

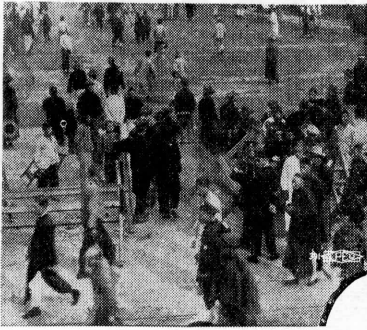
# LABOR DEFENDER

MAY 1927

10 Cents



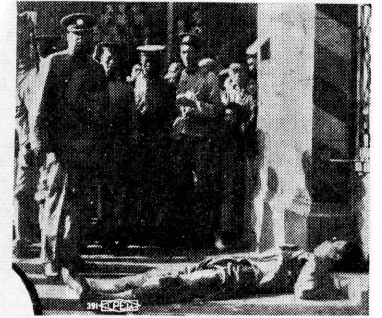
# China's Struggle for Freedom



Barbed wire entanglements, Shanghai, separating foreign international settlements from Chinese sections.



Michael Borodin, Russian, addressing a Chinese meeting of workers.



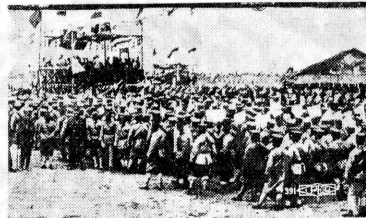
A victim of the White Terror.



Mme. Sun Yat Sen, widow of the founder of Kuomintang, an active worker in the Nationalist government.



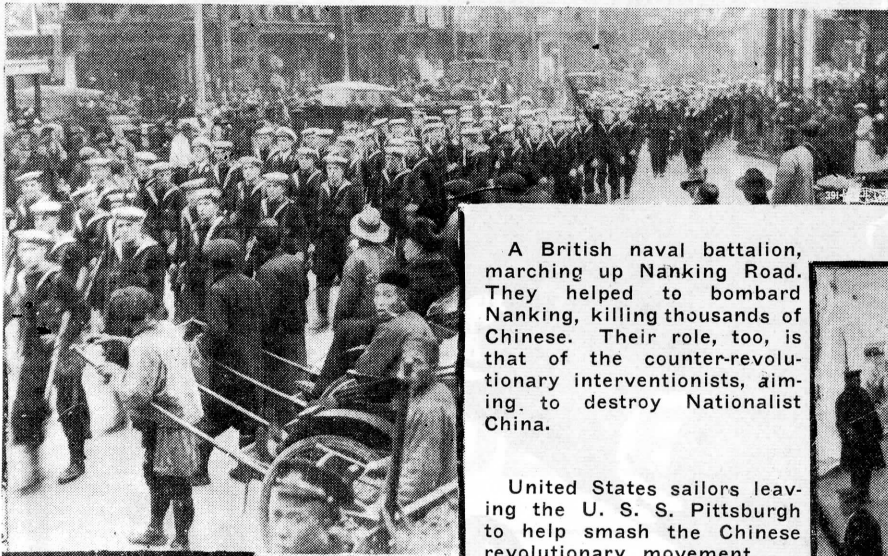
White Guards terrorizing militant Chinese workers.



Regiment of Cantonese (Nationalist) soldiers.



Sun Foo, son of the late Sun Yat Sen, making inaugural address as Kuomintang (Nationalist) mayor of Wuhan cities.



A British naval battalion, marching up Nanking Road. They helped to bombard Nanking, killing thousands of Chinese. Their role, too, is that of the counter-revolutionary interventionists, aiming to destroy Nationalist China.

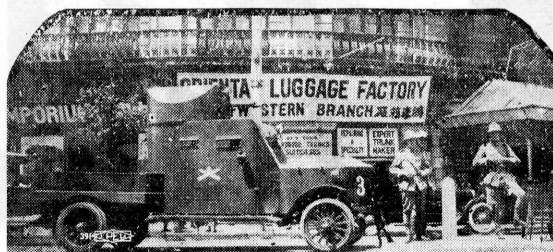


United States sailors leaving the U. S. S. Pittsburgh to help smash the Chinese revolutionary movement.

Everywhere in America there are demands to withdraw the American marines and sailors from Chinese lands and waters.



Delegates to Chinese Red Aid (Labor Defense) conference recently held.



British armoured tanks in Shanghai to "protect" property. And to crush peaceful Chinese.



A Chinese revolutionist about to be executed by White Guards.

# Free Sacco and Vanzetti!

By James P. Cannon.

## From the Supreme Court of the Capitalists To the Supreme Court of the Laboring Masses.

**T**HE news of the decision of the supreme court of Massachusetts comes to hand just as this number of the Labor Defender goes to press.

The black-robed judges have pronounced the doom of Sacco and Vanzetti. Evidence of frame-up and conspiracy was piled high enough for the whole world to see, but the judges would not look at it. The New England Bourbons want the blood of innocent men. This was decided from the first. Only fools expected otherwise. Only fools put faith in the courts of the enemy.

It is all planned and decided. The two Italian workers have been taken into the Dedham court room, where they were falsely convicted of murder six years ago this summer, and there sentenced by Judge Webster Thayer of the Superior Court to die in the electric chair at Charlestown on July 10 for the crime of rebellion against the capitalists.

They will take them from their cells and strap them securely in the chair. They will turn on the switch with the hope that when the deadly electric current burns and sears the warm flesh of the two rebel workmen, there will also be consumed within these flames the cause they symbolize.

So they have decreed and so they hope. But the game is not over. There is another power yet to be considered. There is a higher court than that of the solemn reprobates who decreed the death of Sacco and Vanzetti. The laboring masses of America and the world have faith in Sacco and Vanzetti. It is time now to appeal finally to the masses. It is time for the workers to say their word.

Such slender legal resources as yet remain must be utilized. This goes without saying. But the real hope for Sacco and Vanzetti must now be placed in the protest movement of the workers. Only the united protest move-

ment of the workers can save Sacco and Vanzetti from the hands of the executioners.

The defense of Sacco and Vanzetti is an issue of the class struggle. They are not criminals but the symbols and standard bearers of the militant labor



Sacco and Vanzetti.

movement. The fight for Sacco and Vanzetti is the fight of the working class.

The need of the hour is an organized, united movement of protest and solidarity on a national and international

scale. The great world-wide movement which has stayed the hands of the executioners up till now must be revived and infused with new strength and militancy. In this movement unity must be the watchword. All partisan aims, all differences of opinion and all controversial questions must be put aside. All forces must be united without delay on the broadest possible basis for the struggle to free Sacco and Vanzetti.

The agitation must be conducted with concrete aims. The first big objective is the concentration of the indignation and protest of the workers in a gigantic National Sacco and Vanzetti Conference. Only through a National Conference can the forces be united and the resources gathered for further struggle. We must go forward with the organization of this National Conference at all costs, in spite of all difficulties and without delay.

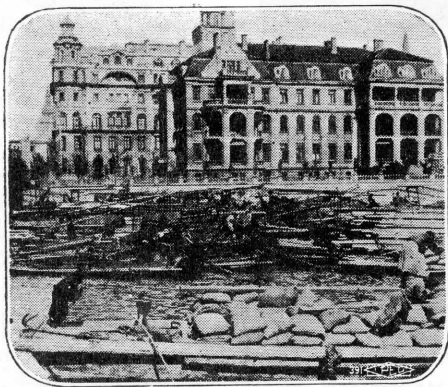


Bartolomeo Vanzetti and Nicola Sacco chained together and to court officers being taken into the courthouse at Dedham April 9 while a crowd looks on from the opposite side of the street. Inset shows the reactionary capitalist Judge Webster Thayer, who ordered that they be electrocuted during the week of July 10.

# CHINA SURGES FORWARD TOWARD FREEDOM

**F**IFTEEN hundred American marines ashore in Shanghai; American warships concentrated there with plenty of blue-jackets ready to land; American gunboats and destroyers at Nanking and other inland river ports; nine American naval vessels enroute to Shanghai—three cruisers from Honolulu and six destroyers from Manila—and three American destroyers, one to each place, sent from Manila to Swatow, Amoy and Foochow. The British government has massed thousands of troopers on Chinese soil.

This represents at the moment of writing the force and terror exerted by American Imperialism in an effort to stem the successful drive of the Chinese masses, workers, peasants, students, petit-bourgeois, for liberation from the foreign imperialists' yoke and for the establishment of a unified China under the control of the toiling masses.



A view of creek running thru Shanghai, with view of Soviet Consulate in back (Astor hotel in background). Soviet Russia with her policy of friendship and cooperation toward the Nationalist Government of China has cemented a firm alliance with the revolutionary Nationalist Government.

