

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 21, 1940.

ALAN SHAW FORMALLY SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS IN OKLAHOMA

Calls Trial a Mockery

Alan Shaw, 22, was formally sentenced to 10 years and \$5,000 for "criminal syndicalism" in Oklahoma City on December 19, it was announced by the International Labor Defense last week in a statement re-affirming its determination to appeal the Oklahoma cases all the way to the U. S. Supreme Court if necessary until justice and freedom is won for all 12 of the men and women involved.

In a courageous statement made to Judge Ben Arnold who presided at his trial and who passed the sentence, Shaw scored his trial as a mockery.

"Over the entrance to this court house," Shaw said, "there is an inscription with a quotation from Thomas Jefferson, 'Equal and exact justice to all men, regardless of state of persuasion, religious or political.'

"That inscription and those words have been disregarded in my case. It has been a mockery from the very beginning."

Shaw, who remains at liberty under \$7,5000 bail, is charged with "membership in the Communist Party."

The I.L.D. which is appealing the case of Robert Wood, also sentenced to 10 years and \$5,000 fine for "criminal syndicalism" on charges of possessing books, urged all friends of the Oklahoma defense to intensify their efforts in raising vitally needed defense funds which may be sent directly to 112 East 19th Street, New York City.