquitted. This is your last opportunity to speak in the case, and you should prepare yourself well to bring forth all the main issues brought into the case.

#### **EXCEPTION**

The question of exceptions generally is important. During the course of the trial, whenever you object to the testimony of a witness, or any other proceeding that has happened, you get up and say, "I object to the question," giving the reason why you object, if you can. The judge will either overrule, or sustain the objection. If he sustains the objection, then it means that the question was improper, and should be stricken out. If he overrules the objection which he usually will do-then, having an appeal in mind, you take an exception to his ruling.

This means that you merely say, "I except," or "Exception." The stenographer who takes the minutes, or notes of what is done and said at the trial, will thereupon note in the minutes that you take an exception. This means that when you go on appeal, the record of the trial will show that these various matters (which you are pressing on appeal as errors committed in the trial, for which you think the conviction should be set aside), were considered by you to be errors, and that you pointed out to the court at the time of your trial. Do not forget to take an "exception" whenever your objection is overruled, regardless of how often you find it necessary to do so.

#### THE JUDGE'S CHARGE

After both sides have finished the case, and you have summed up to the jury, the judge charges the jury. This means that he makes a short summary of what the case is about and tells them what the law is on the question. Make sure that he tells the jury that if they find you guilty, it must be on the evidence beyond a reasonable doubt. If he makes any statement which you think will prejudice your case, take an exception after he gets through, making a note in the meantime, of that portion which you think is prejudicial and say "I take an exception to that portion of the judge's charge wherein you said so and so.'

#### SENTENCE AND APPEALS TO HIGHER COURT

If you are found guilty, the judge will either pass sentence upon you immediately, or will remand you, that is, order you taken to jail for some future date when you will be brought before him for sentence to be pronounced upon you. Or you may, whether or not you are already out on bail, be now released on bail to return on the day set for sentence.

Immediately upon sentence, you must file notice of appeal, if this has been the legal advice given you.



A few of those jailed on March 19.

# WHAT HAPPENED IN HARLEM

By SASHA SMALL

### A NIGHT IN A HARLEM JAIL

Over one hundred people, the great majority of them Negroes, were dragged from the milling crowds that surged through Harlem's streets. They were kicked and punched into patrol wagons and taken to the police stations. Inside the jail, the savagery of the police knew no bounds. One Negro worker was kicked up the stairs to the finger printing room. He was smacked up against the wall. A uniformed policeman held him fast while a plain clothesman kicked him in the stomach. As he doubled over in pain he was repeatedly hit over the head and face with a black jack until his face was cut open over the right eye. Another prisoner was blackjacked until his face was swollen beyond recognition. All night long the wounds on his head bled so profusely that his shirt was dyed a deep crimson. Out of a total of 45 prisoners crowded into a cell so small that they could not even sit down, thirty spent the night trying to nurse each other's wounds.

Calls for a doctor were met with brutal jeers and threats. No food was given to the prisoners for 24 hours. The attitude of the police and detectives can only be compared with the revolting description of Nazi fiends in charge of Hitler's concentration camps.

The only term used in addressing the Negro prisoners was "black bastard" supplemented by unprintable epithets. The white prisoners received no better

treatment, "Why don't you stay the hell in the Bronx where you belong," detectives, drunk with brutality, shouted at them as their black jacks cracked down on defenseless heads. Threats of instant shooting flew through the air. "Get in there before I shoot you in the back." In the finger printing room, up and down the stairs policemen called to one another, "Why don't you shoot him and be done with it."

On leaving the station house, several policemen derisively called back over their shoulders, "I think I'll go out and shoot me a few niggers-As they came in again, they shouted that "race rioting" was rampant, that white people were being killed in the streets and one came in with the news that "nine cops had been killed."

#### II

#### THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE INVESTIGATES

In sharp contrast to the orgy of savagery inside the jails, the atmosphere in the West 151st Court room, was all politeness and dignity. The committee appointed by Mayor La Guardia to investigate the events in Harlem sat behind the judge's bench and heard eyewitness after eye-witness testify to what happened.