While the Chinese people, oppressed and plundered by International Capital, and particularly by the American, British and Japanese imperialists, fight for better wages, strive for organization into labor unions, and under the revolutionary guidance of the People's Army and the Kuomintang Party, aim for political power and emancipation from both native and foreign imperialists—the gunboats of the American and British governments shell Nanking and destroy the lives of thousands of Chinese workers; the mercenary white guard armies of Chang Tso Lin, appeal to the foreign powers for financial and military aid, and continue, wherever they still dominate, to massacre, terrorize and plunder the Chinese workers, peasants and stu-

dents. All with the sanction and approval of the imperialist powers. American, British and Japanese Imperialism, and with them the French, Span-



Foo Foo Wong, known as the Chinese Joan of Arc, broadcasting program of Kuomintang to Chinese peoples. She has aided in recruiting the Nationalist armies who idolize her.

ish and other smaller nations, and their Chinese hirelings, such as Chang Tso Lin, and Wu Pei Fu, have united to drown awakening China, nationalist China, in a sea of blood in an endeavor to stop the revolutionary wave.

The Chinese peoples, nearing the goal of emancipation, hail the capture of Shanghai, a stronghold of the labor movement of China, a center of capitalist oppression.

The reactionaries understand that the occupation of Shanghai by the nationalist forces spells the triumph of revolution, and the collapse of years of oppression by British, Japanese and American Imperialism.

Strikers write on their banners: "The victory of Shanghai is the victory of the country, of which generations have dreamt."

The Commanders of the National Armies and the leaders of the Kuomintang appeal to the fighters: "The battles are for a Workers' Shanghai, for the emancipation of hundreds of thousands of our brothers, a victory securing the freedom of the whole people."

In this struggle of the Chinese masses for liberation, only Soviet Russia as a nation lends fulsome support and co-operation.

But the hardened and exploiting governments of Great Britain, America, Japan, mobilize warships, dreadnaughts, naval and air forces, soldiers and marines by the tens of thousands and continue their mass terror.

Never will the Chinese masses forget the June, 1925 massacre

at Shanghai or that at Wahsien, or the shelling and blood-bath in Nanking in March, 1927, by American and British gunboats. Hundreds of thousands of Chinese have already paid with their lives for the freedom of China. The blood of these is upon the hands of the foreign powers and Chinese reactionaries.

It is the duty of all workers in America to support the Chinese Revolution. China must have a full opportunity to work out her historical destiny without any interference from the outside.

American marines and gunboats infest Chinese land and waters. The workers of America must demand that they get out immediately. The White Terror against the Chinese masses instigated by the foreign powers must cease. We must all unite in a cry for Hands Off China! Down with Imperialist control of China! All hail the struggle of the great Chinese people for freedom!



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# Guilty! of What?

## Add Eight More Political Prisoners to the List.

By Hollace Ransdell.

**FAMILIES** of eight Passaic strike prisoners are in great trouble. The mothers are discouraged, worn, sick. They don't know where to turn for help. Some of them say death would be a relief.

There is Mrs. William Sikora struggling to keep her five small children fed and clothed at least enough for the two oldest, eight and six, to go to school. After many years working nights in the textile mills of the district, Mrs. Sikora's health is badly broken. Still in her thirties, she looks to be at least fifty. Many take



Mrs. Paul Kovac and her three children. Kovac has been awaiting sentence for more than two months. He was convicted in February on a framed-up charge of "bombing." He has been in jail since September and probably will remain there for three years more.

her to be her children's grandmother.

The father of the family was arrested last September in a general round-up of textile strikers after a so-called bomb explosion which did little but make a loud noise. Although there were six or eight persons within a few feet of the explosion nobody was injured. Yet twenty or more strikers were thrown into jail in the general hysteria which followed, and several dozen others were grilled by the police in an attempt to implicate them too. In a week all but eleven were released. Those eleven were held and given a third degree that left them with swollen faces, black eyes, knocked out teeth and one with broken ribs. Sikora was one of the eleven held.

Collective bail of \$455,000 was placed on the eleven men. Two were held on \$100,000 each, three on \$75,000. Sikora was held on \$25,000. This excessive bail, of course, was the same as holding them without bail. It was later reduced to \$210,000, but as this was still impossible to raise, the strikers were no better off than when under the original \$455,000.

After being postponed again and

again, the trial of six of the men finally took place in January, more than four months after arrest. Five of the men, including Sikora, were given three years by Judge Joseph A. Delaney in the Passaic County court at Paterson. This was the maximum sentence which they could be given on the indictment against them.

Less than a week later the convicted men began serving their sentences in Drawen, the New Jersey state prison at Trenton.

Of the five, Sikora is the most unhappy, because he worries himself sick about how his frail wife and five children are going to get along. He owns a small bit of a house which he put up himself, but it is heavily mortgaged, and he is afraid that he will lose it while he is in jail.

Not that the other four families are not having a hard time too. Paul Oznak's wife has three small children and a mortgaged house on her hands on which many months' interest and payments are long past due. She can not find work in a community where thousands are already unemployed. Occasionally she gets a day's housework to do but this pays so poorly it helps very little.

The same is true of Mrs. Joseph Belene with two children, one eighteen months, the other six years old, and Mrs. Tony Pochno with two little girls to support. Mrs. Alex Kostamaha has only one child, eight years old, but her health is bad from years of night work in the mills. She would not be able to hold a job if she found it.

Nor are these five families the only ones in trouble by any means. Only six of the eleven men held on "bombing" charges have been sentenced and

sent to state's prison. The other five were held in the Bergen county jail at Hackensack because they lived in Garfield, which is in Bergen county. They too were held on high bail, though not quite so excessive as that of the men held for trial in the Passaic County jail. It totaled \$80,000 for the five. After overcoming great difficulties set by the authorities of Bergen county, who insisted for several months that this amount must be in cash before the strikers could get out on bail, three of the men were finally released on property bonds for more than \$50,000.



The youngest daughter of Paul Oznak, serving three years in State's Prison, New Jersey. There are two more children in the family, the oldest eight.

One of the three, Thomas Regan, has since been acquitted by a jury. His trial was conducted by Arthur Garfield Hays on March 10th. Charges against another, Joseph Toth, have been dropped. This 18-year-old boy was held



Picket line about Forstman & Huffman mills which won 4,000 additional textile workers to the Passaic strike movement.

in jail without trial for more than four months with no evidence at all against him. Nicholas Schillaci, the third one who was released on bail, decided to plead guilty to a lesser charge on the promise of a lenient sentence. The defense committee advised him against this but he was not convinced and hired a lawyer of his own.

Paul Kovac and Adolph Wisnefski, the other two of the five, whom it was not possible to get out on bail, were convicted in February. By the time this is in print these two and Schillaci will have been sentenced. Judge William Seufert of the Bergen county court

has set April 8 as the date of sentence.

When these three join the other six in state's prison, as they obviously will, the burden of relief for the Passaic strike prisoners will grow still heavier. Mrs. Wisnefski has five children, the oldest eight. Neither she nor Mrs. Kovac, who has three children, the oldest seven, can find work, although they are both anxious to get any kind of a job. The unemployment in the textile district is so bad that thousands are unable to get anything at all to do. Mrs. Schillaci has two children and is to have a third next month.

The International Labor Defense is

undertaking the task of raising funds to help these workers' families whose husbands and fathers are in prison solely because they went out on strike and stuck loyally for nearly a year in the attempt to win a living wage and decent working conditions for themselves. They harmed no man. They committed no crime. None of them was ever arrested before the strike. If they are guilty of anything it is of being class-conscious workers who had brains and energy enough to join a mass struggle to fight against conditions that made their lives miserable.

## Beat Back the Fascist Terror

By MARTIN ABERN.

**T**HE latest assault of the Mussolini Fascist Terror against the Italian labor movement has resulted in sentencing 36 leaders of the workers to imprisonment for terms varying from two to fifteen years, with the additional imposition of heavy fines. The Special Military Defense Court, instituted recently by Monsieur Mussolini to speed up "Fascist justice" condemned these Italian Communist revolutionaries. The customary charges were levelled at the accused; namely: "conspiracy against the safety of the state, the fomentation of class hatred, sub-

ed to long prison terms. The dimensions of the terror are almost incredible—Mussolini's regime puts the Neros and Borgias in the shade. Murder, arrests, tortures, long imprisonment, searches, destroying and burning of houses and buildings; depriving the opposition of their freedom of speech and movement; banishment and deportation to sparsely inhabited Mediterranean islands. Thus deals Mussolini with working class fighters or the slightest opposition.

