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Biased Judge Rushes Negro Boys to Chair

No Reliance on Capitalist Justice; Only Mass Pressure of Workers Can Save Scottsboro Boys

For the third time in three years Scottsboro there is no essential difference. Scottsboro is a legal version of St. Joseph. Priests can approve it with undisturbed consciences. Editors can congratulate the nation on the triumph of law and justice. The pious, the patriotic, the reformers can all sleep easier. Capitalism can breathe more freely.

The Meaning of "Justice"
Scottsboro should open the eyes of the last doubting Thomases to the meaning of justice in capitalist courts. It ought to burn the lesson home that only the workers can get the boys off; only the workers organized in a powerful movement of mass demonstrations.

When the workers put a pressure on the capitalists by protest demonstrations the judicial fossils will discover that any number of laws and statutes and decisions have been violated, by Callahan, by the governor, by the president, by god himself. That is the way the boys can be saved from death. That is

The "Impartial" Jury
The jury which tried Patterson and the juries which will try the other defendants are supposed to be made up of impartial men who have no fixed ideas about the innocence or guilt of the boys. They are all white men, and if you wish you can believe that they have no prejudices against other men just because their skins are black. These jurymen are all local residents in a none-too-numerous community where the Scottsboro case has been the subject of discussion for years.

Cards Dealt from the Bottom
There isn't a white farmer in the neighborhood who could have held his opinion of Patterson's innocence against the bias of the upright justice's charge to the jury and his bewildering judicial hair-splittings. Callahan dealt cards from the bottom of the deck. That's what he is there for.

That slip gave the whole show away. What of that? Bias is no ground for acquittal in the higher courts. The learned justices do not arrive at their decisions by obvious facts and simple considerations. For them the question is not whether Callahan showed bias. They will take out their legal yardstick and see whether what Callahan said or did denied the defendant, who is presumed innocent until proven guilty, a fair trial by violating this statute or that law or is not in accord with the decision of judge so-and-so in this-and-that case. You can be as fanatic on the bench as Ralph of California is in the governor's chair, but if you want your stuff to go over with the boys higher up you have got to make it appear that you are sticking within the law. If you do they will give you the official o. k.

Learned from Massachusetts
And whoever heard of a high court saying straight out: the man is innocent, release him? Where did that happen? In the Mooney case? In the Sacco-Vanzetti case? Where? When? The cards are stacked against the boys all the way up the line.

Leaders Oppose Strike
Feverish efforts were made by the leadership to postpone and delay the strike. Every means was resorted to in an effort to settle it peacefully at conferences and with the NRA officials. Conference after conference was held to delay the strike, until almost the entire working season was over. At the height of the season, the leadership was afraid of a strike. When they did call the strike, the season was practically over. Off their own accord, they did not call a strike. Ostensibly, they prepared the strike mechanism while really they maneuvered to prevent it.

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American Imperialism at the Montevideo Congress

The Seventh Pan-American Conference convened December 3 at Montevideo, Uruguay with twenty-one nations represented. The American delegation, headed by Secretary Hull, arrived prior to the conference to line up puppet delegates and to attempt to iron out and side-track some of the most difficult problems that are sure to be thrown open for discussion on the floor. This is the first Pan-American conference to be held since 1928. It is convened at a time when the economic life of Latin America is almost at a standstill as a result of the crisis within the leading imperialist nations, particularly the United States. These secondary capitalist nations of Latin America have long ago been subordinated to the imperialist powers. The leading capitalist nations, such as the United States, have attempted to shift part of the crisis burden onto the lesser nations of Latin America.

At Montevideo there will be a meeting of unequals. The leading capitalist nation in the world is able to hold a conference with 20 other nations under the self-made jurisdiction of the Monroe Doctrine the enforcement of which Roosevelt hopes to modernize with his "new diplomacy." The London conference was a battle of the leading imperialists of Europe and America; the Montevideo conference is the set-up of American imperialism. Most of the delegates are puppets; others will be forced to cringe before the might of Yankee imperialism or stand the consequences. The other imperialist powers, particularly England are forced to pound away within the conference in an attempt to prevent America from constructing something tangible for itself. England will do this primarily through such forces as she can muster within the Latin American countries for policies that will be cloaked in the form of "national" demands of this or that Latin American country.