The politeness of the police was so unnatural, so studied-they sounded like frightened little boys in a Sunday school speaking their pieces. They addressed all the Negroes very carefully as "Mister." Inspector De Martini, of the Harlem division, began every section of his testimony with the words, "the Negro people in Harlem are my best friends." The eloquent and unani-mous "Oh Yeah?" from the audience disturbed him somewhat, but he went right on.

Space does not permit a complete report of the testimony. Louise Thompson, organizer of the International Workers Order, who was an eye-witness to the events, vividly and completely pinned the responsibility for the disturbance where it belonged-on the condi-

tions in Harlem and the provocative behavior of the police.

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In a patrol wagon.

killing of three Negroes on the streets, had been questioned and completely exonerated in the murders, soon lost his smooth composure and like a cornered rat, defended himself and his men against "all the foreigners and hoodlums in this city and especially in Harlem who don't have any respect for the law and the police."

The cry of race riot raised immediately by the gutter press was entirely destroyed by eye-witness accounts, of Negroes rushing to the assistance of white workers grabbed and man-handled by the police.

What these open hearings, which are (Continued on Page 23)

(The events in Harlem on the night of March 19, which followed the beating of a Negro child in a local store, when the pent up indignation of the Negro people against discrimination, starvation, horrible living conditions, police brutality, was unleashed by the provocative methods of the police, are sufficiently well known by this time. The Labor Defender wishes to present two chap-ters of what followed these events.—Ed. note.)

nounced all those responsible for the

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#### COLORADO

Governor E. C. Johnson of Colorado is a man of action with very decided ideas on how to run his state-in the interests of the Great Western Sugar Company. Thousands of foreign-born workers were brought into the state by this company to work in the sugar beet industry for a total wage of about \$345 a year for families of five and six.

Wages were cut and cut still further until many of the sugar beet workers felt that it was better to go on the miserable relief lists than slave for 12 and 14 hours in the sugar fields, live in filthy company shacks and drink dirty ditch water.

To Gov. Johnson this was not a difficult problem to solve. First he threatens to deport all foreign-born workers on the relief lists-wholesale; then he proposes to deport all those from other states out of Colorado, across the state border, with the aid of the National Guard: and third, he has established a CONCEN-TRATION CAMP for those taken off the relief lists and — this **CONCENTRATION** CAMP becomes a convenient source of slave labor for the Great Western Sugar Company. The Denver I. L. D. has organized a wide mass campaign against this fascist terror. They have issued proclamations in English and Spanish exposing Gov. Johnson and organizing this protest; also petition lists and contribution blanks to defend the 90 now held in the Johnson Concentration Camp.

#### GALLUP. NEW MEXICO

Only about a year ago the miners of Gallup conducted one of the most heroic strikes in American labor history - and won.

# NEWS of the MONTH

Today Gallup, New Mexico, has become the scene of a savage vigilante rule. A miner was evicted from his home. The house belonged to him. Many miners had built their own homes on company land. Today of course, the officials say, without authority! But about a year ago the company sold this land to State Senator C. F. Bogel of Gallup and he ordered the miners to either buy the land or move out. The evicted miner was arrested in his own home together with two others - charged with breaking into

Kyle Pugh, sentenced to 5 years under the Oregon C. S. law. The sign on the donkey reads, "Free All Class War Prisoners." When Pugh was arrested, the donkey and cart were held for 6 months too!

and entering a house! The crowd which gathered before the court house when he was tried, to protest against the eviction was charged by the police. Tear gas was thrown and almost immediately after under-sheriff Roberts fired into the crowd, killing one and wounding several others. In the crossfire from deputies planted all around the crowd, Sheriff Carmichael himself was killed.

As soon as the dead and wounded were removed from the scene Under-Sheriff Roberts heard "that the unemployed were gathering." "With a blast of the city's fire siren he summoned to the city hall members of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, armed and deputized them and dispersed the gathering."-(Albuquerque Journal.)

Since that time house searches, corraling all those suspected by cowboys

imported for this purpose and identifications by the deputies as 'members of the mob", are leading to wholesale arrests and indictments for murder. Five of the wounded were formally arrested on their hospital beds. The Sheriff has announced that murder indictments will be brought against every man and woman. identified as a "member of the mob.'