The Fascist Reign of Blood has brought in its wake, too, the suppression of all political parties, the crushing of the trade unions and co-operatives, the smashing of the organized proletariat and all opposition. Over 1500 papers have been confiscated. More than 60 organizations have been disbanded. Between January and December, 1926, there were approximately 500 political trials in which more than 1200 persons were condemned to 689 years of imprisonment. There are close to 15,000 political prisoners confined in Italian dungeons. The entire Communist fraction in parliament, socialists, Maximalists and democrats have been deported to deserted Mediterranean islands. The 128 members of the opposition elected in 1924, despite fascist terror have had their parliamentary rights taken away. Even the "Red Aid," which tries to attain some legal protection for the persecuted workers, is outlawed.

The working class of the world, the peasantry, the intellectuals, all who yet hope for a civilized humanity, must protest vigorously against the fascist dictatorship and its slaughter of the oppressed of Italy. All must unite to crush the criminals and murderers of the Italian people. Material aid must be given to the prisoners, the children,

the families of the victims of Mussolini. Only solidarity and action on the part of the world's workers can halt the Fascist Terror.



Italian worker, Angelo Capanelli, before and after being blinded by Fascists.

version of the powers of the state and offense against Mussolini. Mussolini spits; the Italian worker bleed. To such heights of terrorism against the workers does Mussolini reach, that Fascists in other parts of the earth fairly burst with envy.

The 36 Communists were arrested in raids between September, 1925, and the summer of 1926 in Tuscany, where they are alleged to have organized "Red Cells" or nuclei which were formed it is charged, to support revolutionary activities.

The wave of bloody orgies and repressions by the Fascist government continues unabated against Communists, socialists, Maximalists and democrats. Hundreds assassinated, thousands wounded, tens of thousands arrested and thousands of these sentenc-



Illegal Italian Communist papers issued after last attempt upon Mussolini (now proved fascist frame-up).

### INTERNATIONAL RED AID CONFERENCE.

**MOSCOW.**—The Second International Conference of the International Red Aid was opened on March 24th in the Meyerhold Theater in Moscow. A presidium was elected which consisted of representatives of all sections and a presidium of honor was formed of the political prisoners of various countries, among them Lanzuski, Taraskiewicz, Rakosi, Buzor, Sacco and Vanzetti.

Clara Zetkin and Henri Barbusse, were prevented from coming by illness and wrote letters of encouragement to the conference. Com. Katayama conveyed the greetings of the Comintern, Comrade Knorin welcomed the conference in the name of the C. C. of the C. P. of the Soviet Union, Comrade Braginski spoke in the name of the E. C. of the R. I. L. U.

# Rally Labor for Passaic Strike Prisoners

By Cyril Briggs.

**I**N the police effort to break the Passaic textile strike, nearly one thousand strikers were arrested on one pretext or another during the long strike.

A number of these strike prisoners are still facing trial. That they are in real danger of suffering for their strike activity no one can doubt who knows what has happened in those strike cases recently brought to trial. Of ten strikers tried only one, Tom Regan, escaped the vengeance of the mill owners. Of the others, one got off with a year, but eight drew sentences of three years. The textile barons do not forget. And, now, as in the past, they have at hand ready tools to measure out their vengeance under the guise of justice and in the name of "law 'n order".

It takes little imagination to realize the menace of savage revenge and long prison sentences facing these prisoners, whom the capitalist courts insist on bringing to trial even though the industrial dispute in which they were arrested was ended several months ago. One needs no imagination if one is familiar with the records of these courts during the big strike. The courts did everything possible to break the strike. They supported one hundred per cent the police efforts at strike breaking. They held the lead-

ers of the strike on all manner of flimsy charges. They fixed excessive bail in the case of Albert Weisbord and many others. They co-operated with the police in the plot to keep the leaders behind bars, hoping thus to break the strike. They fixed high bail with the additional purpose of depleting the slender resources of the union. They



Mrs. Joseph Bellene and her two children. Her husband is serving three years in New Jersey State Prison.

fixed 185 strikers a total of \$4,078.15 with the same end in view. Their bail bonds amounted to the gigantic sum of \$601,550.00.

In the early days of the strike, they fixed bail of \$30,000 for Albert Weisbord, strike organizer and leader.

Later on, as they grew bolder, they set bail at \$100,000 for one of the men held on a third degree confession in the police bombing frame-up. One hundred thousand dollar bail in a case where no one was injured and very little property damage done, while in another New Jersey court a woman accused of murdering her minister husband and his affinity, was released on bail of \$40,000. Plainly New Jersey considers striking a crime worse than murder.

Nor did the courts confine their efforts to depleting the treasury of the union or keeping the strike leaders behind bars on high bail demands. They also aimed crushing blows at the spirit of the strikers with savage jail sentences. They sentenced picket lieutenants and rank and file strikers in a brazen fashion. They were on the mill owners' side and did not care who knew it.

Ninety-eight strikers were sentenced to six months to one year in jail. The extreme youth of the pickets made little difference to courts too anxious to serve their masters to be bothered with any sense of decency. Maggie Pitocco, a seventeen-year-old girl striker, was given a sentence of six months. The charge on which she was arrested was disorderly conduct. Her crime was constant activity on the picket line. Many other young workers received harsh sentences. The young workers, especially the girls, were the life of the strike, and the courts were out to intimidate them. These cases were all appealed and will come up again for trial soon.

The capitalist courts show no intention of letting up in their persecution of the strike prisoners. The victory won by the union in the case of Tom Regan has given them a set-back but has not altogether deterred them.

The organized labor movement, and the other friends of the Passaic strikers, must again rally to the cause of Passaic. Adequate legal defense must be provided for these heroic workers, whose fight is the fight of the entire labor movement. Any prison sentence inflicted upon them would be a blow to the labor movement.

The Passaic strike is over, but the struggle to protect the strike prisoners must still be waged to a successful conclusion.



Fire and hose trucks being used to disperse striking textile mill workers. The "water cure" didn't work.

# Wesley Everest's Soliloquy

By John McRea.

THE revival of the interest in, and campaign to release the victimized Centralia prisoners makes particularly appropriate now the poem printed below to the memory of Wesley Everest. It was written by Fellow Worker John McRea while he was serving a term in San Quentin penitentiary, California.

Wesley Everest together with other fellow members of the I. W. W. valiantly defended themselves against odds of 500 to 1 from the attack on the I. W. W. headquarters in Centralia, Washington, by hoodlums of the American Legion on Armistice Day, November 11, 1919. Three legionaires were killed in their march on the I. W. W. hall. Wesley Everest when finally gotten by the mob was fiendishly tortured, hung and his body riddled with bullets. Thru the heroic defense of their



Wesley Everest.

hall, Everest and his comrades, however, smashed the terrorist campaign of the lumber barons and the American Legion against the workers and workers' organizations.

The aftermath of the Centralia raid was a mock trial, in which the I. W. W. defendants were railroaded by a corrupt and frightened judge and jury on orders from the lumber barons, to Walla Walla penitentiary. Among those convicted and now serving terms ranging from 25 to 40 years, are Eugene Barnett, Bert Bland, James McInerney, Loren Roberts, John Lamb,

The night wind whispered in the firs,  
That guard Centralia's square,  
The moon man flung his silver 'round  
Upon the summer air,  
And on the ghostly form that stood  
Before the statue there.

No cerecloth did the stranger wear,  
But workers' garments plain,  
And down the blue shirt on his breast  
There ran a crimson stain.  
The trees to one another hissed:  
"It's Everest come again."

And then the phantom seemed to  
speak:  
(While soft the dew drops fell)  
"The lumber kings have had their gold,  
The worms have feasted well,  
And here this stone is reared to make  
Men's hearts with pity swell."

"With pity for those soldier boys  
Just fresh from Flanders plains  
Who yielded up with smiling lips  
The product of their veins,  
To aid a master's power quest  
And weld a brothers' chains."

"Bold Captain Grimm who thought to  
climb  
O'er workers' necks to power,  
He whom the bourgeois women hailed  
As hero of the hour,  
The world was in his grasp. He must  
Have found death's vintage sour."

"Ben Cassagranda was a slave  
Who thought that he was free;  
If 'ignorance is bliss' no man  
Was happier than he.  
I wonder if his cosmic dust  
Has won 'Democracy.'"

"McElfresh was a worker too  
Who turned upon his kind;  
And learned too late it is not wise  
To spit against the wind.  
Well, in this tombstone, let him seek  
What solace he can find."

"And Hubbord of the ruling clan,  
The darling of them all;  
It must have gagged his gang to drink  
The brimming cup of gall,  
I poured for them when he went down  
Pierced by my pistol ball."

