

James W. Ford Calls for Immediate Action to Save the Daily Worker

By JAMES W. FORD.

THE DAILY WORKER is in a very serious financial situation. It is faced with closing down.

I am sure that all class-conscious workers know the role of the "Daily". You know it is needed to organize the struggles of the workers; you would swear that you could not get along without the "Daily". You would be shocked to the point of the greatest indignation if it should not come out tomorrow, the next day or next week. Yet do you fully realize that this is exactly what may happen?



James W. Ford

In a period of the greatest class battles what would you do without it? How would you be able to follow and analyze the great struggles of the auto workers in Detroit? How would you be able to explain the thousand and one questions that are asked you daily by your friends and sympathizers, except through the "Daily"?

How would you be able to follow and help to develop the movement for the Albany Unemployed Conference? How could you be

able daily to follow and help lead the struggle against the A. F. of L. bureaucracy, Norman Thomas and the Socialist Party leadership who are fighting against the interests of the workers?

How about the nation-wide United Front Demonstration for Unemployment Insurance and Relief on March 4th! About the Tom Mooney Defense Conference April 30, the Scottsboro and Herndon cases?

Who, except the "Daily", explains daily the development of fascism in Germany and Hitler's fascist decrees to smash the German workers' rights? The Far Eastern war, the South American wars, the drive against the Soviet Union? Only the "Daily"—and the "Daily" is faced with closing down.

COMRADES, the Daily Worker must live for the workers of this country. The "Daily" means much in the struggles of the Negro toilers. It is the one organ that leads

the struggles of the Negro workers and helps to fight the Negro fakery and to win the masses of Negro workers for the fight against white ruling class oppression. The "Daily" leads the great struggles now developing in Alabama, Georgia and throughout the South, among Negro and white workers and poor farmers.

Negro workers and farmers, the Daily Worker is your paper! Support it! Save it! All workers and sympathizers, the voice of the "Daily" must not be silenced! DO WHAT YOU CAN TO SAVE THE DAILY!

This can only be done by organizing meetings to raise funds for the "Daily", by taking up the question in all working class organizations, by collecting in shops and factories and in working-class neighborhoods.

FOR the second day in succession contributions declined, dropping from \$26.13 on Friday to \$22.51 Saturday. Speed all contributions to 59 East 13th Street, New York City, Street, New York City.

Received Saturday \$22.51
Total to Date \$6,059.88

Who told the truth about the Scottsboro case? Who exposed this frame-up from the beginning and helped build the great mass movement to win freedom for these nine innocent Negro boys?

Think of what the capitalist press has done in the Scottsboro case. Think of what the treacherous section of the Negro press has done.

Keep the Daily Worker fighting for the Scottsboro boys!

Daily Worker

Central Organ of the Communist Party U.S.A.

(Section of the Communist International)

FROM AN EX-FORD SLAVE

"Inclosed find \$2 to the Daily Worker Fund. I have been without a job since last July, but I could not do without the Daily Worker. I am one of the ex-Ford slaves.—F. W., Dearborn, Mich."

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"ALABAMA POLICE FORCED ME TO LIE" SAYS RUBY BATES STATE'S STAR WITNESS AGAINST THE SCOTTSBORO BOYS

The System That Breeds Scottsboro Frame-Ups!

"IT MAY BE THAT THIS NEGRO IS INNOCENT, BUT SOMETIMES IT IS NECESSARY TO BURN A HOUSE TO SAVE A VILLAGE."

THIS revealing statement was made by Gov. Ross Sterling of Texas in denying a stay of execution to the Negro youth Barney Lee Ross for the hearing of new evidence. In this sentence, Gov. Sterling brutally and openly epitomized the bloody policy of the white ruling class. A policy of savage repression of the struggles of the toiling Negro and white masses for bread, of legal lynching of innocent Negroes as a warning to the Negro masses not to fight against the growing oppression and starvation.

The hideous attempt to legally murder the nine innocent Scottsboro boys is a part of this same ruling class policy. The Negro people are the victims of the most monstrous system of national oppression and bare-faced robbery in the world today. This system is a combination of the most modern forms of chattel slavery, U. S. imperialism utilizes against the Negro people every possible form of slave exploitation: peonage, share cropping, landlord control and robbery of the crops, etc.

Scottsboro arises directly out of this system of national oppression and super-exploitation of the Negroes, out of the violent denial of the right of self-determination, of self-government to the Negro people in the Black Belt. The Communists have always said that the struggle for the Scottsboro boys and against this system was one and indivisible.

The leaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (N.A.A.C.P.) at first refused to soil their hands with the Scottsboro case. They attempted to conceal the Scottsboro frame-up as a secret shame of the Negro People, because 9 Negro lads were accused of "raping" two white girls. This is nothing less than support of the whole monstrous system of national oppression and persecution of the Negro People, of manufactured "rape" charges and railroad to the electric chair through the lynch courts of the white ruling class.

The landlord-capitalist frame-up of the boys and its traitorous support by the N. A. A. C. P. leaders was exposed by the Communist Party, the International Labor Defense and the revolutionary mass organizations. These organizations rallied the white and Negro toilers to the defense of the boys. A furious thunder of protests arose against the lynch verdicts. The International Labor Defense carried the fight forward against the reformist leaders, against the lynch courts.

Four times the world-wide mass protests swept back the claws of the ruling class lynchers reaching out for the lives of their innocent victims. The Scottsboro campaign not only ripped the lid off the monstrous system of Negro oppression. It disclosed with the utmost clarity the relation of the exploitation of the Negroes to the exploitation of the working-class as a whole.

WITH the development of the mass defense campaign, the N. A. A. C. P. leaders then came forward, attempting to head the defense in order to break the white ruling class lynchers, but the revolutionary Negro and white workers defending the boys. They even went to the extent, as William Pickens did at Chattanooga under the protection of the police, to declare that there was "doubt" as to the guilt of the boys—meaning "doubt" as to their innocence. The Pittsburgh Courier, a mouthpiece of the N. A. A. C. P. leaders, carried a headline branding the boys as "rapists". The leaders of the Socialist Party, together with the Lovestonettes and other renegades from Communism, joined in the attempt to disrupt the mass defense.

Now the whole hideous frame-up is exploded by the letter of Ruby Bates, a photostat copy of which appears in to-day's Daily Worker. Ruby Bates was one of the star witnesses for the state, without whom the frame-up could not have been carried through. The Communists all along pointed out the frame-up character of this vile attempt to legally lynch nine Negro children.

WE appeal to those Negroes who have been misled by these scoundrels, and especially to the locals of the N. A. A. C. P., as well as to all honest white workers and intellectuals to join now in a solid united front to break the hold of the hankmen on these innocent boys, to force their immediate and unconditional release, at the same time taking up a vigorous fight for Angelo Herndon, 19-year-old Negro organizer of the unemployed, whom the Georgia bosses are attempting to murder on the main gang for organizing white and Negro workers together in joint struggle against starvation.

The fact that Ruby Bates' letter repudiates her evidence at the mock trial at Scottsboro, Ala., does not mean that we can stop fighting for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys. Mere evidence of innocence does not waver with the capitalist courts where workers, and Negro workers in particular, are involved. The innocence of the boys was known all along. The innocence of Tom Mooney has been known for the past 16 years, but during those years Mooney has been kept in jail. The innocence of Sacco and Vanzetti was known to the Massachusetts bosses and their courts who framed them and burned them in the electric chair. Only the broadest united front mass fight can stop the hands of the lynchers and free the Scottsboro boys.

The toiling Negro and white masses, and all sincere sympathizers must intensify a hundred-fold the mass fight for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys, of Tom Mooney, of Angelo Herndon. The struggle for the Scottsboro boys must be strengthened with a vigorous struggle against the political and economic oppression of the Negro People, against the chain gang system, for unconditional equality for the Negro people, for self-determination of the "Black Belt" and the expropriation of the rich landlords in the interests of the Negro and white toilers who work the land.

Down with the system which breeds Scottsboro, starvation and imperialist war! For a revolutionary struggle against capitalism through a fighting alliance of the Negro masses and the revolutionary white proletariat!

PROOF THAT SCOTTSBORO BOYS WERE FRAMED-UP!



(Left) The nine Scottsboro boys. (Below) Photostat copy and printed text of Ruby Bates' letter to her sweetheart repudiating her own statements in court which were used to convict the boys.

