

THE AGITATOR

A SEMI-MONTHLY ADVOCATE OF SYNDICALISM, THE MODERN SCHOOL, INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM

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WHOLE NO. 46

The Passing Show

THE LAWRENCE LEADERS

Ettor and Giovannitti, the two Lawrence strike leaders, will be put on trial Sept. 30, on the charge of murder. A girl striker, Anna La Pizza, was killed by a shot during a clash between the strikers and police.

It is a time-honored practice, that has been worked with considerable success in the past, to nab the leaders on some frame-up, and thus disrupt the strike and drive the toilers back to their tasks with wrongs unrighted.

It didn't work in this case; in no case will it work any more. For leaders by the score will rize up out of the ranks as the active leaders are thrust behind the bars, or the hirdling bullets lay them low.

The order of old has been reversed. Leaders dont make strikes any more. It is the strikes that make the leaders nowadays. This was strikingly shown in the Lawrence revolt. There the leaders were incidental. They came on the scene after the strike was started, after the mills were closed.

The real leader of the strike, the man with initiative who precipitated it, was quite innocent of his leadership. He was one of the mass, but he was not of those who wait for the word of command before they act. He did not wait to see what the others were going to do.

He glanced at the short-pay envelope, then he looked into the face of the well dressed pay-master, whom for the moment he characterized as the embodiment of the atrocious system that was oppressing him and his fellow slaves. Instantly the wrath of a thousand wrongs stored in his breast roze into a towering passion, and he flung the envelope in the face of the astonished official, exclaiming: "back to hell I fling it."

That was the signal, the inspiration for his comrades, who instinctively followed him out of the mill. Who could resist following such a leader? He is the type of leader that will one day empty the principle factories of the world and precipitate the Social Revolution.

No other act of leadership would have moved that impulsive, unorganized mass, speaking a quarter of a hundred languages. They all understood him. Direct Action is the universal language of Labor.

Still the leader on the outside was as necessary as the one on the inside, but not more so. Without the latter there would be no need for the former.

Ettor and Giovannitti were the voice of solidarity that cemented the mass of individuals into a solid phalanx. They gave expression to the pent-up indignation of the strikers and put their demands into eloquent, forceful speech.

The mass heard itself speak when they spoke, and it marvelled at its own voice.

They put tongues into every one of the thirty thousand and wounded hearts and made them flash with the eloquence of righteous revolt.

Such leaders are dangerous, and call for serious attention from the pillars of society.

I do not wonder that all the forces of government were arrayed against them, I do not wonder that the priests denounced them, even as the priests of old denounced the leader these "christians" pretend to follow.

I do not wonder that villianous gunmen were put on their tracks and that they, with the police and soldiery, were ordered to pepper them at the first opportunity.

I do not wonder that respectable, christian mill-owners in their hour of desperation fell to the aluring charms of dynamite and conspired to plant some of it where it would do the most good.

I do not wonder that poor Anna La Pizza was the innocent victim of a viscidious plot to strangle their eloquent voices.

Let the trial go on. Bill Haywood, in his characteristic style, at a Mass Meeting in Union Square, New York, September 14, gave due notice to whom it may concern that:

"If Ettor and Giovannitti are killed there will be more work for the undertaker, but it will not be among the workers, remember that."

STRIKES BY PROCLAMATION

The I. W. W. of Pittsburg has issued a proclamation "to all steel workers of America, to the miners in the Pittsburg district and the workers in the coke fields." It opens as follows: "The hour has arrived when you must all strike to win. All

must quit work together to make it a winning fight. Strike now, strike all together, strike to win."

It is quite a lengthy document, well written and rousing in its appeal to the workers to:

"Tie up every mill! Close every mine! Flood every colliery! Stop the wheels of commerce! Tie up the railroads, the shops! Tie up all towns!"

If proclamations make strikes, surely this one will. But, unfortunately, the workers are not so easily aroused. If they responded so readily to the call of freedom, freedom would be a reality long ago; for innumerable proclamations have been issued and the toilers are still in chains.