"In this cold stone their names are  
carved,  
The bourgeoisie' passing whim,  
Forgotten e'er the winter's rain  
Has made the polish dim;  
For bourgeoisie dollars soon replace  
The broken manikin."  
"And if their lisping babes shall fret,  
Their wives and mothers weep,  
The bourgeoisie wolves may comfort  
them,  
May soothe their grief to sleep,  
And tell them: 'Wesley Everest  
Was not a ba-aing sheep.'  
Like others of the serving class  
Who sell themselves so cheap."

"So let them lie in glory here,  
Let presidents acclaim;  
I do not 'grudge this tinsel show,  
Nor envy them their fame;  
For I upon the river bank  
Was master of the game,  
And on men's hearts, my name is writ  
In characters of flame."

"No need to raise a marble shaft,  
Nor shed a tear for me.  
That little spark of life I gave  
Was given full and free;  
And now tho kings and slaves shall  
strive  
In life's captivity;  
Heedless in fair Nirvana land  
I rest eternally."

The clear voice ceased. The shade had  
gone  
Back to earth's warm breast;  
The moon had faded from the night,  
The stars had gone to rest;  
While thru the purple firs the wind  
Went whispering: "Everest"

Britt Smith, O. C. Bland, Ray Becker.  
International Labor Defense will do  
all in its power to help free the framed-  
up Centralia workers. Already in Los  
Angeles, Calif., the I. W. W. and local  
I. L. D. have formed a joint commit-

tee for class war defense and particu-  
larly for the Centralia prisoners.

The country must resound with the  
toecin cry:

**THE CENTRALIA VICTIMS MUST  
BE FREED IN 1927!**



## Mr. Jack O'Brien

### The Exploits of a Stool-pigeon in the Passaic Arrests

By Robert W. Dunn.

THE National Association of Manufacturers contended that the Passaic strike was no strike at all. It was a lesson in revolution. This being the case and the Passaic bosses being relatively unpracticed in the technique of defense against revolutions—a large number of gentlemen offered their services. They would teach the textile masters how to handle a revolution. Some of these experts we have discussed at other times and in other publications. There was Spolansky, ex-D. of J. sleuth, fresh from services performed for the National Metal Trades Association. There was Nosovitsky (alias Nosov; also alias Dr. Anderson) expert on Moscow plots and \$10,000 confidential reports created out of clippings from *The Daily Worker*. There was Nathaniel Shaw, professional strikebreaker who operated with other first class hold-up men in picking \$20,000 out of the pockets of the mill men.

Besides there was one very smooth person who may be described as a "professional patriot". For years he has been organizing "constitutional defense leagues" and other societies for which he has received liberal donations from class-conscious capitalists. This bird, J. Robert (Jack) O'Brien,

was called into Passaic by the local and much alarmed Rotary Club. He came, bearing the credentials of the National Security League—one of the more substantial professional patriotic

public, one of the mills immediately handed Jack the trifling sum of \$1,000. With this initial retainer in hand Jack proceeded to give advice to the mill men. He helped secure an injunction.



Mounted policemen to ride down strikers in largest worsted mill. Police used "Harding" clubs. Strikers received with laughter these threats of intimidation.

leagues with headquarters in New York City.

According to a man who was closely associated with O'Brien in Passaic, and who has since made a part of his story

He superintended the raid on strike headquarters and the arrest of Weisbord. He directed the framing of the charges against Weisbord. He waved the *Daily Worker* in front of the local prosecutor and laid bare the dark "red plot" which had begun to bloom in his imaginative brain. When the captured "documents" from 743 Main Avenue yielded nothing incriminating, and when the prospects of an indictment looked blue, he attempted to persuade one of the assistants to perjure himself and to tie up the strike with Moscow, and more particularly with "Moscow gold."

The foreman of the grand jury which finally indicted Weisbord of predicting the overthrow of the government by May 1, 1928, and of talking violently at strike meetings, was one "Ike" England, head of the Passaic Metal Ware Co. and a leading spirit in the National Association of Manufacturers. O'Brien's imagination persuaded "Ike" that the country could be saved, and the strike speedily ended, if Weisbord were indicted. It was done. With no evidence but with such a willing grand jury it took little talking by O'Brien to secure the indictment.

One of the subsidiary charges, it will be remembered, was not put into the indictment. However, it was solemnly aired in the chambers of the United States senate by Senator E. I. Edwards of New Jersey. The strike, O'Brien



Plotting a riot. Sheriff Donaldson passing on the orders of the mill owners.

whispered to the Senator, was backed by \$200,000 real gold from Russia. The Senator warned the country that this was very serious, and that it should really not be countenanced by the good citizenry. Mr. O'Brien chuckled when he read the Washington dispatches that night.

Then he proceeded to commit a theft. He "lifted" some letters out of the office of Captain Turner of the Passaic police. These letters had been taken by the police in the raid on strike headquarters. O'Brien thought he might be able to make some use of them; perhaps sell them to a patriotic journal—for cash. When he was accused of the "theft", he at first denied it. Later, when Turner insisted that he return them, and threatened to expose him on a count of moral turpitude, he handed them back.

It was O'Brien who suggested the formation of the famous strike breaking Citizen Committee. It was he who

directed the police strategy at the time of the arrest of Norman Thomas, Esther Lowell, Bob Wolfe, and others. It was he who talked of placing a few bombs where they might harm no one but help to discredit the strike leaders.

Yes, O'Brien is an inveterate joiner. While in Passaic he is said to have connected himself with the Elks, the Chamber of Commerce, the American Legion, the Rotary Club, the United Order of American Mechanics and possibly the K. K. K. But he was especially warm toward the members of the Kiwanis International. Indeed he sent out a begging letter on the stationery of the "League for Constitutional Education" addressed to "Brother Kiwanians". He asked for money to carry on his worthy work for Americanism.

He was also a bit of an editor. He issued Vol. I, No. 1 of "The American Review" which was distributed free to the populace. It "exposed" all of

O'Brien's phobias from the Young Workers' League to the American Civil Liberties Union. Especially the Civil Liberties Union! O'Brien promised a special number devoted to the crimes of that organization. But as we have hinted No. 2 did not appear.

When the money gave out, and the mill men were experimenting with other methods of strike breaking O'Brien slipped out. At last accounts he was operating another League for Constitutional Defense in New York. When the next strike occurs in textiles or steel, or automobiles, or electrical manufacturing, Jack will be the first one to reach the scene. He has a fast motor car, no end of nerve and plenty of connections in the "business world". We shall meet him again. The American open shoppers have ample "reserves" set aside for just this purpose. We shall bump into him again when the next Passaic breaks out.

## A REBEL WORKER'S LIFE AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY By Eugene Barnett

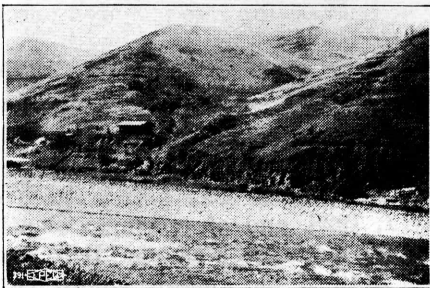
(Continued from previous issue.)



COULDN'T wait till Monday to get rid of the "crumbs", so I got a bar of soap at the restaurant, caught a street car out to St. John's, went along a river

there to some timber. I found a five gallon can that someone else had had over a fire. I then made a fire and proceeded to cook my bugs.

It was a warm day, and while I had my Mulligan of bugs and clothes on



View of Salmon River.

the fire, three girls came down thru the timber. I was in swimming in a slough and had my clothes over near the fire, when I heard them coming, hollering and laughing. I went out among the bushes and hid. The girls went down and took a look at my stew, and then one of them proposed that they steal the clothes that were not in the can but the other two would not agree to it, so they finally went on.

The next day I shipped to an extra

gang at Butler, Wash., and worked in the afternoon. That night the bed bugs were so bad, I could not stand them. I got up and went down the track away, and built a fire about midnight and spent the balance of the night there.

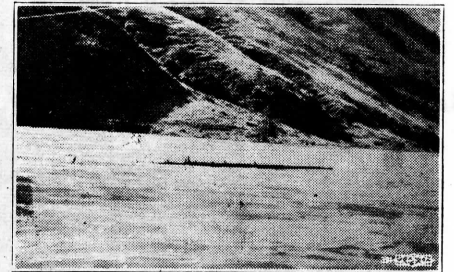
The next morning, I walked to Stevenson 11 miles farther up the Columbia river. There I got a job cutting wood for a woman. I worked there till the next spring. In February I met a man from Chehalis, Wash. He said they were wanting men in the coal mines, so I went to Chehalis. When I got there, I found the miners on strike, so I spaded gardens about town for about two weeks, and boarded with Mr. and Mrs. McAllister.

