

# Foster Speech Rips Into Walker's Role in Mooney Case

NEW YORK.—Speaking to 10,000 workers gathered at the Bronx Coliseum Wednesday night to send off the New York delegation of the National Hunger March, William Z. Foster exposed the role of the grafting Tammany Mayor Walker in the Mooney case. Foster said:

For 15 long years the capitalists of this country have kept Tom Mooney and Warren Billings in jail. But now, in the face of a rising wave of struggle of the American workers, the Mooney and Billings case is getting too hot for the capitalists to hang on to any more. The workers of this country, by mass pressure, are going to force open the doors of the penitentiary.

For all these long years they have kept these comrades of ours in jail. That we have not succeeded in forcing open these penitentiary bars

## Try to Make Billings Goat; Workers Must Force Release

before this is simply because the great masses have not realized the true significance of this world-famous Mooney and Billings case. But now the masses are beginning to wake up. They are beginning to get into motion, and the bosses of this country are wondering how they can get rid of the Mooney and Billings case. They are trying, somehow or other, to maneuver themselves into a better position.

So they send Mr. Jimmie Walker to California! Is there anybody in this hall who thinks that Mr. Walker has gone to California to fight for

Mooney, or for what Mooney stands for? No! Mr. Walker went to California to destroy the Mooney case, if he can, as the class issue of the American workers. We are not going to allow Mr. Walker to destroy the class issues behind the Mooney case.

What is Mr. Walker trying to do in California? Mr. Walker is trying to lay down conditions upon which he would appear in behalf of Mooney. Mr. Walker thereupon tries to compromise Mooney, and to take the Mooney case away from its class base, the working-class base that this case has rested on ever since it began.

Mr. Walker, together with the other capitalist attorneys in the case, are trying to furnish the capitalist class with an alibi, they are trying

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to furnish the capitalists of California with excuses to attempt to get them out from under this Mooney case. What do they say? What did Mr. Walker and Mr. Walsh say?

They say this is a case of perjury! They create the impression, and say in so many words, that Mooney is in jail because two perjurers, Oxman and MacDonald, swore falsely against Mooney; and as one of the lawyers said—"fooled the whole state of California!" And they say these two liars are responsible for the imprisonment of Mooney and Billings.

Is this the Mooney case? Of course not! Mooney and Billings were put into jail at the instigation, and under the instructions, of the capitalists of California, and with the support of the capitalist class of the United States.

This is not a question of some isolated case of perjury. This is a frame-up by the capitalist class of California and the United States to destroy these militants and to set them as an example for every other militant working-class fighter in the country that militancy will not be tolerated.

We are not going to allow any such impressions to go unchallenged about the Mooney case such as Walker and Walsh seek to build up.

What else are they undertaking to do out there in California? You read in your papers how they tried to distinguish between Mooney and Billings. They are trying to make it appear as though Billings is guilty and Mooney is not. Are we going to allow them to say this? No!

I want to say to the capitalist class, or those who may be interested in listening, that if they try to put this across, if they try to make Billings the goat, that the Billings case will become a bigger case and a harder one for them to handle than the Mooney case ever was.

As the National Hunger March goes to Washington, as our Hunger March passes through hundreds of industrial towns and cities, they will demand, and the workers everywhere will demand, the unconditional release of Tom Mooney, and the unconditional and immediate release of Warren J. Billings.