I do not know what the I. W. W. hopes to accomplish by this proclamation. Conditions are bad in the iron and steel mills. The iron heel rests heavily on the toilers; the weight of oppression is terrible; every pound of steel is dyed with the red blood of labor. Still I doubt if the spirit of revolt is sufficiently prevalent to cause labor to rebel even for a day.

Experience has shown that under the shock of some new oppression, as, for instance, the case of Lawrence, the workers will rebel without any word from without or organization from within; but I have no memory of them answering the proclamation of the agitators, except by previous agreement, which implies organization.

The members of the I. W. W. may come out, and many non-union men may follow them. But the men who are of other organizations will not strike, except they have agreed to do so, which I doubt.

Is the I. W. W. sufficiently strong in the steel industry that their proclamation and strike will cause a stampede amongst the non-members?

This I very much doubt. In fact, I am quite convinced that this proclamation will be answered by only a corporal's guard of the great army of steel workers, in which case it will only expose the weakness of the organization and the poor generalship of its leaders, not to speak of the discouraging effect such failures have on the workers.

That gigantic octopus, that heartless exploiter of labor, the steel trust, will not yield an inch until the tactics advocated by the I. W. W. are put into practice; but it will take considerably more education and organization among the slaves before the general strike call will be responded to by a number sufficient to assure success.

A FORTUNE FOR A HEAD

The General Manager of the Industrial Lumber Co. of Louisiana, a wing of the great lumber trust, is reported to have said "I'd give \$20,000 to see A. L. Emerson hang."

Emerson is President of the Brotherhood of Timber Workers. With 63 of his fellow slaves he is now in prison on the charge of murder. The case is quite similar to the Lawrence outrage, only the Lumber trust is even a more blood-thirsty vulture than the textile trust.

These lumber kings of the South are the most merciless exploiters of labor on the continent, and that means a great deal. They actually hold men in slavery. This is not figurative language. It is an age worn practice for them to keep men in their pestilent camps, in the swamps of Louisiana, at the point of the rifle, having special guards for that purpose. They even keep bloodhounds to track down escaping slaves, who, upon being returned to camp, are punished by liberal application of the black snake whip to their bare, emaciated backs.

The most exaggerated stories of black slavery are exceeded in fact by the practices of this octopus of the South upon whites and blacks alike.

This is what Emerson and his fellow workers are up against. They tried, thru the instrument of union, to abolish this terrible condition. They drew no "color line." The black slave is as welcome to their union as a white one. And they succeeded in these efforts at freeing the toilers to the extent of getting them to strike, an extraordinary achievement considering the conditions.

This was the most heinous crime of all against the black-souled white-skinned slave-masters, and they have decided to stamp out this rebel organization that has the hardihood to attempt to free the timber workers from its iron grasp.

It has set aside \$100,000 as a "defence fund" and it

is willing to pay \$20,000 for the lone head of Emerson.

Give this case your attention. They will hang this man and perhaps many of his comrades, or send them to a living death on the worst penal farms in the world—those of Louisiana—unless you protest. Raise your voice high.

STERILIZATION FOR CRIME

The supreme court of this State, the court that is soon to pass upon the question of free press and decide whether or not I shall serve two months in a steel tank for mildly expressing my views relative to the law, has handed down a decision holding that the law for the sterilization of "habitual criminals" and those convicted for "unnatural" crimes is constitutional.

It quotes medical authority as saying that the operation is neither painful or dangerous, and therefore it cannot be cruel and inhuman to thus mutilate a human being.

Did these learned physicians and lawyers ever reflect that there is a cruelty and inhumanity that is mental in its operations? Are they so lackeyfied as not to know that to inflict the pain of indignity, of humiliation, is vastly more cruel and inhuman than the pain of a physical operation, that can be chloroformed away? But with these professional lackies of the rich the order of nature has been reversed—their moral senses have been chloroformed away by the magic chick of their masters gold.

The American Institute of Crime and Criminology, at a recent meeting, recommended this unnatural crime upon criminals to the favorable consideration of all States who have not yet inscribed it upon their inhuman statute books.