Then I decided I would learn a trade. I got a job in St. John's garage. At Chehalis I accepted the job for the magnificent sum of \$6.00 a week, with the understanding that I was to be given a chance to learn to be a mechanic. I paid \$5.00 a week for board, so I had \$1.00 left.

Fred Hess was shop foreman, a fine fellow, and with his help I was learning fast. But St. John had a partner Titus by name, who never missed an opportunity to hurry me up or bawl me out many times for things I was not responsible for.

I didn't want to quit for I liked Hess, and appreciated his efforts to teach me, for I wanted to learn. So I said nothing. But one day I could

stand it no longer and talked back to him. He called me an ugly name and ordered me out of the office, but I refused to go till he paid me off. At first he was going to put me out by force, but for good reasons changed his mind. I went up to a lawyer's office to see if I could have him prosecuted for the name he had called me. But I was informed I could not. In North Carolina it is held by the court to be the same as a blow struck and in West Virginia it is the signal for a shooting scrape.



Salmon River and view of Brakes on trail to White Bird, Idaho.

I was mad enough to fight, but I knew I would be arrested and get the worst of it, so I let it go.

Then I went to work for the Centralia Gas Company. But the wages were poor. I quit and went into the woods. From then on I worked in the lumber camps or the mines. The Miners' Unions in Washington are not as good as the ones in the east. There is less solidarity among them. I got fired at the Mendota mine once because I

would not lay track in a place that had so much water in it that the ties would float.

In a union mine in the east, a boss wouldn't have the gall to ask a man to work in a place like that.

At that time the camps were working eleven hours for a day in the woods, in a bunk house, wooden bunks with loose straw in them to sleep on, and you had to furnish your own blankets. The employment offices were robbing the slaves as never before. A man could not stay on a job. He paid \$1.00 usually for a job. I saw a young fellow in Portland pay \$25.00 for a firing job in a saw mill, with the guarantee, if he did his work, he would not be discharged in less than three months.

That was in the winter of 1911. The camps had two crews on the road, one coming and the other going and one in the camp. When a man came with an employment ticket, he got a job, and someone got fired. He might get one day's work or he might get a week. But when a fellow came with a ticket for his job, he had to go.

On such occasions I have asked: "What's the matter; isn't my work satisfactory?" I was told that my work is all right, but they don't need me. Other times I have gone into town, paid a dollar for the same job, gone back the next day and put to work.

At many of these camps the food was so poor a man couldn't eat it unless he was half drunk. Up to this time I had never tasted whiskey. But the continual change from camp to camp, the poor food and intolerable conditions in the camps, and the carrying of my home on my back, were killing my self-respect. I started taking a drink mornings, so I could eat. As I liked the taste of it, I drank more and more all the time, until finally one day in Centralia, I found myself drunk. I got to a place out of sight and laid down; for I was ashamed to be seen, and I said I would never taste it again,

but I did.

I was in Centralia at the time of the Free Speech fight in Aberdeen. One day a report came to Centralia that the I. W. W. were coming. Everyone was excited. A lot of men were deputized. All the saloons in town were closed. The militia was mobilized.

Just before dark, 10 loggers came hiking into town. They were kept at the Queen rooms that night under guard, and the next day were escorted out of town, headed toward Chehalis. I don't know what happened to them after that. They certainly didn't look

bearings of the separator, and a lot of stuff like that. He said he was an I. W. W.

A policeman was walking up and down the side walk. I wondered why he didn't arrest him; for his own admissions would convict him of a dirty crime. But the cop did not interfere. Finally a fellow with a peg leg walked out of the crowd onto the side walk, and knocked him off the box. The fellow got up and ran. The cop arrested the man with the peg leg.

That night in a room over Fritze's saloon, a man told me that the fellow



Lyons Ferry, Salmon River, on wagon road to White Bird, six miles above, my homestead. My wife on boat.

like criminals to me. If they were, I wondered, why wasn't the law used on them? And if they weren't, why were they herded out of town like stray cattle.

I didn't know anything about their beliefs then. One night after that I was in Portland. A fellow stood on a soap box on the corner of Second and Burnside and told what he had done in the harvest fields. He was a big fellow, wearing a red flannel shirt. He told how he had put emery dust in the

with the red shirt was hired to make that talk to queer the I. W. W. and that the man with the wooden leg was an I. W. W.

In the winter of 1912 I was sick of running from one job to another and being broke half the time. So I decided to go to Idaho, and get me a homestead. I was almost broke when I made this decision, but I went just the same. When I got to White Bird, Idaho, I was broke, but I met a stock man the first day I was there. He gave me a job and I worked for him till spring.

(To be continued.)



The following class war prisoners have been released in recent months:

Edgar Combs, Moundsville, W. Va., released Jan. 5, 1927.  
 Roy Carter, San Quentin, I. W. W., released Jan. 29, 1927.  
 Omar J. Eaton, San Quentin, I. W. W., released in April, 1927.  
 Leo Stark, Folsom Prison, Represa, Cal., I. W. W., released Feb. 12, 1927.  
 C. J. Sullivan, Folsom Prison, Represa, Cal., I. W. W., released Feb. 12, 1927.  
 Leo Ellis, Folsom Prison, Represa, Cal., I. W. W., released Feb. 1927.  
 R. W. Minton, San Quentin, Cal., I. W. W., released Jan. 25, 1927.  
 W. Rutherford, San Quentin, Cal., I. W. W., released Jan. 25, 1927.  
 F. W. Thompson, San Quentin, I. W. W., released Feb. 7, 1927.  
 Tom Connors, San Quentin, I. W. W., released March 8, 1927.  
 A. Bratland, San Quentin, I. W. W., released Feb. 17, 1927.  
 H. B. Stewart, San Quentin, I. W. W., released March 21, 1927.





# Voices FROM Prison

## Tom Nash.

Seattle, Wash.

James P. Cannon,  
Chicago, Ill.

Fellow Worker:

I have just received your letter containing the two checks for \$25 each as a Xmas donation to fellow workers Moudy and myself and I sincerely thank you and the I. L. D. for this kind act. I gave Moudy his check and he asked me to thank you for same, and to also send in his receipt, as he is somewhat under the weather due to a severe cold and won't be able to write for a few days. So I am enclosing a receipt from him in this letter. . . .

With best wishes, I am, yours for the Centralia boy's release,

(Signed) Tom Nash.

## Matt Schmidt.

San Quentin Prison.

Mr. Jas. P. Cannon,  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Friend:

Your letters with the checks for \$5 and \$25 came safely. Our mail was so heavy at the holiday period that I have waited until now to thank you. Please thank the other members of the committee for me.

I know that the fine gift represented the efforts and the sacrifice of a lot of fine men and women. We appreciate their fine spirit. It is not the spirit that animates the people back of the full page ads of the department stores and shops.

There is nothing that I can say that will adequately express my thanks. I can only hope that your efforts will, even in a small way, lift the curtain of darkness and stupidity that obscures every horizon.

Let me wish that "whatever Gods there be" will deal gently with you during the coming year.

Sincerely,

(Signed) M. A. Schmidt, No. 30704

## Eugene Barnett.

Walla Walla, Wash.

International Labor Defense,  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Comrade:

At last I will try to write you a few lines. I suppose I appear to be an unappreciative cuss to those who do not know how we are handicapped in our correspondence by the one letter a week rule. Some prisons allow the inmates to purchase stationary and stamps aside from that furnished by the state and to write several letters per week. But here, the state furnishes two sheets of paper and one envelope to each man once a week and that is all he can have, unless he has very urgent business; then he can apply for, and get, a special letter. I have received several nice letters from

members of the League of Neighbors. One woman from whom I have received letters told me of her visit to the West Virginia coal fields. She spoke of Pocahantas in her letter. One of my mother's brothers was killed in the big explosion there. many years ago, and one of my first-cousins was killed in another one of the mines owned by the same company in 1923.

I was sure sorry to hear that Comrade Ruthenberg had passed on. The American working class has all too few like him. As the parasites are driven from China, India, Africa and other foreign countries, the class struggle will be intensified in this country and men of foresight and courage will be sorely needed to direct the energies of the masses and keep them headed toward their goal.

I received Comrade Cannon's reply to my letter of inquiry about my book and I thank him for the information he gave me, and for the references.

Well, news is a minus quantity here so I will close with best wishes.

Eugene Barnett.

P. S. I am pleased to see that Bishop Brown is having such a successful tour.

## Warren Billings.

Represa, Calif.

International Labor Defense,  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Friend:

Your letter of the 14th instant with the enclosed check for \$5 received.