So far 52 first-degree murder charges have been secured. The number mounts daily. Fascist terror is loose in Gallup. All foreignborn are threatened with immediate deportation. Dozens are already held by agents shipped in by Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor. The local I. L. D. cannot possibly cope with such a reign of terror. They need support from all over the country. Flood Gallup's cossack officialdom and Gov. Clide Twigley of New Mexico at Santa Fe with protests and demands for the immediate release of all those arrested! Demand that Secretary Perkins at Washington, cease her reign of deportation terror.



### HOW TO FIGHT AGAINST DEPORTATIONS

1. Demand right of asylum in the United States.

2. Do not ask for voluntary departure. You have a right to stay in this country which you helped to build.

GEORGE WASHINGTON SAID ON JANUARY 1, 1795, that the purposes of the Constitution were:

... to render this country more and more a safe and propitious asylum for the unfortunate of other countries."

THOMAS JEFFERSON SAID:

"Shall we refuse the unhappy fugitives from distress that hospitality which the savages of the wilderness extended to our forefathers arriving in this land?"

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY SAID IN 1864:

"Resolved, that foreign immigration, which in the past has added so much to the wealth, developments of resources and increase of power to this nation, the asylum of the oppressed of all lands, should be fostered and encouraged. . .

3. REMEMBER — answer no questions, don't sign anything, notify the I. L. D. immediately when held for deportation.



I. L. D. AROUND THE WORLD

#### CORRECTION

Through a printer's error, a very unfortunate mistake occurred on page 12 of the April issue of the LABOR DE-FENDER. By substituting the wrong caption under the second drawing of "The Story of Scottsboro in Pictures," as the issue went to press, the name of J. Louis Engdahl, late national secretary of the I.L.D., appeared under a picture of a Southern lynch judge handing down the original death sentence against the Scottsboro boys. The mistake could not be corrected because it was not discovered until all the copies had been printed and bound.

As we go to press, we learn of the death of Peter Smidovich, leading member of the Central Committee of the Soviet Union, former political exile. The LABOR DEFENDER joins the Soviet workers in mourning his loss.

#### CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

United front action of the workers won freedom for thirteen prisoners arrested at a demonstration in Chabry, Czechoslovakia. Soldiers and fascist storm troops had attacked the demonstration, but because of the determination of the workers had been forced to retreat.

The arrest of 20 workers followed. The International Labor Defense of Czechoslovakia began action at once; it called a meeting of the wives of the arrested men; it supplied large sums for prisoners' relief. Communist and Socialist workers took part in these tasks, and under the leadership of the I.L.D. began a protest campaign, sending thousands of letters to the Ministry of Justice. Thirteen of the prisoners were freed quickly; five are still held.

#### FRANCE

A Socialist worker, Comrade Desbouches, is the leader of the Argenteuil group of the International Labor Defense of France. It was this group which won the Banner of the Workers of the Soviet Union, for remarkable work in the recruiting drive conducted around the campaign to free Ernst Thaelmann.

As a result of the excellent work of the I.L.D. in this territory, its membership rose from 140 to 720! The entire Socialist local joined in a body.

#### **FINLAND**

Finnish Fascism, not to be outdone by the Hungarian fascist butchers, is preparing its own "Rakosi" case. Within the secret chambers of the Finnish political police, a farce "trial" is to be conducted against Antikainen, a working-class leader of long standing and tremendous prestige.

Antikainen was a leader of the Finnish Soviet government, which the Finnish workers set up in 1918. Later, during the Civil War in Finland, Antikainen was commander of a detachment of the Finnish Red Army. When the Finnish capitalists and landlords, once more in the saddle, attempted intervention into Soviet Karelia in 1922, Antikainen was again in the midst of the struggle.

The Finnish Soviet government took the factories for the workers and the land for the peasants. These acts the capitalists, of course, designate as "crimes."

Political prisoners in a Greek concentration camp.

#### LATVIA

Rubber clubs have been supplied to the prison wardens of Latvia. The reason: fists, rifles and revolvers left on prisoners obvious marks which aroused the anger and resentment of the masses of people. Political prisoners have been the first to taste these clubs.

In the Dvinsk prison, a gang of drunken wardens armed with revolvers ordered out into the prison corridor all politicals who had that day refused to eat the prison food. In the presence of a state prosecutor, the warden bound these prisoners hand and foot, beat and kicked them, pulled their hair out.