The ruling class is surely getting more cruel as it gets richer and the dispossesed becomes more desperate.

ROME AND THE SCHOOLS

The Catholic Arch Bishop of Milwaukee has issued a decree forbidding catholic parents to send their children to the Public Schools. He insults the intelligence of every catholic parent many times during his pronouncement. But catholics have no intelligence where matters of the church are concerned. They must obey blindly or suffer the wrath of god.

The higher-ups hold the key and can turn the flood-gates of Jehovah's fire and fury upon them at any time. It is no joke for a man to believe he can be sent to burn for eternity at the word of another whom he thinks has the power to do so. And think, what a power that other man must have over him. Such is the condition of the Roman Catholic. He will reason on every subject but his religion. In order to so chloroform his mind an early start must be had. Therefore the command to send the young to catholic schools.

The children get plentifully doped in the Public Schools, but they are not given the special kind of opiate that induces an everlasting obedience to the pope.

I pity the children that have to imbibe the teachings of either and long for the establishment of The Modern School in every community, so that at least the children of rebels may not be stuffed with the lies of religion and capitalism.

I W. W. SPEAKER JAILED

James Rohn, Sec. of the I. W. W. in Tacoma, is now serving a jail sentence for street speaking. The police recently issued an order forbidding street meetings at the corner of 12th. & Pacific Ave.

The religious fakers were not included in this ukase; which shows for the millionth time that the law is the word of the economic masters.

Only putting the Rohns in jail will not throttle the voice of revolt.

Rohn in a prison cell speaks more eloquently for his cause than his voice from the soap-box at 12th. and Pacific.

We have just received a pamphlet by Ford and Foster, on Syndicalism. It is just what you want to give you a grasp of this fast spreading idea and its relations to the labor movement in this country. Send in ten cents and get a copy.

This issue goes into type a little too soon for a report of the I. W. W. Convention, which has just finished its session in Chicago. Comrade Foster will tell us what was done there in the next number. JAY FOX.

THE AGITATOR

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THE AGITATOR does not bear the union stamp because it is not printed for profit. But it is union, every letter of it. It is printed and published by unionists and their friends for the economic and political education of themselves and their fellow toilers. Much of the labor is given free. On the whole it is a work of love—the love of the idea, of a world fit for the free.

Freedom is the one purport, wisely aimed at, or unwisely, of all man's strugglings, toilings and sufferings on this earth.
Carlyle

SYNDICALISM & ANARCHISM

In our previous article on this subject it was shown how, in England since the years 1820-30, and in France after the unsuccessful political revolution of 1848, the efforts of a considerable section of the workers were directed towards a direct struggle of Labor against Capital, and to an endeavor to create for that purpose the necessary Labor organizations.

It was also shown how this idea became, in the years 1866-70, the leading idea of the newly created International Working Men's Association; but how, after the defeat of France in 1870, the paralysis of its revolutionary forces after the fall of the Paris Commune, and the triumph of Germany, the political element got the upper hand in the International, and became for a time the dominating element in the labor movement.

Since that time the two currents have continued to develop, each of them in the direction which was already implied in its programme. Political Labor Parties were organized in all constitutional States. They did their best to increase as rapidly as possible the number of their representatives in their respective Parliaments; and, as was foreseen from the outset, their representatives, hunting for votes, inevitably reduced their economic programmes, so as to limit them to such minor restrictions of the rights of the employers as only give a new force to the capitalists and help them to maintain the present condition. At the same time, as the Socialists politicians combatted the representatives of the political bourgeois Radicalism, who competed with them for the votes, they helped—against their own will—to give a new lease to triumphant reaction all over Europe.

