
Shall Capitalism “Get” Gale or Shall the Workers Free Him? Send Money Now for the Defense of Linn A.E. Gale, Publisher of *Gale’s International Monthly of Revolutionary Communism*¹ [circa June 1921]

Typeset circular, copy in DoJ/BoI Investigative Files, NARA M-1085, reel 918, file 200655. Attached to cover memo by Director William J. Burns, dated Oct. 25, 1921.

Let comrades everywhere rally to the help of the publisher of the only Radical magazine in Mexico, who now lies in the military prison of Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, the target of the hate and malice of the Black Hundreds of International Imperialism and Militarism!

For three years Gale has been pouring his tireless energies into the working class movement of Mexico, arousing the wage-slaves of

¹ **Linn Abel Eaton Gale** was born May 31, 1892 in New York City. The gangly redhead published a number of issues of a radical magazine called *Gale’s* in several northeastern cities in 1917-18, with the first issue appearing in Worcester, MA in April 1917. In March 1918 an induction notice was mailed to him and he fled the country to Mexico City with his Ohio-born wife, Magdalena Haas Gale. In Mexico Gale continued to publish *Gale’s International Monthly of Revolutionary Communism* and was active in one of the fledgling Communist Parties of that nation. Succumbing to American pressure, Gale was arrested on April 1, 1921 in Mexico City and deported to Guatemala. The Guatemalan government refused him admission, however, and Gale returned to Mexico City, where he was rearrested on April 20, 1921 and expelled by President Obregon two days later. Gale was delivered to US Military authorities at Laredo, Texas, from whence he was brought to San Antonio on April 28, 1921. Transferred to Fort Jay, Governors Island, NY, in the fall of 1921 Gale began to collaborate with the Justice Department (including Attorney General Daugherty) and the Military Intelligence Division, informing on former comrades and providing intelligence on the radical movement in Mexico. Gale was tried in military court and wound up serving 3 years and 2 months in prison for draft evasion. Gale later ran a small radical bookshop in Washington, DC. Called before the Fish Committee on Dec. 5, 1930, Gale denied membership in the CPUSA but described himself as a “100% American Communist.”

that long suffering land and organizing them for the day when they will take over industry.

For three years Gale has written innumerable articles for the Radical press of almost every country explaining the sinister intrigues of the interventionists and the diabolical conspiracy to embroil the United States in war with Mexico for the sake of profits for the oil magnates and the munitions makers.

For three years Gale has been the moving spirit of the now powerful Communist movement of Mexico and has conducted an intense propaganda against the [hideous assassins?] of international butchery.

All this time Gale has been a thorn in the side of the system everywhere — most of all the system in America. All this time the system has been trying to get him in its cruel clutches by extraditing him back from Mexico, but every previous effort failed. Carranza and De la Huerta both refused to deport Gale. Obregon, influenced by Ole Hanson of Seattle, finally consented and <illeg.> he agreed <illeg.> to deport Gale to the United States. The petroleum interests bribed venal police officials in Mexico City to kidnap him and his brave comrade wife and [sneak] them across the Rio Grande River.

Now Gale is behind bars facing charges punishable by death and now the master class of America, thirsting for vengeance, prepares to [sate] its savage appetite!

Shall it accomplish its damnable [desires] or shall it be prevented? The answer depends upon the workers.

WILL YOU HELP THIS FEARLESS COMRADE OR WILL YOU LET THE MONEY POWERS BLOT OUT HIS LIFE OR SEND HIM TO A PRISON CELL FOR MANY YEARS?

Send in every dollar you can to the Defense Fund. Organize meetings of protest and make demonstrations against Gale's imprisonment. Write or telegraph to your Congressman, your Senators, and President Harding, demanding Gale's release. The fact that Debs is soon to be discharged, that *The Liberator* has had 2nd class rates restored to it, and that the administration is [seriously] considering an amnesty for wartime offenders indicates that your pressure may be effective. Leave no stone unturned. Neglect no effort to get Gale liberated. His cause is the cause of every rebel, every [serf] of the system, every victim of capitalism and capitalist wars, every [champion] of internationalism, every [believer] in a <illeg.> Social Order.

Make remittances payable to SOL LIFSHITZ, Treasurer, and send to him at [1408] Monterrey Street, San Antonio, Texas.

“Just a dollar from each comrade,
More or less, don't wait, [chip?] in.
It will furnish ‘ammunition’;
If you send help we will win.”

GALE DEFENSE COMMITTEE.

Edited by Tim Davenport

1000 Flowers Publishing, Corvallis, OR · July 2013 · Non-commercial reproduction permitted.