

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 31, 1941.

TRIAL OF INA WOOD OPENS IN OKLAHOMA ON MONDAY JUNE 2

Mrs. Ina Wood, 32, the wife of Robert Wood already sentenced to 10 years and \$5,000 fine under the Oklahoma criminal syndicalism law, goes on trial on similar charges in Oklahoma City on Monday morning, June 2, it was announced by the I.L.D. last week in an emergency appeal for defense funds.

"Until a few days ago, we had still hoped to secure a postponement in Mrs. Wood's trial," the I.L.D. statement pointed out. "Our hopes were based particularly on the possibility of getting a new trial for Eli Jaffee, since by his own admission the trial judge in his case had admitted leaving the county during the trial, thus invalidating any verdict the jury might have brought in.

"Mrs. Wood, born and raised in New England, will be tried on the first of the two counts of violation of the criminal syndicalism held against her--membership in the Communist Party. She is the first of the three women involved in the Oklahoma cases to face trial in the same courthouse in which her husband, Alan Shaw and Eli Jaffee all received the same sentence on the basis of the same evidence--10 years and \$5,000 fine.

"The International Labor Defense is certain that all its members and friends share in the determination that Ina Wood shall not meet the same fate and that none of the sentences meted out so far will be permitted to stand. Samuel A. Neuburger, retained by the I.L.D. to represent Eli Jaffee, has been selected to represent Mrs. Wood. The legal costs in her trial promise to be at least as heavy as in the three preceding it. Confident that all those who have already generously supported the Oklahoma defense will do everything in their power to come to the aid of Mrs. Wood, the I.L.D. makes this emergency appeal for defense funds which should be rushed to 112 East 19 Street as quickly as possible."

MARCANTONIO URGES SUPPORT ILD SUMMER MILK DRIVE

June 1 will mark the opening of the annual Summer Milk Drive conducted by the International Labor Defense in behalf of the children whose fathers are labor and political prisoners, it was announced by its president, Congressman Vito Marcantonio, last week in a statement urging nation-wide support of this vital campaign.

"Child victims of terror--not in the war torn old world--but right here in Alabama, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, a terror that breaks up homes and sends their fathers to the penitentiary, depend on us for support," Congressman Marcantonio's statement read.

"Their fathers can do nothing for them from behind prison bars. Their mothers have only one certain source of income, and that is the extremely limited monthly relief they get from the prisoners relief funds of the I.L.D.

"Everybody knows how important milk is to a healthy childhood. Imagine what it means to children who barely get enough to eat, to whom shoes are a luxury and home little more than a leaky roof overhead.

"Our youngsters and their families never complain, But they appreciate the lift you can help us give them."

The International Labor Defense also announced that attractive Milk Drive campaign material was available at its national headquarters and that all contributions toward the drive could be sent at once to 112 East 19th Street, N. Y. City.

SAMUEL A. NEUBURGER TO ADDRESS NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD CONVENTION ON OKLAHOMA CASES.

Samuel A. Neuburger, who was retained by the International Labor Defense to defend Eli Jaffee and Mrs. Ina Wood in the Oklahoma criminal syndicalism cases, will address the convention of the National Lawyers Guild in Detroit, on May 31, on the Oklahoma cases, it was announced by the I.L.D. last week.

Mr. Neuburger was the first attorney from the east to investigate the Oklahoma cases in September, 1940. He will leave Detroit immediately after his address in