# LABOR DEFENDER

October 1927

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The Death Mask of Vanzetti



The Death Mask of Nicola Sacco

## Labor's Deathless Martyrs

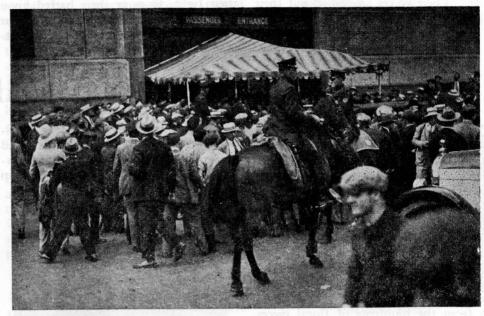
A Statement by International Labor Defense on the Execution of Sacco and Vanzett

Sacco and Vanzetti are dead, but their names will live forever and become a shining banner for the upward striving toilers of the world. They have been murdered by the assassins of the capitalist class. Their execution was a cynically brutal defiance of the worldwide demand of the millions of people that they be liberated or at least be given a new trial to prove over again their innocence. It was a legal lynching, a fiendish act of class vengeance, cunningly prepared and planned and violently consummated by the willing tools of the capitalist class.

Sacco and Vanzetti gave their lives for the working class. Like their immortal comrades of Chicago's Haymarket they died as martyrs to the cause of labor. This was known or felt by tens of millions of workers in every corner of the globe who fought bitterly to the very last moment to vindicate the two heroic labor fighters. Their admirable loyalty and devotion to the cause of labor was the only crime they were guilty of; they were innocent of the crime charged against them by their executioners.

The last words of Vanzetti, uttered a minute before the current of death silenced his voice, were the echo of the deep convictions of the people: "I wish to tell you that I am innocent of all crimes, not only of this one but of all. I am an innocent man."

The Massachusetts executioners have put to death two glorious spirits.



At the New York Grand Central Station awaiting the arrival of Rose Sacco and a delegation from Boston.

These two fighters, living for seven years in the shadow of the electric chair, unceasingly tortured by their suspension between delay and death, calmly watching the relentless net of the capitalist lynchers closing about them, showed by their heroic conduct how the revolutionary fighters of the working class can die at the hands of their class enemy.

The noble dignity and courage which sustained them throughout the seven years remained with them to the end. They went to death calmly and

bravely, without fear or embarrament. It was their murderers, the gernor and the judges, who hid the faces in fear and shame.

Yes, their names will live forey for the electric current that killed the has burned their names permanen into the hearts of the toilers of world. Their miserable execution will be buried in oblivion while names and struggles of Sacco and V zetti still remain a shining guide to masses, an inspiration to the oppress everywhere. They are our noble a



heroic martyrs. Their conduct up to the very last moment was in that spirit. The fight of the working class has already made their names immortal and for us their memory is imperishable. Their voices are stilled but their silence thunders around the world.

The workers of America who fought

to free Sacco and Vanzetti must pay tribute to their heroic memory in every section of the country. The workers must pledge themselves to keep alive the memory of Sacco and Vanzetti and their fight, to pour their hatred upon the heads of the murderers, to build our strength to prevent new Sacco-Vanzetti cases and to obtain freedom for the class fighters who are also victims of the frame-up and still in prison.

The International Labor Defense will continue its work for that cause in the spirit of Sacco and Vanzetti.

Remember labor's deathless martyrs and fight on in their spirit!

### The Funeral of Sacco and Vanzetti

B OSTON has never seen so great a workers' demonstration as the funeral parade of Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti. The two workingmen murdered by Massachusetts for their beliefs were paid homage by more than 100,000.

Starting in the North End Italian district near the Defense Committee's office, the funeral procession made its way slowly and solemnly through the narrow streets of Boston. Red flowers from the hundreds of floral pieces sent by workers in all parts of the world were strewn before the hearses bearing the workers' electrocuted bodies to be cremated.

Three times the nervous police charged into the marchers' ranks. Twice mounted police thrust hundreds of the many thousand watchers lining the sidewalks back against buildings. But the great procession moved on unbroken. Near the boundary line of Boston motorcycle police ran full tilt against the crowd, knocking down many workers and badly bruising them.

But as before the front ranks linked arms across the width of the street—40 abreast—and pushed the police before them. Through a drizzling rain, undaunted, the procession marched on.

Streets surrounding the Massachusetts state house were variously blockaded from the marching workers. Street department trucks were used as barricades, with piles of paving bricks—and police strung out to boot. "Street Under Repair" signs were posted to keep regular traffic out.



The chair of death.

Long before the last of the marchers reached the cemetery, the simple service for Sacco and Vanzetti was over. No religious rites were held over the bodies of the two who died for their beliefs.

What a strange procession and ceremony it seemed to the Boston and Massachusetts which had killed these men as criminals. Thousands of marching workers proving their devotion to two humble workingmen, innocent of any crime save that of unusual beliefs and a desire for a better world.

#### THE LABOR DEFENDER

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LEFT: The "March of Sorrow" in the streets of Seattle after the execution.

RIGHT: Cleveland Public Square meeting for Sacco and Vanzetti.



# The Last Day in Boston

By Ella Reeve Bloor

THAT "last day" in Boston, friends of Sacco and Vanzetti from all parts of the country had assembled in the early morning at Scenic Hall. Here the pickets were organized in relays, to march before the State House, in protest against the execution.

Hundreds of strikers, who had added their protest by leaving their work in factories, and stores, gathered on the Common, directly opposite the State House. The pickets, carrying placards of stirring appeal were besieged by hundreds of service men, and state and municipal police.

Then one after another our lines were broken up and the marchers taken to the Joy Street jail, where we were literally herded together for hours.

The Death Watch was held in two halls in one building on Salem Street. Here burning words were spoken, words of sorrow, words of protest, but throughout the night the dominant note was one of hope for the future—hope for greater solidarity.