Yes, I have read in The Daily Worker about the passing of Comrade Ruthenberg, but I rather think that far abler writers than I have said all that I could say and in far better style than I could have put it. So there doesn't seem to be much use of me trying to write anything on the subject. I have, for a long time, wanted to send in something from my pen, but matters have so shaped themselves in recent months that it has been practically impossible for me to find time for any writing.

Then too, my health is not as good as it might be. After a recent fluoroscopic examination by three doctors, I was told that I had a duodenal ulcer. I have had some stomach trouble for some time and frequent attacks of neuritis and it would now appear that the ulcer is the cause of all the trouble.

Thanking you for the check, I am

Sincerely yours,

Warren K. Billings.

## John Merrick.

International Labor Defense.

Dear Comrades:

We wish to thank you for the monthly check as it has indeed been a relief and saved a lot of worry.

I am allowed to visit my husband twice a month and so far have been able to take advantage of every opportunity. He must

receive books direct from the publisher and we can no longer carry reading material to them but he has been fortunate in having enough to read. We have the daily Haverhill paper mailed to him, as that is the city in which I work (when there is any). At present a strike is in progress which although not participated in by many, has crippled the whole city; so work is scarce as usual.

The prison food is very poor and at one time a number of the men had a mild case of ptomaine poisoning. When he doesn't feel just right, he doesn't eat for a few days and in my last letter he said at that time he was as well as he ever expected to be without exercise and fresh air. They are allowed one hour a day in the yard, which is of course crowded, as is the whole place. On one of my visits I was allowed with others to go through it under the direction of a guide, and I must say it depressed me to see the quarters.

We value his letters which are restricted to three a month; censorship is strong, so his parents and I are the only ones to whom he has written. Mr. Zelms has kindly visited him a few times and he has been a staunch comrade and friend.

My husband's mother who has been for the last few months at the Essex Sanatorium for tuberculosis, found she did not improve there, so is now at her home with Mr. Merrick, who is also ill and unable to work. She read me a letter from Mr. Zelms telling of the coming bazaar in April and I am now working on a few things which we hope will be of use in helping the cause along.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. John E. Merrick.

## Remember Centralia.

Centralia, Wash.

J. P. Cannon.

Fellow Worker:

Just a few lines to let you know that I received the check for \$50 and many thanks to all the fellow workers for it. We are all well and we had a very nice Xmas, but would have enjoyed it so much better if my dear husband could have been here. I hope we won't have to be alone next Xmas.

A fellow worker,

Mrs. John Lamb.

## From Cornelison.

San Quentin, Calif.

International Labor Defense,  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Comrade:

Enclosed please find receipt for check of \$5 and am sending my acknowledgment of thanks, through the I. L. D. to the class conscious workers who contribute to this fund out of their meager earnings.

I have seen and read in the papers of the death of Comrade Charles E. Ruthenberg.

a man who was loved for what he was. He will be missed by those who were most dear to him, but after all he will be missed by the workers, those to whom he devoted and made his life work to help. We cannot say that he will be replaced, but we do know that the fight will be continued until we have achieved our goal—the abolishment of the wage system.

I am following up the reports on Mexico, Nicaragua and China in their struggle to break the bonds of capitalism. I often sit in my cell at night and say to myself: "John they have you here for life, but after all you are better off than a lot of others in this world. How about the workers of China that are sacrificing their lives so as to break the bonds of imperialism?"

Through the I. L. D., I would like to thank some comrade who has subscribed to the Labor Defender, the first many of us had ever seen. It was read with great interest, especially the article by Max Shachtman. I passed it on to many of the other comrades that are here, as California has more than her share of labor prisoners. I am also receiving The Daily Worker through the kindness of some other com-

rade whom I have no way of finding out who he is, so I'm taking this method of thanking him.

Fraternally yours,  
John J. Cornelison.

### From San Quentin.

San Quentin Prison.  
International Labor Defense,  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Friends:

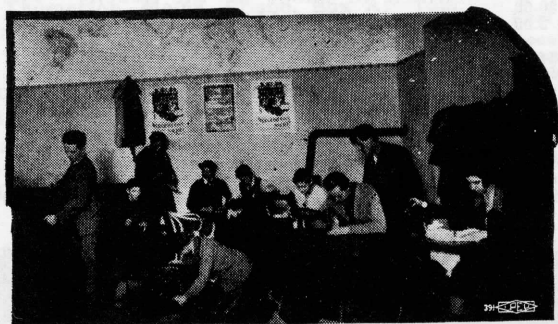
Your kind letter of March 14, with a check for \$5.00 enclosed was received, for which I thank the members of the I. L. D. It is not really the amount of the gift which makes the boys in prison do time easier, but rather the spirit which motivates the gift. It makes us feel that were the Workers in powers, we would have the greatest gift this life affords—liberty. Not that liberty which is ranted and prated from every rostrum, from the backwoods school house to the White House, but that liberty which makes for the abolition of child labor, industrial slavery, special privilege, and corruption of the people's rights.

It was a shock to read of the death of C. E. Ruthenberg. While I did not know the gentleman personally, I held him in high esteem for his determined stand against all that did not measure up to his principles. As a matter of fact, I never knew much about the gentleman, except that his principles were taboo in my union circle, until I was imprisoned. My imprisonment has broadened my mind considerably. I was living in a fool's paradise. It took an awful lot to awaken me. However, my eyes have been opened and I can clearly see that there is nothing except love and sympathy for the workers in the hearts and souls of those who are branded as destructionists. To that class belonged Charles E. Ruthenberg.

Those who were fortunate enough to know him personally, surely feel a wide gap rended in their lives and activities, a gap which needs to be filled and insofar as activities are concerned, will be filled, but there will always remain in all of our minds, a memory of the courageous man.

Fraternally yours,  
Claude Merritt, Box 37336.

## Labor Defence Thruout the World



A section of International Red Aid in Austria where clothes are made and mended for political prisoners and their families.



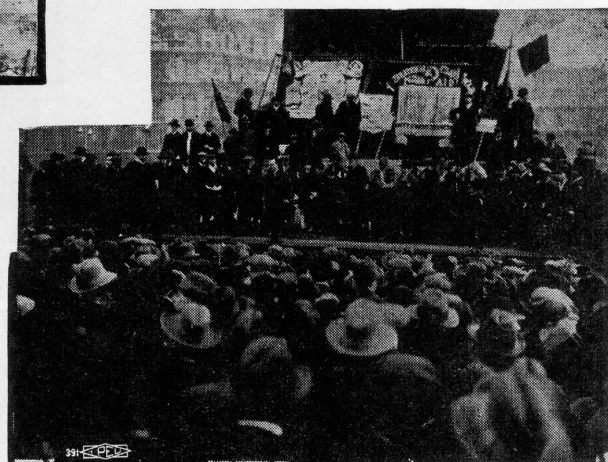
Red Aid Committee of Old Bukara, Uzbekistant, awaiting arrival of Turkish revolutionary.



A Dutch detachment marching to suppress Javanese revolt.



A demonstration in Paris, France, on behalf of political prisoners and against high cost of living.



Demonstration in Trafalgar Square, London, for release of all political prisoners in England and protest against Lithuanian fascism.

## Against the Hungarian Special Court.

BERLIN.—In a leading article in the Berlin social democratic "Vorwärts" the well-known German social democratic leader, Otto Landsberg, deals with the threatening special procedures against the arrested communists and left wing socialists in Hungary. He writes:

"Against 53 Hungarian men, Zoltan Szanto and comrades, special procedures for riot have been started. An Hungarian special court, which declares an accused guilty, can only pass a death sentence. The possibility of 53 death sentences makes the heart of everybody tremble.

What is the charge against the accused? The weight of the charges is so ill-proportioned to the threatening punishment, that one could laugh about it, if the matter was not bloody serious in the true sense of the word. The prosecutor accuses the 53 defendants of having attempted to organize a Communist Party, of having established party schools, prepared a demonstration for the anniversary of the proclamation of the Hungarian Soviet Republic, of having planned to establish a printing shop for the purpose of issuing leaflets. This is all.

I was informed that about 20 of the people who are fighting for their lives are not Communists, but members of the Vagi Party, which can be compared to the former German Independent Social Democratic Party. It distinguishes itself certainly in many respects from the Hungarian social democracy, but not in its basic principles, which are strictly democratic. It is out of the question that the Vagi Party has taken part in a propaganda for Communist tendencies."

After having pointed out in detail the illegality of special court procedures, Landsberg ends his article:

"Humanity cannot stand aside without interest in face of the things that happen in Hungary. From all countries voices should be raised which teach the Hungarian rulers that the country led by them is in danger of losing the name of a cultured territory. Bismarck said that in a war the friendship of the smaller neutral state replaces the value of two army corps. This statement does not only apply to wars and the friendship or hostility of parties, too, has its significance. The loss of the sympathies of international democracy is a misfortune for a people. May the Hungarian government keep that in mind and prevent a crime which, whatever the accused may have done, is worse than theirs."