Their ideology itself—that is, the ideas and the ideals they were spreading among the masses—was modeled in accordance. They were resolute partizans of State centralization, as against local autonomy and the independence of the smaller nations; and they worked out a philosophy of history to support these foregone conclusions. They threw cold water on the hopes of the masses—preaching to them, in the name of "historical materialism," that no substantial change is possible in the Socialist direction until the number of capitalists has been reduced by their mutual competition; and they left unnoticed the fact, which becomes so striking now in all industrial countries, that, owing to the growing facilities for exploiting the peoples that are backward in industries, the English, the French, the Belgian and other capitalists are now exploiting the labor of hundreds of millions of men in Eastern Europe, Asia and Africa; the result being that the number of people living upon the work of other people, far from being gradually reduced to the chief industrial countries of Europe, goes on increasing in an appalling proportion. And with the increase of their numbers grow also the numbers of those who are interested in the maintenance of the present capitalistic State. Finally, the advocates of political agitation for the conquest of power in the present State bitterly opposed everything that could spoil their chances of acquiring political power. They excluded from the International Socialist Congresses all those who dared to criticize the results of their Parliamentary tactics; the deprecated strikes; and later on, when the idea of the General Strike began to penetrate even into their Congresses, they wildly opposed it by all possible means.

* * *

For full forty years these tactics have been pursued, and now it is evident to every one that all over Europe the working men have had enuf of it: many turn away from it in disgust. This is the reason why we hear so much now of "Syndicalism."

However, during these forty years the other current—

the direct struggle of Labor against Capital—also continued to develop, notwithstanding all the persecutions of the Governments and the denunciations of the capitalist politicians. It would be an extremely interesting history to show the steady development of this current and to analyze its relations, intellectual and personal, with the political Social Democratic parties on the one hand and the Anarchists on the other. But the time has not come to write such a work, and, after all, perhaps it is better that it should not be written now. It would divert attention towards personal influence of the great currents of modern thought and the growth of self-consciousness among the working men of America and Europe, independent of the influence of the intellectual leaders, which has to be examined, if a real history of the Syndicalist movement be written.

All we need say at the present moment is, that quite independently of the teachings of the Socialists—in virtue of the very fact that masses of working men were brot together in the industrial centers, and that they had retained from times past the tradition of their professional Unions, both open and secret—they continually organized Unions, in order to put a bridle on the overgrowing exploitation and on the haughtiness of the employers. And in proportion as the organized masses of workers grew larger and stronger, and more conscious of the great struggle that is the very essence of the life of civilized nations since the great French Revolution, their anti-capitalist tendencies became more and more definite.

During the last forty years, while all possible effort was made by the political leaders in the different countries to prevent the revolts of Labor, and to subdue those of them which were of a menacing character; precisely during these years we saw the Labor revolts growing more widely spread, more violent, and more significant of the intentions of the workers. More and more they lost the character of mere outbursts of despair; more and more, when we came into contact with the workers, we saw ripening among them a dominating thought, which could be expressed almost in a word, full of deep sense: "Go! Leave us, you 'captains of industry' if you cannot manage the industries so as to give us a living wage and security of employment. Go! if you are so shortsighted and so incapable of coming to a common understanding among yourselves, that you rush like a flock of sheep into every new branch of production which promises you the greatest monetary profits, regardless of the usefulness or noxiousness of the goods you produce in that branch. Go! if you are incapable of building your fortunes otherwise than by preparing interminable wars, and squandering a good third of what is produced by every nation in armaments for robbing other robbers. Go! if all that you have learned from the marvelous discoveries of modern science is that you see no other way of obtaining one's well-being but out of that squalid misery to which one third of the population of the great cities of this extremely wealthy country are condemned. Go! and 'a plague o' both your houses' if that is the only way you can find to manage industry and trade. We, workman, will know better how to organize production, if we only succeed in getting rid of you, the capitalist pest!"

These were the ideas which were budding, were that over, and were discussed in the workers' dwellings all over the civilized world; and these were the ideas which resulted in those tremendous upheavals of Labor which we saw every year in Europe and the United States, in the shape of dockers' strikes, railway strikes, miners' strikes, and weavers' strikes, until at last they began to take the shape of general strikes—general strikes which soon took the character of great struggles of the elements of Nature, and in comparison with which all the petty Parliamentary struggles were such pitiful child's play.