As the surging crowd outside heard the applause the tenseness and restlessness increased, and someone called out for me to speak from the window. Just as I started to speak, the singing of the "International" sounded from the hall above. At once the great throng outside became silent as the words rang out:

"Arise ye prisoners of starvation Arise ye wretched of the earth."

At that moment policemen rushed upstairs, grabbed me, actually pulling and pushing me down the narrow stairs. The crowd followed "booing" to the police station where I was booked for "inciting to riot" and then bailed out.

The Salem Street halls were cleared out by police responding to a riot call and most of the crowd then went to continue their Death Watch at the Charlestown Prison. Then the dread silence of twelve o'clock and the whisper everywhere:

"THEY ARE GONE!"

After this dark night of suffering 160 of us had to appear in the court-room early in the morning. We were found "guilty."

There are many striking incidents of these trying days that will remain in our memory as long as life lasts. Can we ever forget entering that little undertaker's room where the bodies of our martyrs lay in state,-the calm intellectual face of Sacco and the strong broad brow of Vanzetti,—the crowds of workers marching by for days and nights paying their silent, tearful tribute. And the hour we spent with Rose Sacco and her son Dante at their little home in Malden the night before the funeral. One of the brave heroes of our class war, she kept her personal grief in the background and with the spirit of



Ella Reeve Bloor

her husband said: "They belong to the working class of the world now, not to me."

And her boy Dante has pledged himself to "carry on" his father's work. As we talked, Vanzetti's sister, also brave, able to express herself only by a handclasp, seemed stunned, perplexed.

Then came the day of the funeral. Boston looked as if there was a war or state of siege, in process. The State House was barred for blocks around; no traffic of any kind was allowed. Hundreds of State Cossacks patrolled the streets, carrying guns and rifles and when the funeral procession formed in



Delegation leaving from New York for Boston during the Sacco-Vanzetti campaign. Second woman from the right is Rose Baron, Secretary of Local New York, I. L. D., and acting secretary of the N. Y. Emergency Committee.

derly lines, four abreast, behind the ffins, the Cossacks rode in and out of e ranks, trampling down men, womand children, pushing them back on e sidewalks until shop windows tcked. Shouts and cries of protest

sounded along the entire 8 miles of the route to Forest Hills; and there in front of the Crematorium the police carried on a terrible carnage with their clubs and horses. We witnessed the cremation with one thought in our hearts:

"They may burn Sacco and Vanzetti to death—they may burn their bodies to ashes—but they cannot destroy their spirit."

Their spirits will shine on, brighter and brighter as the years go by.

### Another Victim of Class Justice

Comrade Stephen Zinich, editor of ladnik", the South Slavic communist ily, has been ordered deported. Why?

The answer is obvious to anyone ho has the slightest understanding of e nature of the system we are living ider, the capitalist system. Had comde Zinich belonged to the exploiting iss, the question of his deportation ould not come up—he could have inject as long as he pleased. But comde Zinich is a proletarian, son of a for peasant. Even in his childhood felt the unjustness of class society.

The first sixteen years of his life he red in Croatia, which country was en under the iron heel of the Austroungarian monarchy.

The poor peasant life was unbearole, so comrade Zinich, not then havg a clear concept of class struggle, left s home country in the hope of findg better living conditions and more eedom in this rich country.

The year 1912 found comrade Zinh working 12 hours a day in a Lackvana, N. J., factory. To him it soon came evident that there is something rong with the system that we live uner. He was one of the many workers ho were dissatisfied with the present heme of things, but did not know the indamental cause until he joined the ocialist Party in 1916. From that me on, he has continually been active behalf of the class he belongs to. 'he expulsion of the left wing from 1e Socialist Party included him, after hich he took an active part in the orinization of the Communist Party.

Just as any other revolutionist, comide Zinich is considered dangerous to the American ruling class, which class gures that the best way to get rid of im is to charge him beside all other narges, with "illegal entry" and to eport him as an "undesirable".

Jugoslavia is the country that is to ceive comrade Zinich. It is one of the rhite terror countries of the Balkan tates. The Communist Party of Jugoavia is illegal. Wholesale arrests are common occurrence. No public

By M. Krasich

meetings are ever held without police interference. In the jails, brutalilty and torture reign supreme. Upon their release all communists show black eyes, bruises, broken ribs, etc. One needs only to read the work of Henry Barbusse on the white terror in the Balkans to get a true picture of the land to which comrade Zinich is to be deported.

The International Labor Defense is doing everything possible to stop the deportation. So far we have succeeded in postponing it indefinitely. If we can't stop the deportation, then we



Stephen Zinich

will fight for the right of comrade Zinich to choose the country he wants to be sent to.

Deportation of working class leaders must stop. Members of the ruling class are seldom deported, because no matter of what capitalist country they might be, they are always at home in another capitalist country. But a worker has no country; hence the deportation of active class-conscious workers

Comrades! Assist the International Labor Defense in stopping the deporta-

tion of comrade Zinich or any other active worker.

Organized workers of this country must raise their voice and stop all deportations. We must fight for the right of political asylum. Many workers have been deported; many more will be deported if the organized labor don't put a stop to it.

Our slogan must be: Rally around the International Labor Defense and help it to fight all deportation cases.

#### New York's Annual Ball

A grand costume ball, the annual affair of the New York local of International Labor Defense, will be given at New Star Casino, on Friday evening, October 21, 1927, for the benefit of class war prisoners. There will be special entertainment features, orchestras to play for music and dance lovers, and costume prizes. The ball will open at 8 p. m. at the Casino, which is at Park Avenue and 107th Street. All friends of the labor defense movement are urged to attend this colorful affair, not only to have a good time for themselves, but to help strengthen the movement for the release of all political prisoners and the fight against the frame-up system.

Admission is at the nominal price of 50 cents and those who have attended the affairs of the New York I. L. D. before know that a highly enjoyable evening is in store for them.