Jan 5-1932
Huntsville, Ala
215 Connelly Aly

dearest Earl
I want to make a statement to you Mary Sanders is a goddam lie about those negroes jassing me those police man made me tell a lie that is my statement because i want to clear my self that is all too it if you want too believe a lie i not that is ok you will be sorry some day if you had too stay in jail with eight negroes you would tell a lie too those negroes did not touch me or those white boys i hope you will believe me the law dont i but for peter then

Mary does are any body else in the world that is why i am telling you of this thing i was drunk at the time and did not know what i was doing i know it was wrong too but those negroes did on account of me i hope you will believe my statement because it is the gods truth i hope you will believe me i was jass but those white boys jass me i wish those negroes did not burst on account of me it is those white boys fault that jass my statement and that is all i know i hope you will answer soon
Ruby Bates
Huntsville Ala
215 Connelly Aly

B. S. This is one time that i might tell a lie But it is the truth so god help me
Ruby Bates

Text of Ruby Bates' Letter

January 5, 1932.
Huntsville, Ala.,
215 Connelly Aly.

Dearest Earl:
I want to make a statement to you Mary Sanders is a goddam lie about those Negroes jassing me those policeman made me tell a lie that is my statement because I want to clear my self that is all too if you want to believe me ok. If not that is ok, you will be sorry some day if you had too stay in jail with 8 Negroes you would tell a lie too these Negroes did not touch me or those white boys (Editor's note: Here Ruby Bates is saying that the 9 Scottsboro Negro boys did not touch her—neither did these Negro boys touch the white boys). I hope you will believe me the law don't. I love you better than Mary does or any body else in the world that is why I am telling you of this thing I was drunk at the time and did not know what I was doing I know it was wrong too let those Negroes die on account of me I hope you will believe my statement. Because it is the gods truth I hope you will believe me I was jazed but those white boys jass me i wish those Negroes are not burnt cu

RUBY BATES ADMITS THAT CONDEMNED NEGRO LADS NEVER EVEN TOUCHED HER

Completes Exposure of Hideous Frame Up by Alabama Boss Courts

All Persons Opposed to Lynching Are Urged to Join Drive to Save Lads

By CYRIL BRIGGS

NEW YORK.—Mass pressure, backing the brilliant legal defense of the International Labor Defense attorneys in the bosses lynch courts, has won another important partial victory in the Scottsboro case, forcing the Alabama police and courts to produce the famous letter of Ruby Bates, star witness of the State.

The Daily Worker today publishes a photostat copy, with accompanying printed text, of this sensational letter. In her letter, written to her sweetheart, Ruby Bates categorically repudiates the lying story put into her mouth by the Alabama authorities, charging the nine innocent Scottsboro Negro boys with "raping" herself and Victoria Price. It was on the unsupported, state-ordered lying testimony of the two girls that eight of the nine boys were sentenced to burn in the electric chair. Ruby Bates now admits she lied! She admits she was forced by the police to lie away the lives of these innocent working-class children!

Cops Refused to Surrender Letter
The letter was written on Jan. 5, 1932, ten months after the infamous frame-up of the Scottsboro boys. It was intercepted by the police of Huntsville, Ala. The lynch bosses and their police at once realized its significance in completing the exposure of the hideous frame-up, lynch trial and death sentences. They refused to surrender it on the demands of the International Labor Defense, the organization conducting the defense of the boys. They did everything in their power to withhold it from the defense. And it was only on January 23 of this year, that the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE)

WAR MOVES ON FOUR FRONTS

Big Losses on Both Sides in Chaco

Paraguayan forces, hurled by their command in fierce assaults on the Bolivian lines ringing Fort Nanawa, were repulsed yesterday with huge losses on both sides.

A tense situation is developing between the governments of Chile and Bolivia over Chile's move to prohibit the transport of munitions through Chilean territory for Bolivia. The munitions are shipped from the U. S., whose imperialists are the chief instigators of the undeclared war between Bolivia and Paraguay.

The Colombian warships at Leticia, commanded in the main by U. S. officers, are reported preparing for an early resumption of hostilities with Peru.

Japan Concentration
In the Far East, Japan is completing its concentration of troops on the Jehol border for an invasion of that province. The Japanese Government is reported ready to resign from the League of Nations, as a result of the successful maneuvers of the U. S. Government in mobilizing the small powers of the League against its Japanese rivals.

In Europe, the sharpening rivalries between Italian and French imperialism are threatening a new war. The French and British Governments have delivered a second note on Austria demanding an explanation of the recent transport of Italian arms across Austrian territory to Hungary, which is reported to be in the bloc of states being organized by Italy against the French bloc of vassal states.