And while the Germans were jubilating with red flags and torchlights at their steadily increasing electoral successes, the more experienced nations of the West were silently pursuing an infinitely more serious task, the task of the inner organization of Labor; and the thoughts which worried them were of a far more serious nature. They asked themselves: What would be the outcome of the now inevitable word conflict between Labor and Capital? What New Forms of Industrial Life and Social Organization Would Come Out of This Conflict?

This is the true origin of the Syndicalist movement, which the ignorant politicians discover now as something new to them.

* * *

For us, this movement is not new. We greeted it when its tendencies were expressed in the programme of the International Working Men's Association. We defended it in the International, when the German political revolutionists assailed it and saw in it an obstacle to their conquest of political power. We advised the

workman of all nations to do as the Spaniards did, when they kept the Trade Unionist organizations in close touch with the "Sections" of the International. And since that time we have followed with deep sympathy all the phases of the Labor movement, knowing that, whatever the conflicts between Labor and Capital may be in the near future, it is this movement which will open the eyes of society at large to its duty towards the producers of all riches, the only movement that will induce thinking men to find a way out of the blind alley into which the recent development of Capitalism has been driving our generation.

Of course, the Anarchists have never imagined that it was they who gave to the Syndicalist movement its present conception of its duties towards the regeneration of society. They have never put forward the absurd pretence of being the leaders of the great movements of thought which led mankind to a progressive development. But what we may claim for ourselves in full confidence is, that we understood from its beginnings the immense importance of the ideas which now constitute the leading aim of Syndicalism. These are the ideas which were developed in this country by Godwin, Hodgskin, Gray, and their followers, and in France by Proudon—namely, the idea that Labor organizations for production, exchange, and consumption must take the place of the present capitalist exploitation and of the State; and that other idea, that it is the duty, the function, of the Labor organizations to work out this new form of society.

These two fundamental ideas are not our invention. They are nobody's invention. Life itself has dictated them to nineteenth century civilization, and upon us lies now the duty of realizing them in life. Our pride is only that we have understood them; that we defended them thru those dark years when they were trampled under foot by the Social Democratic politicians and their would be philosophers; and that we still intend to remain true to them.

"FREEDOM", London.

ROSS WINN

[The following from a biographical sketch of the valiant Revolutionist, Ross Winn, whose untimely death at the age of 41, is a decidedly great loss to the cause of labor, brings forcibly to your attention the dire need of the widow and child, and you are urgently requested to render such assistance as is within your power. Editor.]

Three years ago our comrade fell a victim to the disease of the poor, Tuberculosis. He had little faith in doctors and tried nature instead. Unfortunately one cannot live on nature alone, especially when one has a wife and child. And so Ross Winn had to return to civilization. In Mount Juliet, Tenn. assisted by his devoted companion, Gussie Winn, and cheered by their child Ross, Jr. he eked out a miserable existence, and kept up his propaganda.

Last year, however, his condition made work impossible. But he was too proud to ask for assistance from his comrades even. It was thru his wife that we learned of their terrible plight, immediately some money was raised, which might have kept him in comfort for a while. But the only thing that meant comfort for Winn was the spread of his ideas. And so he spent sixty dollars—a fortune to the little family—on a new printing outfit, and "The Advance" was started.

It was this that helped more than medicine or nature to prolong the life of our tireless comrade. And then the end came. In the early morning hour of August 3th, the inexorable master, Death, stilled the fervent, burning heart of Ross Winn. Only faithful Gussie and their boy were with him. The good Christian neighbors had no use for the heretic. Poor fools! How could they fathom the beauty and love that permeated the man whom they feared in life and shunned in death?

He is beyond them now, not so his child, who next to his ideals, he loved most, and whom he hoped to save from Christian kindness and patriotic beneficence. Ross Winn is beyond it all, but we are still here, not only to continue his work with the same ardor, and devotion as he, but also to bring his boy, even in a small measure the comradeship and care of his father. At the death of Ross Winn, nine dollars was all that was left to his family.

Their need is great and immediate. I therefore earnestly urge that a fund be raised at once to assist the faithful comrade and child of Ross Winn. Contributions can be sent direct to Gussie Winn, Route 3, Mt Juliet Tenn.