#### FROM A LETTER.

"I value the Labor Defender very highly, and especially admire your persistent, spirited and intelligent championship of Sacco and Vanzetti.

"Leonard D. Abbott."

DID YOU HELP TO SAVE

### Sacco and Vanzetti?

Others are in prison now as a result of the same frame-up system which murdered Sacco and Vanzetti.

Remember the Class-war Prisoners and their Families on

Christmas



Stephen Zinich

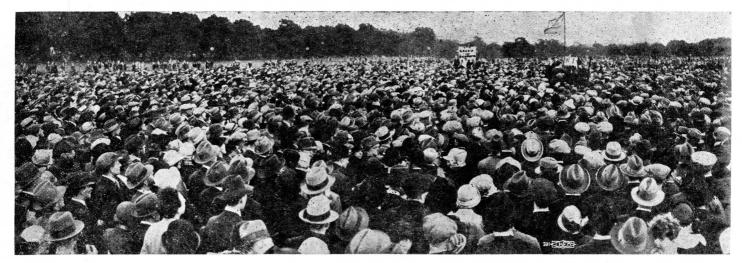
### The Fight for Sacco and Vanzetti



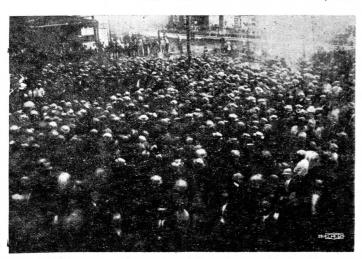
Part of the 8,000 workers in Cleveland's Public Square at a Sacco-Vanzetti meeting.



A. Pippan, of the Anti-Fascist Alliance, on the platform of Chicago's Union Park demonstration.



A section of the immense crowd which gathered in Hyde Park, London, numbering 30,000, in a demonstration organized by the International Class War Prisoners' Aid to protest against the pending execution of Sacco and Vanzetti.



Part of the 20,000 workers at the Sacco-Vanzetti demonstration in Cadillac Square, Detroit.



Thousands of New York workers protested against the execution of Labor's Martyrs.

THE LABOR DEFENDER THE LABOR DEFENDER

# A LIVING MONUMENT to SACCO and VANZETTI

A FTER seven years of delay the electric chair has for the indignant protest of the entire civilized finally claimed its victims. In defiance of the world. civilized world, in the face of the protest of the world's millions, Sacco and Vanzetti have been executed. This foul murder is the cynical answer of the American capitalists to the people of other countries who appealed to America in the name of humanity and justice. At the same time it is their warning to the protesting workers of America that they are prepared to go to any length to beat down the labor movement, and that legal murder is one of their established weapons.

In this act of assassination the ruling class of America shows its real face to the world. The mask of "democracy" is thrown aside. Judge Thayer and Governor Fuller stand forth not as exceptional officials, apart from all others, but as the authentic spokesmen of American capitalism. The face of Governor Fuller is the face of the American capitalist class. It is this vengeful, cruel and murderous class which the workers must fight and conquer before the regime of imprisonment, torture and murder can be ended. This is the message from the chair of death. This is the lesson of the Sacco-Vanzetti case.

Sacco and Vanzetti were victims of the frameup system which is an established part of American police methods insofar as labor prisoners are concerned. The case against them was a transparent fake from start to finish, as everybody who has investigated the facts, knows. Faked evidence, perjured witnesses, prejudiced judge and jurors, dynamite "plants" and newspaper lies and misrepresentations—all the paraphernalia of the frame-up against the Haymarket martyrs, against Mooney and Billings and in other labor cases was repeated here. The Sacco-Vanzetti case, in addition, however, was characterized by such monstrous cruelty and long-drawn-out torture of the victims as to call



A seamen's protest meeting on New York's water front.

But in all of its main features, the Sacco-Vanzetti case was a repetition of the many legal lynchings of Labor leaders that have taken place in the past and a fore-runner of others which will inevitably follow in the future. It was not simply an extraordinary "miscarriage of justice", as many apologists of the capitalist order attempt to main-

Sacco and Vanzetti were labor agitators and foreign-born radicals, arrested at the instigation of the Federal government in the midst of their activities in behalf of other victims of the Palmer reign of terror. It was neither a "criminal" case nor a 'Massachusetts' case, but a class frame-up with the United States government behind the prosecution

It was clear from the beginning that the stage was being set for another Haymarket. This was understood by the militant and conscious workers, and their insistence on a policy based on this point of view brought them into constant conflict with those elements who sought to blur the class character of the case and conduct it in an orderly and "respectable" manner which would not offend the Judge and the Governor and other executioners of the capitalists. The infamous slander regarding funds hurled against the I. L. D. by the Boston committee in the columns of the capitalist press, was a reflection of this basic conflict over policy and was in reality an attempt to demoralize and break up the protest movement. In spite of the bourgeois liberal influences that dominated the official Defense Committee at Boston, the militants would not allow the defense to be confined merely to the narrow groove of Massachusetts legal technicalities. With indefatigable work and sweeping vision they painted the whole monstrous frame-up on a canvas big enough for the workers of all the world to see.

The I. L. D. devoted much of its resources and energies to the work of organizing the protest mass movement in America and throughout the world. It was due to the work of the militants that the crucifixion of Sacco and Vanzetti was not prepared and carried out in a quiet and "orderly" way in whispered consultations behind closed doors, but became a tumultuous issue, storming through the streets and factories of the world.

The industrial masters of America, through their legal hirelings, plotted and carried out the execution of Sacco and Vanzetti with the aim of dealing thereby a blow to the labor movement. But in summing up the case now, and drawing the lessons for the future, it must be plainly said that they were not without allies, both conscious and unconscious, in the camp of the workers themselves.