The French "Right" press is already talking of the new triple entente of Germany, Italy and Hungary for war purposes. Danger of Attack on U.S.S.R. Meanwhile the danger of diverting the war moves into an attack on the U.S.S.R. looms sharper than ever.



THE TWO STAR WITNESSES AGAINST SCOTTSBORO LADS.—Ruby Bates, right, and Victoria Price, left. Both girls at first denied that the Scottsboro boys had touched them. The authorities, however, used their knowledge that the girls were prostitutes to threaten them with jail sentences if they did not testify that the Negro boys had "raped" them.

account of me it is those white boys fault that is my statement and that is all I know I hope you will believe me
—RUBY BATES

Jan. 5, 1932.
Huntsville, Ala.,
215 Connelly Aly.

P. S.—This is one time that I might tell a lie. But it is the truth so god help me.—RUBY BATES.

FORTUNES MILKED FROM THE MEN

CHICAGO.—In one week the men on the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific were forced to contribute \$13,250 to the road's Emergency Welfare Fund. This on top of wage cuts and short time.

Irish Rail Strike Leaders Try to Negotiate Sellout

BELFAST, Ireland, Feb. 12.—The strike of the railway workers of Northern Ireland, which has tied up traffic for about ten days, entered a new stage today when the leaders of the Irish Railwaymen's Union indicated that they were ready to enter into negotiations with the company. The union leaders authorized the strike only under pressure of the rank and file, and unless the strikers are vigilant, these misleaders will undoubtedly sell them out.

How Negro Reformist Heads Aided Boss Lynchers



The Pittsburgh Courier, mouthpiece of the N. A. A. C. P. leaders, joined the lynch bosses in branding the Scottsboro boys as rapists (see photograph of news story and caption on right). The Chicago Defender attempted to maintain the illusion that by sending troops to dramatize the lynch incitement, the Alabama bosses were seeking to "guard" the boys. The Afro-American and the New York Amsterdam News presented the bosses' version of the "rape" charges without comment. The latter three papers have since supported the mass defense campaign initiated by the International Labor Defense. The Pittsburgh Courier and the N. A. A. C. P. leaders continue their traitorous role of assistant hangmen to the white ruling class, viciously attacking, not the lynchers, but the revolutionary Negro and white workers defending the boys.

STAR WITNESS SAYS SHE LIED

The Scottsboro Boys Still Facing Death

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

I. L. D. attorneys succeeded in their long, stern fight to force the police to produce this evidence in court. The letter was ordered produced and impounded by Judge J. P. McCoy in Birmingham, Ala., on motion of General George W. Chamlee and Irving Schwab, two of the I. L. D. attorneys in the case. The court, however, realizing the effect of its publication on the already furious indignation of the toiling masses, attempted to block the efforts of the I. L. D. attorneys to secure photostatic copies of the letter.

Secured Jan. 31

An order for delivery of photostatic copies of the letter to the I. L. D. attorneys was secured on Jan. 31. The order was procured in the course of a hearing on a writ of habeas corpus to secure the release on bail of 14-year Roy Wright whose original hearing resulted in a mistrial. Roy Wright has been held in Birmingham County all for nearly two years, the State refusing either to release him or bring him to trial. The writ was denied.

Cops Forced Fake Testimony

The letter, categorically denying practically every point in the fabric of lies erected by the prosecution, and charging the police with forcing her to give false testimony, states clearly that the boys did not touch either the writer or the white boys on the same freight train. The latter was written to a sweetheart, Earl Streetman, with the obvious purpose of clearing herself in his eyes of the imputations of her court testimony.

What Happened at Paint Rock

The Scottsboro boys were taken off a freight train at Paint Rock, Ala., on March 25, 1931 by a sheriff's posse. They were unemployed and were traveling to Memphis in search of work. The first charge against them was of fighting with and whipping a group of white youths traveling on the same train. The lynch bosses consider it a crime for Negroes to defend themselves. In this case the crime was all the more "heinous" because the Negroes whipped the white group. It was subsequently shown that while a fight did occur on the train it was between the white youths and another group of Negroes, and that none of the Scottsboro boys were involved. The Negro youths involved in the fight had dropped off the train before it reached Paint Rock.

