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## ALLISON, KATTERFELD, BRONSTRUP, BAKER and WAGENKNECHT ARRESTED

### Charged with Violating Syndicalist Law

### Loyal American League Continues Its Campaign of Intimidation - Attempts to Sweep Back the Tide of Revolt Against Criminal Capitalism with a Broom

The Czar is dead, but his spirit lives in America. His spirit has found an abiding place in America's ruling class and its henchmen. In Pittsburgh the labor unions have been denied the right to meet in halls to protest against criminal capitalism. In Gary, Lorain and other cities the steel strikers have been forbidden to freely assemble to voice their grievances. Their homes have been raided. The military rule. In the Ohio mining region, miners are being thrown into jail, charged with violating the syndicalist law, because they

had the audacity to demand that they be paid for the full weight of the coal they mined.

At the special organization meeting called by the Communist Labor Party of Cleveland, L. E. Katterfeld, organization director and national executive committeeman of the Communist Labor Party; Walter Bronstrup, Cleveland secretary; Chas. Baker, organizer for the party; A. Wagenknecht, its national secretary and E. T. Allison, editor, were taken into custody by an army of police and operatives for the Loyal American League, hustled to the jail and charged with violating the Freeman act, which makes it an offense to "advocate reforms by the use of crime, violence, sabotage or terrorism."

Aome hall was filled Thursday evening, Oct. 16, with Cleveland comrades who came especially to inform themselves upon the party situation and to hear a personal message from Debs. The walls of the hall were decorated with blue-coats. The meeting was allowed to proceed without interruption. Katterfeld made an impressive speech.

He traced the development of the Left Wing movement within the party and cited reasons why affiliation with the Communist Labor Party should be preferred by those present. A call was made for applications for membership. A surprisingly large number of applications were made. Many in the audience also subscribed for the Ohio Socialist. Marguerite Prevey gave the audience a personal message from Debs. The meeting was adjourned. And that was the signal.

Immediately the army of police together with the a score of operatives of the Loyal American League surrounded all those who took an active part in the meeting, confiscated the applications for membership, the signed subscription cards,

the literature, and carted it all, together with the five comrades, to jail.

By the use of crime, violence, sabotage and terrorism, the Loyal American League, agents for the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce, are attempting to intimidate workers who gather in meeting to discuss their organization affairs. Branch meetings in Cleveland have been broken up. Hall owners have been threatened. Comrades have been lodged in jail without charges. All means, ruthless in the extreme, have been used in an attempt to make impotent the organization machinery of the revolutionary workers of Cleveland.

There are none so blind as the capitalist class. Russian history seems to be a closed book to them. What the Czar started in Russia, and could not finish, the master class is now starting in the United States. It means their finish. Senator Pomerene's "patient and long-suffering" American workers are even now showing their teeth. The strike of the steel workers; the hundreds of strikes thru-out the country; the strike of the dock workers; the threatened strike of the miners — all this attests to the growing spirit of revolt against criminal capitalism. And there shall be no rest to the unrest until the great working class has come into its own.

So the call goes forth to you again, comrades. Solidify your ranks. Permit no inconsequential differences to divide you. Where there is unity or purpose there must be unity in organization. Sweep aside those who would barter unity for personal advantage. As a solid mass, come to the rescue of your persecuted comrades.

Terrorism and intimidation will cease when we assert our power as a mass.

And this WE WILL DO—FOR WE MUST.

## Seven Mine Workers in Cadiz Jail Look to You for Help

Seven members of the United Mine Workers Union are languishing in the Harrison County jail, at Cadiz, Ohio. They are charged with violating the criminal syndicalist law. This charge was placed against them because they demanded from the operators at Adena full weight for the coal mined by the members of their union. The answer of the operators to the appeal for full weight, to the demand that this double robbery cease — was jail. The officials of the Miners' Union were called upon for assistance before the arrests took place. These officials asked to intercede for the miners to secure full weight for all coal mined. When the union officials learned that the fight for full weight was led by

radicals in the union, they turned their backs upon the men. Arrest of the committee of seven, which toured the surrounding mines to ask for a general strike of miners, followed almost immediately. Encouraged by the success of the Espionage Act in jailing members of the working class, State legislatures have been passing special laws under the title of "Criminal Syndicalist Bills," ostensibly to be used against the workers. In California active members of unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor were arrested, jailed and charged with "criminal syndicalism" for their strike activities. The same tactics are being used against the organizers of the steel industry in Pennsylvania. Unable to cope with the growing power of labor and the developing