Hotel Union Shows Gains
New York.—The waiters at the Hotel Montclair, have gone out on strike under the leadership of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers' Union, branch of the Amalgamated Food Workers. The strike is against the wage scale of 64 cents a day for 9 hours forced on the waiters by the management after the new hotel code went into effect. The workers demand \$12.50 a week, no arbitrary firing, no splitting of tips with the captains, the house to keep uniforms clean, and decent food.

On Tuesday, November 22, Burkhardt, Cook and B. J. Field were the first ones to speak for labor's side of the case at the NRA hearing. They took the leadership in presenting the argument for the workers, all the other unions represented except the A. F. of L. taking up our demands.

Driving for the New Party
Less than two months have passed since we issued our public declaration for the creation of a new International and a new Communist party in this country. Already there have been a good many indications of a hearty response from the revolutionary workers. They come to our greetings in much greater numbers than before. Serious questions, asked sympathetically, manifest their live interest in the issue. The response is reflected most directly in the actual growth of the League. New branches are springing up and nearly everywhere the existing units are teeming with life and activity, extending the influence of the Left Opposition and its sympathetic circle.

OPEN FORUM
ARNE SWABECK
Just Returned from a Tour of the Country
on
THE PROSPECTS FOR REVOLUTION IN AMERICA
Friday, December 8, 1933, 8 p. m.
JAMES P. CANNON
on
THE MEANING OF THE RECENT LYNCHINGS
Maryland, California, Missouri,
What Next?
Friday, December 15, 1933, 8 p. m.
International Workers School Hall
126 East 16th Street, nr Irving Pl.
Sponsors: Manhattan Branch, Communist League of America (Opp.)
Questions — Discussion
ADMISSION 15 CENTS
RUSSIAN REVOLUTION FILM
The "Russian Revolution" film scheduled for Dec. 3rd is postponed for Saturday, Dec. 23rd. It will be held at the Militant Hall, 154 Watkins St., Brooklyn, under the auspices of the Film Club of the International Workers School. The hall can be reached by the B. M. T., 14th St. Canarsie Line to Sutter Ave., or the I. R. T.—7th Ave.—New Lots to Rockaway Avenue.

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Shoe Workers to Merge Unions

Independents at Boston Convention

The eyes of the labor movement will be on Boston next Monday, December 11, when the amalgamation convention of the independent unions of shoe workers convenes for the purpose of uniting them into a single body. This convention comes as the culmination of a long struggle of the rank and file to bring about the amalgamation in the face of the most stubborn resistance and sabotage of the conservative officials. When the delegates meet at Boston next Monday they will stand instructed by referendum vote of the organizations to take the necessary steps to bring about the unification. The referendum carried by the overwhelming majority of more than 80 to 1.

Directly represented at the convention will be the National Shoe Workers' Association, with approximately 28,000 workers; the Shoe Workers' Protective Union, with approximately 30,000; and the Independent Shoe Workers' Union of Salem, with about 2,000 members.

Nazis Doom 91 S.W.P. Workers to Long Terms

91 S. A. P. members were arrested in the month of August in Dresden by the local S. A. (Storm Troops). The trial began on November 1, unannounced in the press. Despite that, hundreds of workers gathered in front of the courthouse. Only a small number of them gained admission to the proceedings. The press was not admitted either. The court issued statements of its own accord. The S. A. leader attached to the troop guarding the contingent of arrested workers addressed the crowd as follows: "The accused are warned that in case they disturb the trial by any kind of shouts or remarks, they will be deported immediately to the special court at Freiburg (where beatings are administered)".

Tasks of New Union
In our opinion the new union will have the task of making further efforts to come to an agreement and unification with the Brockton Brotherhood (independent) and in waging a determined battle to organize the textile industry in head-on collision with the corrupt "Boot and Shoe" affiliate of the A. F. of L. The worst danger to the new movement is presented by those who have some maneuvers with the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union up their sleeve. The problem of the new union is to become a power in its own right and drive its corrupt rival from the field with the help of the betrayed shoe workers still within its ranks who only await a favorable opportunity to break away from it and unite with their fellow workers in a genuine labor organization.

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