

NATIONAL COMMITTEE
FOR THE DEFENSE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

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September 28, 1932

Miss Mary C Barker
Atlanta Ga

My dear Miss Barker:

We are appealing to you in the hope and belief that you share in the humanitarianism and liberalism of such men as Albert Einstein, Romain Rolland, and others who have protested against the condemning of innocent Negro boys to the electric chair with hardly a pretense of a fair trial.

Women who were raised in the South, as we were, must know it is only too easy to convict innocent Negroes as these Negroes were convicted. How often the mere charge of assaulting white women is in itself sufficient to condemn Negroes without proof of guilt or chance to prove their innocence.

We feel, therefore, it should be a point of honor with Southern white women to protest against the pretended chivalry which uses the excuse of "protection of Southern womanhood" to demand without proper investigation or semblance of fairness the lives of seven poor, ignorant, and helpless Negro boys.

Will you voice your protest by signing the enclosed statement and returning it to us at once?

Sincerely yours,

Eleanor Copenhaver
Eleanor Copenhaver (for the Committee)

Evelyn Scott Lois MacDonald
Anita Brenner Grace Lumpkin

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