

LABOR DEFENDER

Official Organ of the International Labor Defense

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20 YEARS

A YEAR ago, the month of August marked the culmination of the first triumph in the fight conducted by the International Labor Defense to free Angelo Herndon. The drive to raise the \$15,000 cash bail demanded by the state of Georgia went over the top on August 3, 1934.

Since then Angelo Herndon has been a free man. Since then the United States Supreme Court in a 6 to 3 decision refused to review the case of Angelo Herndon—sliding out under a technicality. Since then Angelo Herndon has toured the country from coast to coast lining up thousands and thousands of supporters and friends not only for his own battle, but behind the fight to free the Scottsboro boys, Tom Mooney, and all class war prisoners. He is still free—until the Supreme Court reconvenes in October and decides whether or not they will grant him a re-hearing.

Angelo Herndon must stay free. Angelo Herndon must not be allowed to go to the Georgia chain-gang where his twenty-year sentence means certain death.

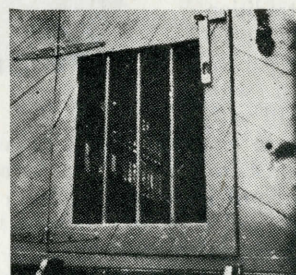
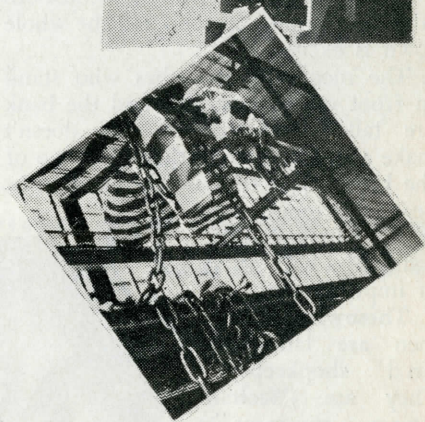
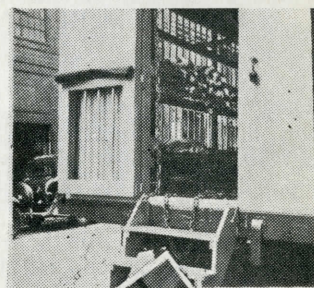
When the Supreme Court decision was handed down on May 20, Herndon said, "The fight for my freedom has just begun." So did the International Labor Defense.

on the Chain-Gang?

We have launched a campaign for the collection of 2,000,000 signatures on a petition demanding Herndon's freedom, the freedom of all the 18 Negro and white workers indicted under the same savage slave law of 1866 and repeal of that law. This petition is to be presented to Governor Eugene Talmadge of Georgia. At the same time, the I. L. D. urges every signer of the petition to send his or her protest to the U. S. Supreme Court in Washington demanding a re-hearing for Angelo Herndon.

To speed this vital work in the short time remaining before October, to bring to the consciousness of the American people the horrors of the Georgia chain gang in their starkest realism, the I. L. D. has constructed—under the personal supervision of John L. Spivak—an exact replica of a Georgia chain gang cage. It is equipped down to the last gruesome detail with bunks, bars, chains. This cage will tour the country aiding in the collection of signatures. The truck is not the only means employed by the I. L. D. to gather the 2,000,000 signatures. Nine national organizations—American Civil Liberties Union, American League Against War and Fascism, Communist Party, League for Industrial Democracy, National Unemployment Council of the

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The pictures on this page show interior and exterior views of the chain-gang cage replica built by the I. L. D. It is now touring the country in the Herndon campaign collecting signatures for the 2,000,000 signature petition demanding the freedom of Angelo Herndon.

20 YEARS ON THE CHAIN- GANG

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United States, National Student League, Share Croppers Union, Southern Tenant Farmers Union and the I. L. D.—are officially sponsoring the petition and have taken definite quotas of petition lists to fill. Each list has room for 100 names. The Communist Party is already distributing 25,000 of these lists which it has pledged itself to fill. Many other organizations are on the job. Almost 7,000 signatures from 31 states are in already bearing the names of very prominent individuals.

I. L. D. districts and branches are setting up outdoor stations—with petitions spread on tables, nailed to boards, encouraging all who pass to sign their name to free Angelo Herndon.

Get behind this petition campaign. Sign a petition yourself. Get a list and take it to your organization, shop, school—wherever you live and work. The voices of at least two million people will go a long way towards convincing Governor Talmadge that he cannot add Angelo Herndon to the thousands suffering torture on his damnable chain gangs—will show him that he must set him free.