#### **BULGARIA**

With sentences of execution being handed down almost daily, Bulgaria is rapidly becoming a forest of gallows. Courtmartial trials against individuals and groups daring to fight the fascist government, are the order of the day. Many Bulgarian villages are in a virtual state of siege—of martial law. But the anti-fascist movement, far from being crushed, is

But the anti-fascist movement, far from being crushed, is making great headway. Recently a group of anti-fascists stopped a train taking 800 workers to their jobs. They detained the train for half an hour while they conducted an anti-fascist meeting. In certain factories in Sofia the workers laid down their tools, drove out the foremen, and organized short meetings against the military dictatorship. The countless executions of anti-fascist soldiers and sailors

The countless executions of anti-fascist soldiers and sailors are arousing anger in the ranks of the army and navy, not only of Bulgaria, but also of Greece and other European countries. Entire regiments have sent protests.

The conduct of the soldiers condemned to die is exemplary and heroic. At the trial of many soldiers at Plovdiv recently, one of the condemned men said:

"I know that you will execute me. I want to be shot before the whole of my regiment, so that the soldiers may see how the class enemy treats the revolutionary soldiers."

### I. L. D. AROUND THE WORLD

A de men the exile. the Sovie

United front action teen prisoners arrested slovakia. Soldiers and

Political prisoners in a Greek concentration camp.

LATVIA



## MY DEEPEST APPRECIATION

On 19th of February I was released from Beaver County prison. Judge Mc-Connell, the same judge who pronounced the drastic sentence against the Woodlawn fighters, Muselin, Resetar and Zima, was forced, due to mass pressure of the working class, to release me unconditionally. I was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment, \$500 fine and costs as a result of my activity in the Ambridge Steel Strike of 1933 in the month of October which ended in a bloody massacre of the militant strikers by company hired thugs and deputies under the leadership of Sheriff O'Laughlin. The charge against me was "Aggravated As-sault and Battery" and "Inciting to Riot". Our pickets had administered a sound thrashing to a scab named Peters who attempted to go into the factory. It was charged that I assaulted him single-handed with a "potato masher". During my trial in the Beaver County court house I produced 5 witnesses, and many deputies had to admit that they did not see me strike this scab. However, I never denied the fact that I was active on the picket line during the whole strike.

But a certain weakling who sold himself like Judas for a few pieces of silver, falsely testified against me and assisted the steel trust in framing me on the charge upon which I was finally convicted. This stool-pigeon's name is Frank Verona. This traitor, who was formerly on the side of the strikers, was rewarded for this sinister deed to the steel trust by his appointment to the local police force. Since my release I have heard that his own fellow officers have beaten him and expelled him from the police force. That is exactly how the steel trust rewards all its stoolpigeons and lackeys.

Now I wish to state a few words about my prison experience. The prison life was bad. I was confined to my cell most of the time. We were never permitted to take exercise out-doors. Were it not for the solidarity of the working masses from the outside and particularly from Ambridge, Pa., it would have been unbearable. Food was very poor and inadequate. However, friends used to bring a basket regularly each week containing nourishing food. I might mention here that Warden Brown always furnishes much "spiritual food" to the inmates, as he permits many representatives of the various re-

Mrs. Elizabeth Baldwin and the youngest of her four children. The Prisoners' Relief Department of the I.L.D. has taken care of her since her husband was murdered during the Harlan miners' strike in 1931.

ligious denominations to enter the prison to disseminate religious bunk among the prisoners. These sky-pilots used to come to me and say: "Emma, let us pray for you and your children" and my reply was: "You should pray for Judge McConnell who has brutally
victory that we des by pledge myself ranks of the wor ing class from op.
P. S. Enclosed I. L. D. \$1.00 in struggles conducte for the release of a This is all that I contact of the release of a the structure of the structure of the release of a the structure of the release of the structure of the stru

torn me away from my children and thrown me into prison." They would

promise to pray for his sinful soul and

walked away and never to bother me.