It is only thru the manifestation of solidarity that we can prove the living force of the ideals for which Ross Winn lived, worked, and struggled.

EMMA GOLDMAN.

The men of future generations will yet win many a liberty of which we do not even feel the want. Stirner.

REVOLUTION!

And tho' ye caught your noble prey within your hang-
man's sordid thrall;
And tho' your captive was led forth beneath your city's
rampart wall:
And tho' the grass lies o'er her green, where at the
morning's early red
The peasant girl brings funeral wreaths, I tell you still,
she is not dead!

And tho' from off the lofty brow ye cut the ringlets flow-
ing long,
And tho' ye've mated her amid the thieves' and murd-
erers' hideous throng,
And tho' ye gave felon fare, bade felon garb her livery
be,
And tho' ye set the oakum task, I tell you all, she still
is free!

And tho' compelled to banishment, ye hunt her down
thru' endless lands;
And tho' she seeks a foreign hearth, and silent 'mid its
ashes stands;
And tho' she bathes her wounded feet where foreign
streams seek foreign seas;
Yet, yet, she never more will hang her harp on Babel's
willow trees!

Ah no! she strikes it very strong, and bids their loud de-
fiance swell,
And as she mocked your scaffold erst, she mocks your
banishment as well.
She sings a song that starts you up astounded from your
slumbrous seats,
Until your heart, your craven heart, your traitor's heart,
with terror beats!

No song of plaint, no song of sighs for those who perish-
ed un subdued.
Nor yet a song of irony at wrong's fantastic interlude,
The beggar's opera that ye try to drag out thru its lin-
gering scenes,
Tho' moth-eaten the purple be that decks your tinsel
kings and queens

Oh, no! the song those waters hear is not of sorrow, nor
dismay,
'Tis triumph song, victorious song, the pæons of the
future day,
The future, distant now no more, her prophet voice in
sounding free.
As well as once your Godhead spake: I was, I am, and
I will be!

Will be, and lead the nation on the last of all your hosts
to meet.
And on your necks, your heads, your crowns, I'll plant
my strong, resistless feet.
Avenger, Liberator, Judge, red battles on my pathway
hurled,
I stretch forth my almighty arm, till it revivifies the
world.

You see me only in your cells; ye see me only in the
grave;
Ye see me only wandering lone, beside the exile's sul-
len wave.
Ye fools! Do I not live where ye have tried to pierce
in vain?
Rests not a nook for me to dwell in every heart and
every brain!

In every brow that boldly thinks, erect with manhood's
honest pride,
Does not each bosom shelter me that beats with honor's
generous tide?
Not every workshop, brooding woe? not every hut that
harbors grief?
Ha! Am I not the Breath of Life, that pants and strug-
gles for relief?

'Tis therefore I will be, and lead the people yet your
hosts to meet.
And on your necks, your heads, your crowns, will plant
my strong, resistless feet.
It is no boast, it is no threat, thus history's iron law
decrees,
The day grows hot, oh, Babylon! 'Tis cool beneath thy
willow trees!

-FREILICRATH.

Whosoever will be free, must make himself free: free-
dom is no fairy's gift to fall into any man's lap.

Nietzsche.

SPECIAL FROM AUSTRALIA.

I forwarded the Ettor-Giovannitti Defence Appeal to
the Melbourne Trades Hall Council, who passed a mo-
tion instructing their Secretary to send a protest to the
President of the U. S. A. thru the American Consul. A
reply was received that the protest would be forwarded.

The cost of living has increased enormously in Aus-
tralia. People with families are complaining of the im-
possibility of paying their way. The Workers are real-
izing that Labor Government has failed, as the struggle
to live is worse than ever. House rent is very high.
Families are crowding into rooms, being unable to pay
the rent of houses. The Political Labor Leagues are
passing motions complaining that the Land-Lords are ex-
ploiting the workers unmercifully.