Rose Baron, Secretary New York I. L. D., at booth of bazaar held March 10.

### CONTRIBUTIONS FOR MARCH, 1927

14910	W. J. Conarty, Calumet City, Ill.....	\$ 1.00
14911	Polish Branch of I. L. D., Hegewish, Illinois .....	35.00
14912	J. Samuels, Wilmington, Ill.....	3.00
14913	M. Kalousek, Czecho-Slovak Section, Chicago, Ill.....	100.00
14914	Frank Vratarić, Luzerne, Pa.....	15.25
14915	F. Melder, Grand Rapids, Mich.....	.50
14916	Mike Paparelli, New York, N. Y.....	2.00
14917	Veronica Kovacs, Local Perth Amboy, N. J.....	5.00
14918	Alex Draznik, Gary, Ind.....	1.00
14919	Jean Stovel, Local Seattle, Wash.....	30.00
14920	A. Trauner, Newark, N. J.....	3.00
14921	P. V. Zalpís, Lithuanian Section, Chicago, Ill.....	54.00
14922	P. V. Zalpís, Lithuanian Section, Chicago, Ill.....	100.00
14923	S. Melus, Polish Br., Passaic, N. J.....	5.00
14924	Joseph Wilson, Long Beach, Wash.....	20.00
14925	Frank Spector, Local Los Angeles, California .....	500.00
14926	E. Morkozon, Wilmington, Del.....	3.00
14927	J. M. A. Spence, Chicago, Ill.....	5.00
14928	Estella Tardoff, Boulder, Colo.....	5.00
14929	V. Phillipov, Bulgarian Br., Gary, Indiana .....	73.90
14930	S. Nowakowski, Polish Section, Chicago, Illinois .....	25.00
14931	H. C. Harriger, Huntington Park, California .....	1.00
14932	W. J. Conarty, Calumet City, Ill.....	1.00
14933	Anna Hammer, Rosindale, Mass.....	1.00
14934	Robert Zelms, New England Division	10.00
14935	Sophie Katz, Las Vegas, New Mex.....	5.00
14936	Rose Baron, Local New York, New York .....	1000.00
14937	S. Benjamin, Passaic, N. J.....	5.00
14938	The Siegel Family, Ontario, Calif.....	1.00
14939	Cyril Lambkin, Local Detroit, Mich.....	65.00
14940	Phil. De Giambattista, Local Avella, Pennsylvania .....	5.00
14941	L. C. Skoglund, Work Sick & Benev. and Educational Federation.....	2.00
14942	E. Van Ee, Local Seattle, Wash.....	5.00
14943	W. S. Alderton, Housewives' Union, Palo Alto, Calif.....	2.00
14944	J. Jensen, Bridgeport, Conn.....	6.00
14945	Einar Ring, Newberry Workers' Club, Newberry, Mich.....	5.00
14946	Albert Sorteberg, Hudson, Wis.....	1.00
14947	Robert Zelms, New England Div.....	10.00
14948	Helen N. Yeskovich, Brooklyn, N. Y.....	5.00
14949	Hilda Wilson, Juanita Finnish Br., Kirkland, Wash.....	3.00
14950	Cyril Lambkin, Local Detroit, Mich.....	175.00
14951	Edgar Owens, Local San Francisco, California .....	200.00
14952	Anton Kratofil, Norwalk, Ohio.....	5.00
14953	I. A. Helle, San Francisco, Calif.....	2.20
14954	Sophie Levine, Ladies' Aux. Circle, St. Louis, Mo.....	5.00
14955	John Antilla, Aura, Mich.....	1.00
14956	John S. Reed, Local Rochester, Minnesota .....	5.00
14957	E. Pekman, Tacoma, Wash.....	1.50
14958	W. E. Elbe, Local Mt. Vernon, Washington .....	7.75
14959	Ch. Choma, Hungarian Br., Scranton, Pa.....	15.00
14960	Harvey Watts, Local Minneapolis, Minnesota .....	30.00
14961	Evert Van Ee, Seattle, Wash.....	140.00
Total Receipts .....		\$2,707.70

### THEY REFUSED TO SHOOT AT THEIR RELATIONS.

BUCHAREST.—According to a report of the government organ "Universal" the court martial in Kishinev sentenced five Bessarabian peasants to five years hard labor each because they had refused during the peasant revolt in Jedines to shoot at the rebels. The soldiers stated before the court that they could not shoot at their own relations.

Statement of the Ownership, Management, Circulation, Etc., required by the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912, of Labor Defender, published monthly at Chicago, Illinois, for April 1, 1927.

State of Illinois, County of Cook, ss.  
Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared James P. Cannon, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Publisher of the Labor Defender and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 411, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, International Labor Defense, 23 S. Lincoln Street, Chicago.

Editor, Max Shachtman, 23 South Lincoln Street, Chicago.

Managing Editor, none.  
Business Manager, George Maurer.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)  
International Labor Defense, Chicago, Ill.  
James P. Cannon, secretary, 23 So. Lincoln Street, Chicago. Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, chairman, New York City. Edward C. Wentworth, vice-chairman, Chicago, Ill.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

International Labor Defense,  
J. P. Cannon, Secretary.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of March, 1927.

S. G. Hammersmark.  
(My commission expires May 22, 1928.)

ALL  
INFORMATION  
HERE

JOIN INTERNATIONAL  
LABOR DEFENSE

RELEASE  
CLASS-WAR PRISONERS!

SETTLE FOR ALL  
TICKETS HERE

Do you want the honor  
to be a Success??  
Join the I.L.D.

Are you a member  
of the I.L.D.?  
IF NOT  
Why not?

RELEASE  
CLASS-WAR PRISONERS!  
I.L.D.  
JOIN INTERNATIONAL  
LABOR DEFENSE

RELEASE  
CLASS-WAR PRISONERS!  
I.L.D.  
JOIN INTERNATIONAL  
LABOR DEFENSE

ILD  
25th Annual  
CONFERENCE

CHICAGO

ILD  
25th Annual  
CONFERENCE

CHICAGO

RELEASE  
CLASS-WAR PRISONERS!

I.L.D.

WE DEMAND  
The Release Of  
Class War  
Prisoner

DOWN  
With Bestial Torture  
of

39-2572

Rose Baron, Secretary New York I. L. D., at booth of bazaar held March 10.



## List of Class War Prisoners.

*Write to them!*

**California Penitentiary, Alcatraz, Calif.:** Paul Crouch.

**Folsom Prison, Represa, Calif.:** Warren K. Billings, John Hiza.

**Lansing (Kansas) Prison, P. O. Box No. 2:** Joe Niel.

**Charlestown (Mass.) State Prison:** John E. Merrick, Bartolomeo Vanzetti.

**Norfolk County Jail, Dedham, Mass.:** Nicola Sacco.

**Oahu Penitentiary, Oahu, T. H., P. O. Box 3289:** Pablo Manlapit.

**Ohio State Prison, London, Ohio:** Dominic Venturato.

**Passaic County Jail, Paterson, N. J.:** Joseph Belene, Alex Kostamaha, Paul Oznik, William Sikora, Paul Kovac, Tony Pochno, Nicholas Schillaci, Joseph Toth, Adolph Wisnefski.

**Calif. Penitentiary, San Quentin, Calif.:** Jack Beaver, No. 40628; John Bruns, No. 40054; Wm. Bryan, No. 39344; John J. Cornelison, No. 37287; J. B. McNamara, No. 25314; Claude Merritt, No. 37336; Tom Mooney, No. 31921; A. Nicholson, No. 39348; M. A. Schmidt, 25314; R. V. Taylor, No. 39350.

**State Prison, Sioux Falls, So. Dak., Box 911:** Frank Godalsky.

**Thomaston, Maine, Prison, Box A:** Tom Harty.

**Walla Walla, Wash., Prison, Box 520:** Eugene Barnett, No. 9414; Ray Becker, No. 9413; Bert Bland, No. 9411; O. C. Bland, No. 9409; John Lamb, No. 9412; James McIninery, No. 9410; Loren Roberts, No. 9100; Britt Smith, No. 9431.