I wish to take these means in expressing my deep gratitude to all I. L. D. members throughout America that gave me moral and material support during my incarceration. I wish to thank those

who sent me letters, of which I have received 136 as these letters were a great source of encouragement to me. I wish to thank the many friends in Erie, Pa., that helped me and my children materially. I wish to thank P. Muselin of Ambridge, Pa., who encouraged me most in keeping up my spirit and who at all times correctly informed me of the status of my case. My appreciation to those in Ambridge who sent baskets of food to me under direction of Mrs. Obradovich. Much credit is due to Mrs. Kirin and all members of Working Womens' Club "Milan Resetar" in their splen-did support in collecting contributions towards my case and to Yarowey and Maich for donation of their automobiles at all times which has enabled many workers to visit me in prison. I am greatly indebted to my dear neighbor Mrs. Keber who took care of my small children while I was in prison.

I was sentenced by the capitalist court to a prison term of 2 years but due to the militant mass protest of the working masses under the leadership of the I. L. D. I was released after serving only FOUR AND A HALF MONTHS which proves that with collective effort on the part of the working masses and mass pressure we workers can gain any victory that we desire. Therefore, I hereby pledge myself to continue in the ranks of the working class movement ing class from oppression.

EMMA BRLETIC.

P. S. Enclosed I am sending the I. L. D. \$1.00 in support of the great struggles conducted by our organization for the release of all class war prisoners. This is all that I can afford at this time. I also wish to thank the National Office of the I. L. D. as well as the "John Reed" branch of the I. L. D., of Ambridge, for all the relief contributions sent to me and my family. E. B. Mrs. Elizabeth Baldwin and the youngest of her four children. The Prisoners' Relief Department of the I.L.D. has taken care of her since her husband was murdered during the Harlan miners' strike in 1931.

> I was to a p the mis masses D. I FOUR which on the mass p victory by pla ranks ing cla

### A BOOST FOR THE LABOR DEFENDER

Your kind letter and the enclosed P. O. M. O. for \$3.00 reached us okay and many thanks for your kindnss for remembering us in a time like this.

We received the latest LABOR DE-FENDER and we have read it from cover to cover and it explains conclusively what you are up against in raising funds and distributing them to the ones who are suffering the worse from the onslaught of capitalism. The LABOR DEFENDER was a masterpiece. It pictured and explained so thoroughly the horrors of despotism that is thrust upon the workers through the horrors of capitalism.

We sure appreciate the \$3.00 regardless of how small it may look. We buy so many little things we would have to do without otherwise.

We have taken many looks at the picture of Tom Mooney in the last LABOR DEFENDER, receiving the \$100 check from the I. L. D. We can just read from the expression on his face the sincerity of how dearly he appreciates such action from the laboring class. We are sure anxious to see Tom set free. Wouldn't it be great to see a battler like him back in the great industrial field?

On with the industrial battles and more power to the I. L. D.!

A Prisoner's family.

(Name withheld.)

### HELP US KEEP THAT CORN COB FILLED

Your Pledge Will Help Supply a Prisoner With Tobacco. I received the money orders that were sent to me by the Prisoners Relief Department and I also received each letter every week that

is sent to me and I really do enjoy reading it because they bring me news that the newspapers do not write. I am sorry that I cannot answer the questions which you ask me.

I also get the *New Masses* from the I. L. D. local in Rochester, N. Y. When you write them please thank them for me. The friends we have may not know the kick I get out of my corn cob pipe just sitting in my cell, puffing away on it and knowing that some good, kindhearted comrade is keeping it filled with tobacco. . . .

My best regards to all comrades, fellow-workers, and friends, and more power to them from

WILLIAM FISHER, 2627.

### A WELCOME LETTER

I would have written sooner but I have been sick and I have not felt like writing. Will not wait so long next time, and I received the money orders O. K. I would like to get another one of those LABOR DEFENDERS and a larger one if there are any larger ones. I have been keeping up with the Scottsboro boys case through the paper. As there is no news I will have to close for the time. IESS HOLLING 20246

McAlester, Okla., Box 398.