spirit of solidarity, the employing classes have cunningly devised this new means of fighting organized labor by passing laws with the avowed purpose of checking the activities of radicals, but virtually these laws are so construed as to enable them to arrest the active workers in the union. The courts can make a strike illegal and break it up, calling the strike "sabotage," and under such legislation can send workers to jail for long terms. For self-protection the men and women of organized labor must see that so far as the great economic struggle is concerned, any one that threatens the regime of the bosses is the enemy of the capitalist class and is dealt with accordingly. The American workers does not yet realize that he is as likely to go to

prison for twenty years because of his participation in a strike as any of the radicals who proclaim the strike as the most powerful economic weapon that labor has. In the years to come the political and labor prisoners will no longer be counted by the hundreds but by the thousands—the jails will be filled with men and women of social vision—unless labor, recognizing its own power, refuses to allow it. In Wichita, Kansas, thirty-two workers were confined since November, 1917 until a few days ago in a jail so filthy and unsanitary that we cannot tell about it and pass the censor. One of these men went insane, one attempted suicide and one has died on account of the filthy condition of the jail. Every man has lost from ten to forty pounds in weight. They are not charged with anything but the open expres-

sion of their views. These thirty-two men have been kept in jail twenty-three months without a trial. Twice indictments have been quashed for insufficiency, but the men are immediately reindicted. There is scarcely a prison in all these United States but contains some captured man who is there because he believed in labor's cause. Many of these are cases where the employing class have merely found a convenient chance during the war situation to the strike a venomous blow at working men who have been a thorn in their side at other times. There are over fifteen hundred such prisoners in the American jails today. It is not only labor's absolute right, but if labor is to maintain its self-respect, it MUST stand stand back of every man who is now in prison be-

cause of labor's struggle. We must stand back of the seven jailed miners at Cadiz. The majority of them are members of the Hungarian Federation of the party. Secretary Leo Frankl of the federation has issued a call to all federation members to give financial aid, which is badly needed and at once. Jos. Erdei organizer for the federation in Ohio and Pennsylvania reports that the Hungarian branch of Cleveland has already taken a collection among its members and has covered the initial expenses of sending Jos. Sharts, attorney, to Cadiz for the preliminary hearing. Let us repeat—AN INJURY TO ONE WORKER IS AN INJURY TO ALL. There is not another word to say. You know your duty in the matter.

## Margarite Prevey and Ella Reeve Bloor Take Field for Liberators

You will grant that we have not been idle. Comrades have sent us hundreds of dollars and we have printed thousands upon thousands of leaflets for distribution, propagandizing our call to free them all — to free every last one of our comrades now penned up in vile jails at the mercy of guards brutalized by capitalism. Leaflets have been distributed—as high as ten thousand in a single city by the effort of a single comrade. We have more of these leaflets for you — ENTIRELY FREE — paid for by the Liberators' Army. You can help materially toward the freedom of all political prisoners if you will help place these leaflets into the hands of the workers. Yet, what's immediately important is to arouse the working class to a realization of the class character of this battle to free our comrades. We must awaken their class instincts for

united action in a class demand. We must secure unity of thought—then unity of action will follow. We must UNITE the workers in this thought—that all political prisoners can be freed if the workers will unite to free them. And to help to UNITE the workers in this thought we have secured the services of Ella Reeve Bloor and Marguerite Prevey. These two comrades will take the field as soon as routings can be arranged, and their special mission will be to visit labor unions to deliver the message of class action. More organizers will be toured as they can be secured. If you can arrange a public meeting in your city, write for one of these speakers. Ella Reeve Bloor will be available in the New England states and Marguarite Prevey in Pennsylvania and states west from there. Mainly however, help to secure an audience for these speakers before the labor unions in your city. If you can, send

us the names of the labor unions, their meeting nights, and state which are most revolutionary in tendency. Locals of the party should take action at once. Write to this office and state how many days you can keep an Army of Liberators' organizer busy in your city. AND NOW LOOK HERE—You have financed this campaign to free all political prisoners. This is not the end of your duties. The fund on hand must now be used for the purpose for which it was gathered. The purpose for which it was gathered was to ORGANIZE the workers to SECURE FREEDOM for all imprisoned comrades. Without you as our field agent for our field organizers we are impotent. Will you now do what is immediately necessary to organize the workers for UNITED ACTION? WE AWAIT YOUR ANSWER!