Frame-up Starts

The charges were changed to "rape" when it was discovered that two of the group of "white boys" were girls dressed in overalls. The authorities at once sensed the makings of a nice lynch frame-up and the opportunity to throw nine charred, tortured bodies of Negro children into the face of the Negro masses as a warning to quietly accept the growing oppression and starvation. Trial of the boys was deliberately set for "horse-swapping" day in the little town of Scottsboro. The boys were rushed to trial without being given any opportunity to communicate with their families or to arrange defense. Thousands of people poured into the town from the backward hill sections and adjoining states. The local newspaper, the Jackson County Sentinel and the mill bosses joined in whipping up the proper lynch spirit. Cheap booze was passed out freely. The mill bosses furnished a brass band which hailed the first lynch verdicts with the strains of "Happy Days Are Again." The militia was called out, ostensibly to "protect" the boys, but in reality to further dramatize the lynch spirit. Inside of 72 hours, lynch verdicts were handed out to eight of the nine boys. In the case of the ninth boy, Roy Wright, there was a mistrial.

I. L. D. Enters Case

The International Labor Defense, backed by the toiling white and Negro masses, entered the cases. The lynch verdicts were appealed. The Alabama Supreme Court upheld the lynch verdicts against seven of the boys but was forced to reverse the verdict against Eugene Williams. Chief Justice Anderson, in a dissembling statement, admitted that the boys had not had a fair trial. The thunder of mass protests against the lynch verdicts forced the U. S. Supreme Court to review the sentences, following the filing of an appeal by the I. L. D. attorneys. The U. S. Supreme Court ordered new trials for the boys, but sent them back to the court which had originally carried through the frame-up. The U. S.

USE GIBSON TO CUT ENGINEERS

Proposal to Put 2,000 On Relief Wages Only

NEW YORK.—Two thousand engineers that have been laid off by the city in the department of education, transportation, etc. since last summer have been told to go to the Gibson Committee where they are offered their old jobs for less than one fourth of what they got before. Their former wages were \$40 to \$80, now they are offered \$24 for two weeks' work.

Those who suffered from these layoffs have held a conference where they decided to demand reinstatement on the old wage. The United committee of laid-off men of the Union of Technical Men and the Unemployed College Alliance of which Alex Koral is chairman and a former engineer of the Board of Education, plan to hold a mass meeting February 24.

A committee has been organized to visit the Gibson officials and demand the right to examine their books in order to find out which of the engineers have thus had wages slashed.

Specific Cases

At a conference held at 189 Montague St., Brooklyn, Saturday, delegates of many city departments were present and reported the extent of lay-offs in their departments and the number that have been re-employed in their former position as "emergency" workers at a fraction of their regular pay—from \$12.50 to \$25 in place of \$3,120 or \$3,600 per year, after many years of faithful service in the city work.

Alexander Koral, chairman of the committee, reported: "We made our protest to the Emergency Work Relief Bureaus last week and Mr. Raymond Houston, assistant chairman of the E.W.B. tried to deny these facts with irrelevant statements.

"We have the reports from technical workers of city departments that in the office of the Borough President of Queens (Engineering Department) about 400 technicians were

I.L.D. Builds Conference

Nation-Wide Demonstrations February

NEW YORK.—Urgent directives for intensifying the mass fight for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys, in preparation for the trials scheduled for March, have been sent by the International Labor Defense to its 18 districts and hundreds of branches. The directives call on the I. L. D. districts and branches to give the fullest support to the Scottsboro United Front Conferences, called in many cities by Provisional Committees of Negro and white delegates from many mass organizations.

Broad Defense Committees

In many cities, the broadest defense committees are being organized, linking up the Scottsboro case with local struggles, and with the defense of Angelo Herndon, the Atlanta Six, Tom Mooney and the Tampa Prisoners.

Special meetings are called for in every city, to bring forward the pressing problem of broadening out the mass defense, drawing in all elements willing to fight for the free-

Supreme Court decision carefully points out to the Alabama bosses their "mistakes" in the original trials, and broadly hints on how to "legally" carry out the legal lynching.

Despite the order for new trials, eight of the boys are still held in the death cells in Kilby Prison, Montgomery, a violation even of the bosses laws. Despite the collapse of the frame-up evidence, the lynch bosses are still attempting to carry through this hideous crime against the working-class and the Negro people. Only the mass fight of white and Negro workers and all sincere elements can effect the freedom of the boys. The mass fight must now be intensified an hundred-fold. Build United Front Scottsboro Defense Committees! Hold demonstrations! Demand immediate and unconditional release of the Scottsboro boys! Rush funds to the International Labor Defense, 80 East 11th Street, New York City, to help push the legal and mass fight for the Scottsboro boys.