#### FROM A WORRIED FATHER

\$5 A Month Will Help Support a Prisoner's Family. Received your letter and \$2.00 for which I am very thankful. I was checked in here March 16, 1935 for 1 year and 1 day

with \$100 fine. I am charged with those arrested February 5, 1935, for obstructing justice in petitioning for release of those held in jail. However, I am holding up high in moral spirit. But my health is failing from the strain I have gone through since May 21, 1934. I have lost 58 lbs. and my eyes have failed 70%. But I expect to do my time the shortest and easiest way. At the time of my arrest last May I was State organizer for National Unemployment Council for Oklahoma. I am 49 years old. My first arrest. I am a native of Missouri, and have been a resident of Oklahoma City for 31 years. I have a wife and

Sleeping cage on a chain gang.



two children. My wife has been sick for two years. My child, 7 years old has been sick and under care of a doctor for 3 years. My baby is 3 years old. My wife was cut off of relief when I was sentenced. They have no relatives that can assist them in any way. I forwarded the two dollars you sent me to them for I can make out. But it is going to be hard for my family for my wife is not able to do any kind of work. She wrote me that she was hardly getting enough to exist on.

I would be all right if I knew they was to be cared for and I will certainly appreciate anything anyone does for them to keep them from starvation until I get back to them.

HARRY J. SNYDER No. 46468, P.O. Box 7 Leavenworth, Kansas.

#### FROM OUR OLDEST FRIEND

I feel very grateful to all the workers who make it possible for the I. L. D. and Prisoners Relief Department to perform such noble tasks every month while poverty and unemployment is constantly reported from every sector. It is not the dollars so much that makes it noble but the rapidly growing solidarity and class consciousness of the workers that makes me feel very grateful to the militant members of the working class. I received weekly news letters dated February 11 and 16th from Prisoners Relief Department of the I. L. D. I enjoyed them immensely and the effort put into them was deeply appreciated by me. I think constantly of the workers and their struggles; not because I want to use them, or take their dollars but because I am a part of them. Through the I. L. D. my firm paper hand, and nothing withheld to all its members and all the workers.

> Comradely yours, J. B. MCNAMARA, 25314.



In answer to your letter I received, I was glad to hear from you and get the money order. It sure is a help to me. If you can manage to

assist each of the prisoners' families regular I think it is a great thing. I received a few clothes from the branch office in California last week all very nice and appreciated. Have been expecting some from Detroit in Michigan since Christmas. They said they would be sending some soon. This is the first I have got from California.

We are all well and getting ready to do some farming.

#### EDITH MULLINS.

(Husband serving life sentence in Frankfort, Ky., Pen.)

#### Sleeping cage on a chain gang.



DEFENDERS CORNER



## SPECIAL PUZZLE CONTEST

YOUNG

The Young Defender Corner has a new assistant. Young Defender Frank Caplan is the director of the puzzle corner from now on. Last month's puzzle was his too. Here are two more. These are hard and will take some time to figure out but the winner who sends in the correct answer and a 6 months subscription to the LABOR DEFENDER will get a copy of the new beautiful STORY BOOK FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. Get busy!

Here's how it works. Each number represents a letter. As soon as you have figured out the word or words put the letter in the box which has the same number. For example if 1-2-3 spelled cat, you would put C in the box numbered 1—A in the box numbered 2 and T in the box numbered 3. Get it? Let's go. The answer is very important.

82-88-38-76-32-65-27-91-31-16-69-83-73-14—Nine boys for whom the workers led by the I.L.D. recently won a great victory in the U.S. Supreme Court.

### THE STORY OF TRACY WOODS

Remember the story of Edwin Miller last month? Well he's free. The I.L.D. won his freedom and he's home with his mother. Now we have a new case to fight. The case of another Negro boy whose name is Tracy Woods from New Haven, Connecticut. Tracy is 16 years old. He was shot in the back by Patrolman Shalvey—known as a snoopy syp and a Negro hater by the whole neighborhood on his beat. Tracy was in a back yard in the corner of which a crap game was going on. He had nothing to do with it. Shalvey raided

87-44-5-86-72-30-49-81-13-57-71-2-92 —A famous Negro leader freed on bail by the I.L.D.

64-70-28-33-54-68-85-52-74-35—The editor of the LABOR DEFENDER.

6-61-42-75-10-78-41 — What the I.L.D. does.

40-62-29-58-4-45-80-39 - E v e r yYoung ----- will march in the May Day Parade.