### May Not Be Sentenced

CINCINNATI, O.—Will the thirteen Cincinnati Socialists, convicted of conspiracy to defeat the conscription act, escape punishment through the sudden death of United States Judge Hollister? This question was asked frequently last week in court and legal circles, and the answers of leading judges and attorneys disclosed a divided opinion. The facts in the case are these: The thirteen defendants were found guilty by a jury at a trial over which Judge Hollister presided. The law provides that the trial judge must pronounce the sentence, basing it upon the evidence which he heard during the progress of the case. Judge Hollister delayed the pronouncement of the sentence until he had heard the arguments of the motion for a new trial. He was to have heard these last week. One group contends that only Judge Hollister could pronounce sentence because he alone was familiar with the evidence and all the details of the case. The other side holds that the judge who succeeds to the bench will have the record to study and will therefore be just as able to acquaint himself with the history of the whole matter. Judge Sater was expected to come to Cincinnati Monday to hear arguments on the motion for a new trial. The general opinion exists that if the trial of the Socialists is rendered nil by the death of Judge Hollister they will never again be taken before the court. Over two and a half years have already elapsed since their arrest, in June, 1917.

### A Very Sick Man at Atlanta.

Atlanta, Ga., October 15, 1919. The Ohio Socialist, Cleveland, Ohio. Dear Comrades: I have been visiting Debs regularly since his incarceration in the Federal Prison at Atlanta, Ga. I have observed him in his different moods, and it is my humble opinion that unless something is done for him immediately he will be shipped to Terre Haute, Indiana, in a coffin. I picture the associated press, at any moment, flashing this news over the country: "EUGENE V. DEBS DIES AT THE FEDERAL PRISON, ATLANTA, GEORGIA." If we want to see our beloved comrade, together with the other political prisoners, out of the penitentiary we must get busier than ever before in developing the power of the workers to protect their own. While Eugene Debs is a sick man, his morale, his spirit, his faith in the revolution was never stronger, never more inspiring. In reading the rapid changes in the political, social and economic forces the world over, he sees the close approach of the workers regime. Debs has inspired all the political prisoners down here. He has brought about a spiritual revolu-

tion among them, and from his hospital room he is radiating immeasurable influence for good. While he will gladly die here as an uncompromising revolutionist, we owe it to ourselves to demand the immediate release of the political prisoners more vigorously than ever. If we fail to this it will be too late to greet comrade Debs in life. Debs sends his love to all the comrades. He visualizes more than ever before an international league of the peoples—the proletariat of the world. There is a sick man at the White House whose ideal is a league of nations—a capitalistic league of nations—for the governments of the world. Daily bulletins are being issued regarding his health. There is another sick man, a sick comrade, at the Atlanta Federal Prison, who advocates a league of peoples—a league of the proletariat—for the people of the world. Although there are no daily bulletins being issued about him, millions of comrades who have an undying admiration for the man's courage and for his life work in behalf of the proletariat, are increasing his influence so rapidly that it is only a question of time until the power of the prisoner overshadows not only the White House but the whole nation. Yours very sincerely, SAMUEL M. CASTLEON.

### COOPERATE for LIBERTY

WORKERS' LIBERTY BONDS FOR LIBERTY. Liberty Bonds held by socialists and I. W. W. members of Ft. Wayne, Ind., to the extent of \$5,000 were put up as bonds for the release of fellow worker, Roland Stevens, when he was arrested in that city charged with violation of the syndicalist law in having I. W. W. literature in his possession. After six hours spent in jail the previous days, he was released on his own recognizance. In court on the 30th, he was bound over to the circuit court on \$5,000. bail. National Organizer Chas. Baker, of the Communist Labor Party spoke in Ft. Wayne that evening and at his meeting made a stirring appeal to the comrades to come to the rescue of their comrade with their liberty bonds. It was only a few minutes until sufficient bonds were pledged as bail and comrade Stevens released. Indiana comrades are requested to take an interest in this case and to make it their business to lend all assistance possible. This is the first case in the state where a violation of the syndicalist law has been charged. The united power of the workers can make it the last. Comrade Stevens stands high in the estimation of his comrades and his character is such as to win and retain the trust of all radicals.