We will only do justice to the memory of Sacco and Vanzetti and to the cause of labor which they

lived and died for, if we speak openly about all these questions. Sacco and Vanzetti will have died in vain if the real meaning and the causes of their martyrdom are not understood in all their impli-

In the front ranks of the allies of the executioners of the heroic rebel mers, the official leaders of the American labor inovement, Messrs. Green, Woll and company took their place. Their role was to hush up the protest movement of the workers and to frown upon all talk of demonstrations or strikes. Under cover of an appeal for "clemency", Mr. Green proposed to the Governor that Sacco and Vanzetti, who were innocent of any crime, should be imprisoned for life in the Massachusetts penitentiary. Never have these black hearted traitors exposed themselves more clearly than in the Sacco-Vanzoti case.

Unlike Debs, who played his part in the fight nobly till the day of his death, certain elements of the Socialist Party were behind Mr. Green and company only to the extent that their influence was smaller. First, by refusing to participate in any kind of united front action with the left wing and the Communist workers and, second, by try-



A. J. Cook, British miners' leader, speaking in the dark at Hyde Park on the ever August 10th (the date when Sacco and Vanzetti were going to be executed.)

ing to discredit and sabotage all protest activities undertaken independen by the left wing, these office boys for the big labor fakers did their bit to hamper and demoralize the organization of the mass protest movem of the workers which was the only possible salvation for Sacco and Vanzetti. The baseless attacks on the International Labor Defense, the organizer of the protest movement, on the ground of "misuse of funds", were merely a part of the game of demoralization.

In appealing to the workers for solidarity with Sacco and Vanzetti, and in organizing the protest movement in their behalf, the I. L. D. never considered the case as simply that of two individuals involved in a trial at law. We always pointed out its direct connection with the general issues of the struggle between the classes and endeavored to link

up the fight for them with the general defense of the scores of labor prisoners confined in the penitentiaries today and with the broader fight of the toiling masses for liberation from the yoke of

Viewing the case always as an issue of the class struggle, we had no illusions about the possibilities of "justice" from the judges or the Governor. Time and again we warned against these illusions, against confining the defense to the task of collecting money for lawyers whose vision did not extend beyond Judge Thayer's courtroom.

The best defense for Sacco and Vanzetti was to concentrate all energies in arousing the protest movement of the masses. Sacco and Vanzeztti themselves understood this. These humble workers saw with clear-eyed vision that their hope lay in the masses and not in the courts or the Governor's commission. The contemptuous refusal of Sacco to sign the legal papers brought to him was a gesture more eloquent than all the arguments of all the lawyers. Every utterance that came from them was infused with this spirit. Sacco and Vanzetti were blood-brothers to all labor militants, bound by a thousand ties to the labor fighters in the front ranks of the class struggle and to those languishing in the prisons today for the cause of labor. The deathless heritage of the two great martyrs belongs to the militants and they need no one's permission to carry on their work in the name and spirit of Sacco and Vanzetti.

For those who saw the long torture and cruel death of the two heroic workmen as a personal affair or an isolated miscarriage of justice, the case of Sacco and Vanzetti is ended. For some people who connected themselves with the case in one way or another without really knowing what it was all about, the whole affair is a piece of business which is to be wound up now, the books closed and a "final" statement rendered. All big fires draw moths which flutter about them for a day. So let it be with them.

But for the labor militants who fought with and for them, the light of Sacco and Vanzetti burns more brightly and fiercely than before. For us the last word has not yet been spoken. We have work to do and we must be about it. The great movement of the working masses for Sacco and Vanzetti must not be allowed to dissolve. The first and foremost task in honor of the memory of the martyrs is to bind this movement more closely together and to infuse it with a stronger spirit and a broader vision and understanding of the manifold questions which were involved in the Sacco-Van-

We must especially endeavor now to turn the attention of this entire movement to the many other labor prisoners and create a new reservoir of strength and power for a determined nation-wide fight against the frame-up system.

### By James P. Cannon

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The experiences of the Sacco-Vanzetti case have demonstrated more clearly than ever before the great role of the International Labor Defense as an arm of the labor movement, and the necessity for strengthening its effectiveness and of enrolling tens of thousands more of the sympathizing workers into its ranks. The fight against the frame-up system will acquire significance and power to the extent that those who oppose this system take part in the organized movement against it. Such an organization is the I. L. D. Its position as the leading and organizing center of the movement has been established not by words but by deeds, in the course of the fight. To strengthen the I. L. D. is to strengthen the fighting capacity of the labor

The electric flames that consumed the bodies of Sacco and Vanzetti illuminated for tens of thousands of workers, in all its stark brutality, the essential nature of capitalist justice in America. The imprisonment, torture and murder of workers is seen more clearly now as part of an organized system of class persecution.

Against this system—the system of labor frameups-we must deliver our heaviest blows. The defense of individual workers, the material support of their families and our general work of defense agitation must be carried on as a part of the fight to build a wall of labor defense against the frame-

The Third Annual Conference of International Labor Defense will organize its work around this slogan. The Conference will meet in New York City on the fortieth anniversary of the Haymarket Martyrs and will bear testimony to the fact that their memory like the memory of Sacco and Vanzetti remains a powerful inspiring force for the movement of the labor militants.

From the Conference a stronger, more united and determined movement for labor defense on a class basis will emerge—a movement which will incorporate in its work and achievements the spirit of Sacco and Vanzetti and thus become a living monument to their memory.



Demonstrating in Berlin for Sacco and Vanzetti

# Pennsylvania Cossacks on the Job Again

VER thirty men, mostly striking miners, were arrested in connection with the riot that took place at Cheswick, Pa., on August 22nd, at a Sacco and Vanzetti meeting. Some of these men were released after having spent several days in jail. The grand jury of Allegheny County returned true bills against twenty two of these men, who are at present out on bonds of from 500 to 5,000 dollars each. They are charged with unlawful assembly, inciting to riot, riot, and resisting an officer. Several hundred were brutally beaten up and wounded, some very seriously.