## Contributors to the Pledge Fund.

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

**Remember the class-war prisoners and their dependents!**

### INDIVIDUALS:

Estella Tarkoff, Boulder, Col.  
Mrs. A. Kratofil, Norwalk, Ohio.  
Joseph Wilson, Long Beach, Wash.  
Albert Gerling, Madrid, Iowa.  
The Siegel Family, Ontario, Calif.  
Sophie Katz, Sanatorium, Colo.  
Jens Jensen, Bridgeport, Conn.  
Rae Berenbaum, Denver, Colo.  
R. Bokolos, Zeigler, Ill.  
Abraham Cronbach, Cincinnati, Ohio.  
Alex Drajnuk, Jr., Gary, Ind.  
Louis A. Barnett, Newark, N. J.  
A. N. Routhier, Detroit, Mich.  
Anna Hammer, Roslindale, Mass.  
Mike Paparelli, New York City.  
I. E. Ferguson, Chicago.

C. Bodden, Philadelphia, Pa.  
J. Smith, Philadelphia, Pa.  
F. Winkler, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Albert Sorteberg, Hudson, Wis.

### I. L. D. BRANCHES:

Local Arden. Local Denver.  
Local Perth Amboy. Local Passaic.  
Local Canton. Local Avella  
Local Newberry, Mich.

Local Chicago: Barnett Branch, Billings Branch, Bulgarian Branch, Hungarian Branch, Cicero International Branch, Irving Park English Branch, Italian Branch, Northwest Jewish Branch, Karl Marx Branch, Lettish Branch, South Slavic Branch, Ukrainian Branch.

Local Boston: Malden Branch, Roxbury Lettish Branch, Boston Lettish Branch, Roxbury Jewish Branch.

Local Detroit: Anti-Fascist Branch, Greek Branch, Hungarian Branch, Tom Mooney Branch, Lithuanian Branch, No. Ladies' Prog. Society Branch, Painters' Branch, South Slavic Branch, Scandinavian Branch, Women's Branch I. L. D., Women's Educational Circle.  
East Side Polish Branch.

Local New York: Brownsville English Branch, German Yorkville Branch, Lithuanian Brooklyn Branch, Richmond German Branch.

Local Cleveland: Slovak Branch, West Side Branch, Ukrainian Branch.

Local Philadelphia: Kensington Branch, Lithuanian Branch.

Local Seattle: English Branch, Esthonian and Finnish Branch, Women's Educational League.

## The Pledge Fund.

The elsewhere listed individuals and I. L. D. branches have pledged themselves for a definite sum monthly, to help send \$5 monthly to the class-war prisoners and \$20 to dependents. The pledges run from \$1 to \$5. All pledgers are requested to please send their checks so they reach the national office not later than the 20th of each month. These small amounts represent a friendly voice from the outside to the prisoners and a helping hand to the dependents. Don't fail them. Send your check on time. All other contributions coming to the national office have to be used for legal defense of the many cases we are now conducting.

**Remember the class-war prisoners and their dependents!**



**PAUL CROUCH**  
Due to be released  
June 1.

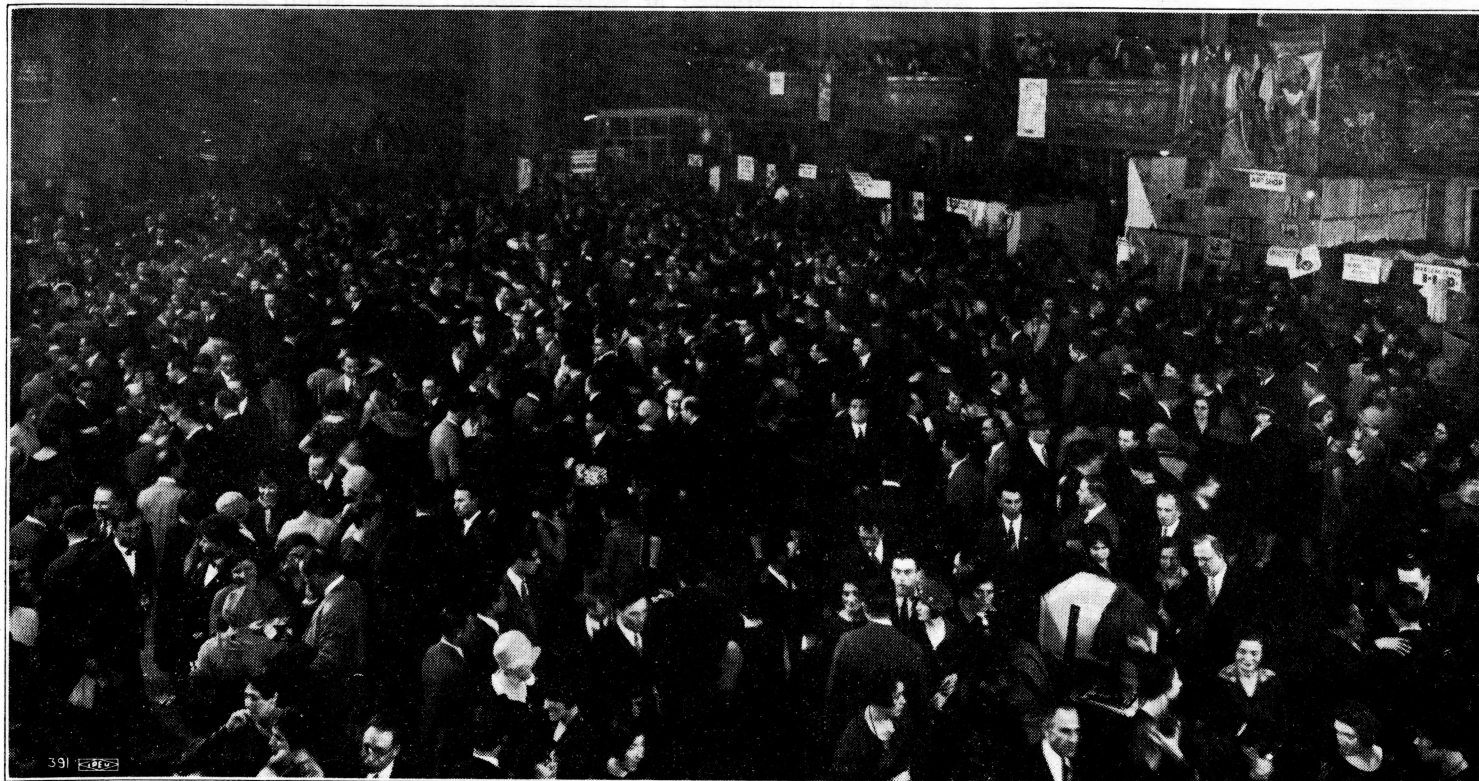
## Prisoner's Birthday Dates.

*Write to them!*

**June 11.** Bartolomeo Vanzetti, Charlestown State Prison, Mass.

**June 16.** John Bruns, San Quentin Penitentiary, California.

**June 17.** Thomas Harty, Prison, Box A, Thomaston, Maine.



Part of crowd at New York I. L. D. Bazaar, March 10, 11, 12.

# DEFEND PASSAIC!

## 11 Strikers Now Serving Prison Terms!

Joseph Bellene, Alex Kostamaha, Paul Oznak, Tony Pochno, William Sikora, Adolph Wisnefski, Paul Kovac, Nicholas Schillaci SENTENCED FROM FIVE TO TWENTY YEARS!

WOMEN STRIKERS, Mrs. Anna Catrona and Mrs. Frances Pollizzo, with five children, given jail sentence.



Mrs. Adolph Wisnefski and four of her five children. The oldest, not in the picture, is eight. Wisnefski was convicted on a framed-up charge of "bombing."

*These framed-up strike victims have wives and children dependent upon them. We must support them!*

Over \$30,000 have been paid out already in fines against the hundreds of men and women arrested during the Passaic strike. Some strikers are serving out their fine in jail.

Cases are yet to come to trial of workers now out on bail as high as \$30,000.

The families of the prisoners who must be maintained are: Mrs. Nicholas Schillaci (2 children); Mrs. Paul Kovac (3 children); Mrs. Adolph Wisnefski (5 children, all under eight); Mrs. Alex Kostamaha (1 child, mother ill); Mrs. Joseph Bellene (2 children under six); Mrs. Tony Pochno (2 children); Mrs. Paul Oznak (3 children); Mrs. Wm. Sikora (5 children, mother ill).

The I. L. D. is sending \$5.00 monthly to each of these men. Their dependents should get \$20.00 monthly.

## Contribute to the Passaic Defense!

**Sign  
Today!**

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

Enclosed please find \$..... to help defend Passaic strikers. I wish to contribute monthly \$..... toward the Pledge Fund. Please send me the name and address of one of the Passaic defendants or their dependents with whom I may correspond.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY ..... STATE .....



**Mrs. Adolph Wisnefsky and four of her five children. The oldest, not in the picture, is eight. Wisnefski was convicted on a framed-up charge of "bombing."**