

Have the Scottsboro Boys the Right to Say Who Shall Defend Them?

DALLAS GAZETTE

"DON'T COVER THE EARTH, BUT WE SHINE IN OUR CORNER."—Old Ironside

Dallas that is owned and
by You should support it.

DALLAS, TEXAS, SATURDAY AUGUST 22, 1931

Successors to the
Denison, Texas.

COMMUNISTS AND N.A.A.C.P. SCRAP OVER SC'BORO CASE

By CYRIL BRIGGS

THE accompanying release sent out by Walter White, national secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., tells its own story as to who is trying to tangle and hamstring the defense of the nine innocent Scottsboro boys who are facing legal lynching in Alabama.

The Dallas Gazette in publishing White's release correctly emphasizes the fact that the Scottsboro boys are opposed to the persistent attempts of the N.A.A.C.P. to impose its defense policy upon the boys and their parents. The Gazette's headline reads:

"Prisoners Are Opposing the N.A.A.C.P."

Have these boys and their parents the right to decide who shall defend them? They have time and again declared their choice of the International Labor Defense. They have repeatedly shown that they realize the importance of a mass defense movement to back up their defense in the hostile courts of the Alabama boss lynchers. Have they the right to choose their defense? They have time and again told the N.A.A.C.P. to either co-operate with the I.L.D. or keep their hands off the case. Have they this right? This question is again sharply placed before the working class, and especially the Negro masses, by reason of the continued attempts of N.A.A.C.P. misleaders to disrupt the mass defense which alone can free the boys.

In his release, Mr. White admits that the parents and relatives of the boys are opposed to his traitorous gang. Then why do not the N.A.A.C.P. misleaders respect the oft expressed wishes of the parents that they stop meddling in the case? William Pickens also admitted this opposition in his Chattanooga speech several months ago. In that speech he accused the Communists of having "kidnapped, corralled and fenced around the parents of the boys." This was another way of admitting that the parents would have nothing to do with the N.A.A.C.P. traitors and their Ku Klux Klan lawyer, Stephen Roddy. The N.A.A.C.P. misleaders have tacitly admitted

Control Commission Decisions

BUFFALO, N. Y.—The District Control Committee of the Communist Party in Buffalo, N. Y., has expelled P. Glazerman (Glazer) as an unreliable individual, who has previously, according to his own admissions, been an "operator" for a private detective agency, who has misappropriated organization funds, and who is strongly suspected of being a stool-pigeon.

He is about 5 ft 7 in. tall, stockily built, about 150 lbs. in weight, and has a pointed nose and shifty eyes. He uses every opportunity to spread alarming rumors, assumes militancy of a provocateur type, and tries to bring about conflicts with the police, which he himself manages to avoid.

All workers' organizations are warned against him.

Prisoners Are Opposing the N. A. A. C. P.

Scottsboro Cases Badly Tangled

New York, Aug. 14.—"So much hostility and race hatred have been created by threats against the lives of the governor and other Alabama officials," reported Walter White, who returned today from Alabama, "that the task of saving the lives of the eight boys sentenced to death at Scottsboro is today infinitely more difficult to combat than originally.

"The minds of some of the parents and relatives of the boys have been so poisoned against every organization and individual not Communist that they are unable under present circumstances to realize the grave danger in which these threats are placing the boys.

"For example, I learned in Alabama that one of the mothers was brought to Kilby prison recently by Communist agents and that she stood in the foyer of the prison with her arms akimbo and shouted, 'I just wish I could get my hands on this Walter White; I'd wring his neck for trying to get my boy electrocuted.' This poor mother and some of the others have been convinced by the Communists that the N. A. A. C. P.'s business is that of getting Negroes electrocuted instead of saving them.

ted this opposition to them on the part of the parents by refusing the floor to mothers of the boys at several mass meetings and at the N.A.A.C.P. conference in Pittsburgh.

White admits that one of the mothers of the boys has publicly denounced him for his traitorous alliance with the Alabama bosses in the attempt to crush the mass fight which alone can free the boys. He neglects to add, however, that all of the nine boys and all of their parents and relatives have joined in this denunciation.

He justifies his meddling in the case against the wishes of the parents on the lie that the parents are too ignorant to know their own mind, that they are misled, that their minds are poisoned, etc. He also peddles the boss lynchers' interpretation of the protests of the working class against this damnable outrage as "threats against the lives of the governor and other Alabama officials."

But the workers will not be deceived by the lies of Walter White. The question before the working class is the mass fight to save and free the Scottsboro boys and the support of the parents and their boys in their unanimous choice of the International Labor Defense as the organization which shall conduct the defense.