"The crowd refused to move, so we moved them," testified Sergeant Downing of the State Police before the squire and refused to state how and under what circumstances this "moving" was done. Here is how it all happened.

About three thousand men, women and children came together to attend a Sacco and Vanzetti mass meeting, arranged by a number of local unions of the U. M. W. A. of Allegheny Valley. Everything was orderly and quiet. The chairman started to open the meeting when Lieutenant Martin of the State Police mounted the platform and ordered the meeting stopped. He informed the gathering that the sheriff of Allegheny county ordered all meetings stopped for that day. The miners of this Valley were accustomed to hold meetings at this place without police interference. Only on July 10 a big Sacco and Vanzetti mass meeting and parade was held in the same little town with no trouble or any disorders. The gathering could not understand why the meeting was ordered stopped. Attempts were made to persuade the state troopers not to interfere with the meeting. Meanwhile, according to the testimony of the state troopers themselves, someone shouted that he was a tax payer and had a right to meet. Another one shouted that he was wounded in the war and could see no reason why the meeting should be stopped. Lieutenant Martin ordered to charge the crowd. Tear gas bombs rendered

Merritt

San Quentin, Calif.

International Labor Defense, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Workers:

I received the regular check for relief some time ago. An old Texas woman on being asked the condition of her husband's health, reBy A. Jakira

the crowd helpless. Mounted police, about fifty of them, drove their horses into this defenseless crowd, trampling and clubbing every one who could not run fast enough into safety. The crowd was dispersed. The police apparently achieved their purpose.

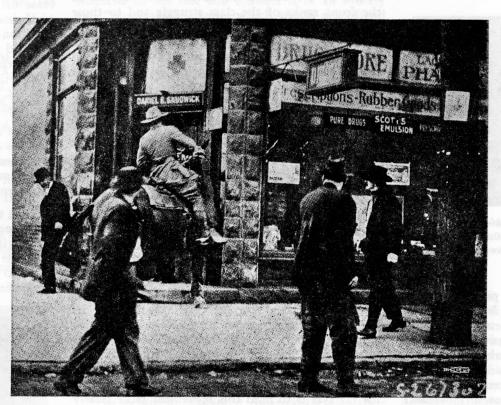
This, however, did not quench the thirst for more blood. Like wild beasts the cossacks proceeded to march along the highway, brutally beating up ev ery one on their way, smashing automobile windows and beating up the passengers. In the excitement a state trooper was shot and killed, possibly by the bullets of the state troopers themselves. This added to the bewilderment of the preservers of law and order. A kind of a field court, like in the old days of Czarist Russia, was established on a nearby farm, where hundreds of men were brought in for "examination and questioning". This wild

orgy in the panicky stricken little mining community lasted the whole day untl late at night. Private homes were invaded where women and children were subjected to brutal treatment.

It is reported that some of the coal companies took an active part in this brutal assault upon the miners and their families, supplying private detectives, deputies and trucks to haul the prisoners to the county jail.

Yet, the state troopers, who caused the riot, who are responsible for hundreds of wounded men, women and children, are still at liberty, and attempts are being made instead to railroad to jail more than twenty miners who committed no crime whatsoever.

The entire country, and not only Pennsylvania, should be aroused by these outrages of the state police who are solely responsible for the Cheswick riot and every man and woman in the country should rally in defense of the men under charges.



State Cossacks in Action Against the Workers

plied, "He's powerful weak this mawnin". So it is with me: I am powerful weak on writing; nevertheless, I am always thinking of the working class and those who fight for their rights, and I am powerful strong for the I. L. D., because the I. L. D. does a powerful lot of good, not only for me, but for all the workers who have made a sacrifice for the cause.

At this time, I am powerful busy doing a

powerful lot of time, and if no results come from my efforts, why I shall just have to try something else. But give up—never!

And I feel confident that that is the attitude of the I. L. D. Give up? NEVER!! That makes for a movement with plenty of spine.

I wish you a powerful lot of success. Yours sincerely,

Claude Merritt.

# Seven Years in Hell

1920

MAY 5—Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti are arrested on a street car while going from West Bridgewater to Brockton, Massachusetts.

AUGUST 16—Vanzeztti is charged with attempting to rob a cashier in bridgewater on December 24, 1919, and is sentenced to prison for from 12 to 15 years by Judge Thayer in Plymouth.

SEPTEMBER 11—Sacco and Vanzetti are accused of being the chief participants in the murder that occurred in South Braintree on April 15, 1920, where, near the shoe factory of Slater 8 Morrill Company, Ferdinand Parzenter and his guard, Alexander Berzerdelli, were killed. The \$15,000 payroll in their possession had been stolen.

1921

MAY 31—Sacco and Vanzetti are brought to trial in Dedham, Mass., again before Judge Thayer. They are indicted on a charge of first degree murger.

JULY 14—After five hours, the ury returns a verdict of guilty of murer in the first degree against Sacco and Vanzetti.

OCTOBER 12—The workers of faris conduct a huge protest demonstration against the verdict. Twenty vorkers are wounded when the demenstration is broken up by the police. It is impossible here to list the tens



Tom Mann speaking to a section of the huge crowd which gathered at the Trafalgar Square
Sacco and Vanzetti demonstration in London.

of thousands of meetings, demonstrations, strikes, etc., etc., that took place in every corner of the world in solidarity with the two martyrs.)

OCTOBER 30—Workers in Cuba, in a demonstration before the American consulate, demand the release of Sacco and Vanzetti.

DECEMBER 24—Judge Thayer refuses to grant a plea for a new trial.

#### 1922

JANUARY 1—The defense announces that it is in possession of new evidence to prove the innocence of Sacco and Vanzetti.

MARCH 23—The workers of Sofia, Bulgaria, warn the American embassy that they will not remain silent if the American capitalist class determines to murder Sacco and Vanzetti.