3-60-90-48-34-63-79-89-36-21-50-25... U. S. is an abbreviation of ——

1-7-24—Still 22-46-51—A jewel 8-23-12—Charge. the yard. When Tracy started to run, he shot him in the back from a distance of 15 feet. Instead of taking him to the hospital this cop started to arrest him. Many organizations and neighbors have formed a Tracy Woods Defense Committee demanding full compensation to Tracy and his family and the dismissal of Shalvey. They have been holding mass meetings and collecting petitions and smashing all the lies of the cop who says that Tracy bumped into him and set the gun off accidentally —so that the bullet entered his back!

20-77-37-26-47-67—The outskirts of a city

11-15-43—Used to color material 53-66-18—Something all kids like to chew

55-9-17-20—The king of the Roman gods according to old fairy tales.

74-30-19-90-14—Engdahl's first name

How can a Young Defender with a present for the political prisoner get through the maze to him — without crossing any lines?

START-→





#### SAN FRANCISCO Cont. from p. 14

wildly enthusiastic crowd. Providing the sensation of the meeting was a speech by James Workman, A. F. ot L. miner, bailed out by the I.L.D. after being arrested for union activity in a strike in the mother lode country.

The (Trotskyite) Non Partisan Labor Defense, whose disruptive tactics had failed, envious and bitter over the success of the growing United Front, issued a scurrilous attack on the I.L.D. and the Communist Party in the form of a leaflet written by Norman Mini. Members of the audience who received one of these (Mini's reply to a statement by all but one of the defendants repudiating him as a stool-pigeon and disruptor) must have smiled when they read that the "united front" of which the I.L.D. is a part "is powerless to impress prosecutor, court or jury because in reality it is merely the C. P., its phony affiliates and a handful of liberal innocents who represent nothing and nobody."

HARLEM

Cont. from p. 17

still in progress, are proving conclusively is that the immediate responsibility for the Harlem events, falls upon the shoulders of the police. It became very clear that if the police, instead of sneaking the child out through a cellar door and not producing him again until 3 a.m. the next morning in a police station, had brought him back into the store and shown him to those who saw him beaten and dragged away, none of the rage that followed upon the belief that he had been murdered would have broken loose. If the police had not ridden rough shod into the crowds that gathered in protest in front of the Kress store and all the other stores, which consistently refused to employ Negro help and charged exorbitant prices for their goods, no windows would have been smashed. If the police had not begun their brutal attack and finally shooting into unarmed, defenseless Negro people-what has come to be known as the Harlem Riot would not have occurred on the night of March 19th.

The people of Harlem are writing the committee's report in words that cannot be misunderstood. No amount of official white wash can cover up the Harlem situation.

#### BURLINGTON

Cont. from p. 9

vania four deputies who had been with the mining companies. One of these, at least, is known to have been employed by the notorious anti-labor Frick Coke Company and by the Coal and Iron Police.

The vicious sentences against the Burlington six are being fought by the local Workers Defense Committee, aided unstintingly by the International Labor Defense. Because the case is a blow aimed to smash union labor, the Burlington defendants deserve the aid of every working man and woman in the country, and of every labor sympathizer. This cowardly frame-up by mill-owners, stoolpigeons and imported detectives must not be allowed to stand.

### DEPORTATIONS Cont. from p. 15

in the country. It also provides for the issuance of warrants by local immigration inspectors without the necessity of consulting Washington. It also provides many traps for deportation of workers possessing "dangerous weapons," or who have been convicted of a "crime".

These three main trends are repeated with slight variation in many bills now pending. While the Dies Bill, H.R. 7120 and the Kerr Bill, H.R. 6795, are attracting the most attention now, the mass protest must be directed not only at them but at all the other measures for deportation and discrimination against the foreign-born. All have the same general purpose in assisting the drive to destroy the organizations of the American workers, and the democratic rights of the American people.

The testimony which Dickstein made every effort to suppress must reach the masses of the American people. The gentlemen who sit in Washington around a great oval mahogany table are the servants of the Hearsts, the United States Chamber of Commerce, the Great Western Sugar Company, and the California bosses. It is not they who guide the destiny of the American people, but they simply try to write on paper what their masters dictate in practice in the San Francisco General Strike, in the Colorado Concentration Camps, and in the Pennsylvania Coal Fields.

# What Really is the TRUTH about the SOVIET UNION?

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