#### 1923

FEBRUARY 16—Sacco begins a hunger strike in the Norfolk County jail which lasts 30 days.

#### 1924

OCTOBER 1—Judge Thayer denies five motions of the defense to challenge the verdict of the jury in the Sacco-Vanzetti case.

NOVEMBER 21 — William Thompson, former Boston district-attorney, assumes charge of the defense. The defense enters a bill of exceptions to make possible the institution of a new trial.

#### 1926

JANUARY 10—Celestino Madeiros, a sentenced criminal, declares that he knows that the murder of Parmenter and Berardelli was committed by



Luigia Vanzetti, Bartolomeo's sister, heads a demonstration of workers on her arrival in Paris

members of the notorious Morelli gang of Providence, Rhode Island.

MAY 12—The state supreme court denies a new trial to Sacco and Vanzetti on the basis of the bill of exceptions. The court maintains that they were legally convicted.

SEPTEMBER 13-The defense demands a new trial on the basis of the

Madeiros confession.

OCTOBER 21-Judge Thayer denies the motion for a new trial.

NOVEMBER 19—Twenty-thousand workers gather in Madison Square Garden, New York, to demand a new trial for Sacco and Vanzetti.

1927

JANUARY 27—Defense attorneys argue before the judges of the state supreme court and demand new action on the basis of Judge Thayer's prejudicial conduct during the trial of Sacco and Vanzetti.

APRIL 5—The state supreme court denies all pleas for a new trial.

APRIL 9-Judge Thayer hands down a decision that Sacco and Vanzetti shall die in the electric chair on July 10. 1927.

APRIL 10-International Labor Defense issues call for demonstrations of protest throughout the United States, and appeals to the labor movement of the rest of the world to join in a final movement to save Sacco and Vanzetti from being murdered.

APRIL 23—Governor Alvan T. Fuller of Massachusetts institutes his star chamber investigation committee to give sanctity to the legal execution. It includes President Lowell of Harvard, and President Stratton of Massachusetts Technological Institute.

JUNE 29—Governor Fuller postpones the date of execution to August 10. The postponement refers to Sacco, Vanzetti, and Madeiros.

JULY 7—A quarter of a million workers strike in protest in New York.

Over 25,000 attend a demonstration in

Union Square.

JULY 17—Sacco and Vanzetti begin a hunger strike.

(In the meantime, strikes, demonstrations and meetings are taking place in every part of the world, demanding the release of Sacco and Vanzetti, or the granting of a new trial. Tens of millions of workers are set into motion against the planned assassination. Some of the world's leading men and women of letters, arts and science join the world-wide protest movement. Governor Fuller's office is swamped with thousands upon thousands of letter, and telegrams, and cablegrams of protest.)



A detective seizes a Sacco-Vanzetti sympathizer at a demonstration.

AUGUST 8—The supreme judicial court of Massachusetts refuses to grant a writ of habeas corpus in order to halt the execution. Judge Thayer again refuses to grant a new trial.

AUGUST 10-Twenty minutes before the time set for the execution, and while millions of workers throughout the world are demonstrating their hatred to the Massachusetts murderers on the streets, Governor Fuller continues the torture of the two martyrs by again postponing the date of execution to August 22.

AUGUST 11-Judge Sanderson decides that the question of a new trial must be decided by the full court. Vanzetti ends his hunger strike.

AUGUST 15—Sacco ends hunger strike, because he is threatened with forcible feeding.

AUGUST 16-The defense argues before the full supreme judicial court for a new trial, demonstrating the prejudice of Judge Thayer.

AUGUST 19-The court denies the pleas of the defense.

AUGUST 20-Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, "liberal" member of the United States Supreme Court, denies the plea of the defense for a writ of habeas corpus. Fuller refuses to grant any further postponement.

AUGUST 21-Louis Brandeis, another "liberal" member of the U. S. Supreme Court, also denies the pleas of the defense attorneys.

AUGUST 22—Rose, wife of Sacco, and Luigia, sister of Vanzetti, approach Governor Fuller for last minute action. He declines to act.

A few minutes after midnight: the execution. The current of death is sent through the tortured bodies of the two martyrs. The Puritan hyenas of Massachusetts capitalism have finally made their kill.

#### NOTICE!

The International Labor Defense and the Labor Defender magazine have moved from Chicago and are now located in New York City. Address all com-munications for the I. L. D. or Labor Defender to: 80 East 11th Street, Room 402, New York, N. Y.

#### 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 Drajnik, Jr., Gary, Ind.
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Anna Hammer, Roslindale, Mass.
Mike Paparelli, New York City. Ferguson, Chicago. J. Smith, 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 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, Northwest Mothers' League.

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

Local Detroit: Anti-Fascist Branch. Greek Branch, Hungarian Branch, Tom Mooney Lithuanian Branch, No. Ladies' Prog. Society Branch, Painters' Branch, South Slavic Branch, Scandinavian Branch. Women's Branch.

Women's Educational Circle, Bulgarian and Finnish branches.

East Side Polish Branch. Local New York: Brownsville English Branch, German Yorkville Branch, Lithu-Brownsville English anian 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.



#### Venturato

Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Comrades of Labor Defense:

Through Comrade Scott of Columbus I. L. D. I will send a greeting to members of I. L. D.

I appreciate very much the monthly check I receive from the I. L. D. and I believe that the I. L. D. is one of the best organizations existing for class-war prisoners.

I have served nearly five years on a life sentence which arose out of the 1922 coal strike. Things are developing in my case that look hopeful, unless a dark cloud appears again.

I wish I could write more often, but the prison rules only allow us two letters and they must be to relatives.

Enclosed find receipts for my five dollar checks for two months.

Letters and visits from comrades certainly brighten the life of class-war prisoners.

Success to the I. L. D.

Dominic Venturato, London Prison Farm.

#### John Lamb

P. O. Box 520, Walla Walla, Wash.

International Labor Defense.

Dear Friends and Fellow Workers:

Just a few lines to let you know that I received the \$5 prison relief check for July, last month and many thanks for same. Please find receipt signed and inclosed with this letter.

Fellow Workers Sacco and Vanzetti have paid the price in full for their ideals of the social problem, they were persecuted and condemned for seven long years by the tyrants of capitalism. Oh, how my heart is bleeding for

their dear precious loved one who still remain with the working class. Oh, how brave they must be. Oh, you laborers of starvation, educate, organize and emancipate yourselves so you can protect your fellow workers from being persecuted, imprisoned and put to death by judicial prejudice. There is only one freedom for the laboring class and that is an organization of their own, of, by and for the laboring class. The laboring class cannot afford to have the bravest of their membership persecuted, imprisoned and put to death at the will of the tyrants of capitalism. Will the Sacco-Vanzetti case teach the laboring class a lesson that they will never forget? Anyhow, let's hope so. Labor should organize by leaps and bounds after all their sad experience. I am, as ever, yours for Industrial Freedom. Best wishes to all.

Yours for a better world,

John Lamb.

#### Eugene Barnett

Walla Walla, Wash.

The Labor Defender, Chicago, Illinois. Dear Comrades:

Since my letter was published in the August issue of the Labor Defender I received a letter from Fellow Worker John Brinkman taking exceptions to my statement that my family only receives \$20.00 per month. Upon making inquiries from my wife I find that I was mistaken as her allowance has been increased to \$40.00 again since she told me she was only receiving twenty.

I did not write that letter to complain or to embarrass anyone, so please print this correction. It was when my wife was here in March htat she told me the last two checks she received were for only twenty dollars per month. So when she was so short of funds when she was here in May, I took it for granted that she was still only getting the \$20.00 per month that the I. L. D. has been contributing. But there was but two months that she only received the twenty dollars.

Hoping this will rectify my mistake and with best wishes to all I remain.

Yours respectifully,

Eugene Barnett.

(NOTE: The last issue of the LABOR DEFENDER already contained a correction of any misunderstanding that may have been created, and we are glad to have comrade Barnett confirm it.—Ed.)

#### Sikora

International Labor Defense

Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sir:

I received your receipt for the sum of five dollars, also an envelope to return the slip which I want to sincerely thank you for.

Will you please let me know if there was a letter in the envelope or not, there was none when I received it.

Thanking you once again, I remain,

Very truly yours,

William Sikora.

#### Matt Schmidt

San Quentin, Calif.

Dear Friends:

Your check for \$5.00 arrived safely. I can only say: Thank you! May your tribe increase.

Sincerely,

M. A. Schmidt.

### A Reply to Another Slander

UR attention has been called to a statement ment in the capitalist press made by Mr. Felicani of the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee of Boston, maliciously accusing the International Labor Defense of the deliberate misuse of great sums of money collected for the defens of Sacco and Vanzetti.

This is not the first accusation of this kind made against the I. L. D. from such sources. The first attack was made at the height of the protest movement organized by the I. L. D. It was said that while money for the Sacco-Vanzetti case had been collected, not a single penny had been turned over to the Boston Committee. The I. L. D. promptly and effectively replied with the publication, in the January, 1927, issue of the Labor Defender, of a photographic reproduction of a number of checks sent to the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee of Boston, endorsed and cashed by Mr. Felicani, representing the full amount which had been received by the I. L. D. up to that time. This swiftly put an end to this slander and the enemies of the protest movement were forced to retreat from their slimy ground.

Now, even after the execution of Sacco and Vanzetti, when the I. L. D. has proved ten times over by its deeds its devotion to the cause of the two martyrs and a total absence of self-interest of a sectional nature, the liars and slanderers have again been unleashed—this time with a fantastic story of hundreds of thousands of dollars (!) collected and misused by the I. L. D. This base and foundationless story was seized upon gleefully by the reptile capitalist press where it was first given publicity and efforts have been made by unprincipled persons to spread the story broadcast.

Those who have even superficially followed the work of the I. L. D. know how to estimate such scandalous and infamous charges, particularly when it is known that the charges are furthered by precisely those persons who hope thereby to create such a smoke screen as will enable them to escape a careful scrutiny of their own utilization of funds in the famous case. But in the interests of the movement, and of truth and clarification, we are now preparing and intend to publish in the immediate future a complete and detailed account of all moneys

collected and expended by the International Labor Defense during the Sacco-Vanzzetti campaign which will demonstrate the thorough rascality of the slanderers. The account will be a certified audit of the books of the International Labor Defense compiled and checked, as is our custom, by certified and authoritative public accountants.

The Department of Justice and other agencies which consummated the murder of Sacco and Vanzetti now hope and strive to demoralize and break up the solidarity of the great Sacco-Vanzetti protest movement and prevent it being drawn into the fight in behalf of the other victims of the frame-up system now in prison or facing trial. Of this there cannot be the slightest doubt. And there can likewise be no doubt that the slander which Mr. Felicani has chosen to publish in the press of the capitalist class and its Department of Justice has the same objective.

But neither the capitalist press, the Department of Justice, nor any one else will succeed in these aims.

International Labor Defense.

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

(Continued from last issue)

In April, 1917, I got a job on the county road, near Cottonwood. It was rock work, and I was striking drill and handling the dynamite. When I started I got \$2.25 a day. I asked for a raise, and got \$2.50 a day. But flour was \$3.25 a sack (and it was made there, from the same wheat I had worked 13 hours a day to help harvest for \$2.75 a day.)

So I wanted more pay. I asked for it and was refused, then I fixed up a paper demanding forty cents an hour and got all the men on the job to sign it. And when the road commissioners met again I went to the meeting and handed it in. They didn't want to raise the wages, for the farmers had held a meeting and had asked them not to pay any more than \$2.50 so they could get men on the farms and they had suggested that anyone who would not work for 52.50 they would put in jail.

But I argued with them, and finally compromised for \$3.00 a day. By this time the fellows who live off of other men's labor were pretty sore at me, and were watching for a chance at me. War had been declared and volunteers were being recruited. When the first recruits left I almost cried, I wanted to go so bad, not because I wanted to kill anyone, and not because I thought this country was in any danger, but because many of the young men who were going were my friends, and I hated to stay behind and see them go. But I was married and loved my wife and hated to leave her. And I

knew I could not pass the examination anyway, for the navy had turned me down when I was 17 and I had been crippled up more since then.

Then the conscription law was passed and Wilson sent out word for people to keep their mouths shut. I didn't like that a bit. I got a history and looked up the constitution of the United States in it, and I decided that the 13th amendment made the law unconstitutional. A few days later I expressed this opinion to a socialist I was talking to in the post office. An old man there heard me and got mad about it. I asked him if he ever read the constitution. He admitted he had not, and I advised him to do so.

That was Saturday night. Sunday, the old man and his son who was a lawyer, and the city marshall, came up to my home to arrest me. They had no warrant but said it was for talking against the draft. I got the history and a civil government I had, and asked the would-be lawyer to explain the thirteenth amendment to me. But he would not. My wife was sick in bed but that made no difference to them. They were so patriotic that a little thing like that was nothing. So the marshall pulled his warrant-it was a .45 caliber, blue steel-and took me along. On the way down town, they told me I was an agitator.

They said it was the duty of every man to go and fight for his country.

When they got me to the county seat they charged me with high treason. Then the newspapers started in with their lies. They said I was a dangerous character, that I would blow up flour mills and railroads, etc., etc. Then they told what a fine homestead the government had given me, and how I was a traitor to it. But they did 1 ot tell the public that while I was tryi of to make a home on a mounain side, steep that a goat's life would be in dager on it, 50,000 profiteers were holing four-fifths of the large farms in the U.S. out of active use, to keep the tages down on it while they held it f speculation.

No, they did not tell that. Nor did they tell that that homestead had only a few months before cost me the life of our first child, a sweet little girl, more dear to me than the whole state of Idaho would have been. Nor did they tell how I had worked to make a home on that hillside, how I had worked out for \$1.25 a day and then spent it for nails, lumber, staples, wire, etc., and put it on this place to improve it. Instead they said I was an "I won't work".

Instead of the speedy trial guara teed by the constitution I didn't anyone except the sheriff for a wear Then I saw the prosecuting attorn passing on the sidewalk outside and called him in. He said he would what he could do. More than a walater I was taken before the U. S. Comissioner and he released me on \$5 bonds to appear at the federal court Moscow, Idaho, the 5th of Novemb I had been in 18 days and during the time I had been lectured about the W. W. and tried to get to promise would not read or circulate any me



New York Demonstrates for Sacco and Vanzetti.

of their literature. But I would not When I got back home I promise. went to work on the road again, asked for another raise and got it.

I worked there till November 3rd. On October the 9th, our second child had been born, a boy. November 4th, I went to Moscow. After I got out of jail I had written to Senator Borah, at Washington, and had told him about the case, and had asked him about the draft law. He said that while he had opposed the draft law, he did not think it would be held unconstitutional, and he said that he did not think they would go far with my case; that he was surprised that I had been arrested for such a supposed offense, for this country had not reached that stage of German Prussianism where a citizen could not express his opinion as to the constitutionality of any law.

I took this letter with me, but did not need it, for when I talked to the U. S. attorney he had nothing against me, and told me to go back and take care of my boy.

That fall I moved back to the homestead and lived there till the next fall. I was getting so much in debt that I wanted to get some place where I could work steady and for more pay. I had only had my additional homestead two years, but I had the required improvements on it. So I wrote to the land commissioner and asked if I could make final proof then and he said I could. So I proved up on it. I had plowed that spring for a farmer for \$1.25 a day. That was in 1918, when wages were supposed to be so high. That fall I worked 13 and one half hours per

day for \$4.00 and board, helping to harvest the wheat that was supposed to go to the boys at the front. While we were eating all kinds of dirty black chop as substitutes, and paying more for it than flour cost.

My wife and I only had one sack of white flour during the war and never did get half of our allowance of sugar. So we did our bit to make some profiteer rich. After harvest I leased my pasture for five years to a stockman, paid up my debts, and as Uncle Sam was calling for coal miners, I came to Washington to dig coal. I brought my horses with me, thinking I might do some farming too. I went to work at the Monarch Mine at Kopiah. It is a little mine on the Centralia Eastern R. R. and is an out of the way place. (To be continued)

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# Call for the Third Annual Conference of International Labor Defense

To All Locals and Branches of International Labor Defense and to All Labor Unions and Other Working Class Organizations
Sympathetic to Its Work:—

Greetings:

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

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

The organization of the counter-attack of the working class is the task of the hour. Our aim must be to make the Third Annual Conference of the I. L. D. a great mass demonstration and the concentration point for a new and powerful nation-wide campaign to expose the frame-up system and to organize the workers for the fight against it.

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

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

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

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

- 1) Each local organization of the I. L. D. (in cities having more than one branch) is entitled to send two delegates, one of whom is to be the local secretary.
- 2) Each branch of the I. L. D. is entitled to send one delegate for each 50 members.
- 3) Each National Language Section of the I. L. D. is entitled to two delegates.

- 4) All Trade Unions, Co-operatives, Workers Fraternal Societies, Defense Committees and other organizations sympathetic to the aims of International-Labor Defense, are entitled to send delegates.
- 5) Former class-war prisoners and members of the National Committee of the I. L. D. are invited to attend the conference as fraternal delegates.

The expense of all delegates attending the Conference are to be paid by the delegates themselves

or by the organizations they represent.

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

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

Yours fraternally,
National Executive Committee,
International Labor Defense,

Sorratary