There is much talk of a General Strike against rent,
but I am afraid the workers are too backward to do any-
thing so sensible. Australia appears to be the most hop-
less country known regarding Direct Action and the Gen-
eral Strike.

Conscription is breaking down. The Federal Labor
Government is commencing to waver and is dropping its
jailing. This is the result of a vigorous agitation carried
on by myself and a few others thruout Australia. We do
not intend to stop until militaryism in Australia is no
more.

The boys are being tried in fifties at a time for refus-
ing to be trained murderers and an ex carpenter named
Pearce talks jail and military punishment to break the
boys' spirits. This ex wage slave is now Minister of De-
fence. Save us from our Friends!

When will the workers take their Freedom? Echo an-
swers: "When?"

J. W. FLEMING.

WE APPEAL TO YOU!

Brothers of the North, the East, Lovers of Liberty in All
Lands, and Rebels of the South:

We, the Brotherhood of Timber Workers, are in a life
and death struggle with the Southern Lumber Operators'
Association, the local branch of the International Lum-
ber Trust. For twenty long and terrible months we
have fronted and fought this merciless combine of capiti-
lists and gunmen. For nearly two long years now, al-
most alone and single-handed, we have kept aloft the
banner of working-class revolt against the peon kings of
the South. Today sixty-five of our members are un-
der indictment for "murder" and "shooting with intent
to kill" and sixty-one of them are in the parish prison
at Lake Charles, Louisiana, awaiting trial for their lives
and liberties; this is the outcome of the massacre of our
people at Grabow, La., which occurred on Sunday, July
7, 1912. The whole Southern Oligarchy, which is world-
infamous for its merciless exploitation of labor, is back-
ing the Southern Lumber Operator's Association in its
fight to destroy our union and maintain peonage in the
South. No worker has ever tasted the bitter fruit of
this system, whether in the forests the mines or mills
of the South, but knows the savage forces we are fight-
ing; knows that the worst we say of them and more is
true, and knows that in fighting these forces we are
rendering a great service to the cause of all who la-
bor; that in fighting for our rights we are also blasing
the way of human liberty thru the jungles of the South.
Ask the miner of Alabama and the child-slaves of the
Carolinas whether or not we deserve your aid and sup-
port in the struggle we are making against this blood-
lusting, gold-crazed Oligarchy, this Aristocracy that was
born out of a marriage of capitalism and chattel-slavery.

All we ask you for is a little money, a little gold with
which to defend the lives and liberties of our endang-
ered fellow-workers. Committee of Defense, Brother-
hood of Timber Workers, Jay Smith, General Secretary,
Box 78, Alexandria, La.

THE PANAMA CANAL

Ten thousand cheered the speech delivered on Boston
Common by Roosevelt, Aug. 18; a speech in which he
boasted that he ignored Congress in his annexation of
Panama, and conversion of the canal, as it is now claim-
ed, into private property of the United States. Here is
part of what he actually said;

"If I had wanted to avoid trouble, I never hunt trouble,
but I don't avoid it when it comes my way (applause),
I could have done one of two things; if I had wished no
trouble I would have made a masterly report to Con-
gress and Congress would have held a series of able de-
bates on the masterly report and we would have had
half a century of more conversation. (Applause and
laughter.) And the canal would be 50 years off now.

"Instead of doing that I took the zone and started the
canal. (Applause.) And I allowed Congress, instead
of debating the canal, which would have been a misfor-
tune, to debate me (laughter), which didn't make any

difference to anybody, and least of all to me. (Laugh-
ter.) And in consequence of that we came to a fair
working compromise.

"We got the canal and Congress got the debate.
(Laughter.) And the debate is still going fitfully on,
and I think it won't close until long after I am dead
(laughter) and the canal will be finished in another
year! (Applause and cheers.)"

Ten thousand persons cheered that nauseating brag.
Ten thousand patriotic and intelligent, and all-the-rest-
of-it. American citizens yelled their heads off when
former President explained to them that Congress
was merely a useless talking shop, and that he, as dic-
tator, had snapped his fingers at it. He had assumed
the infallible authority that the Pope assumes in matters
of religion, and his audience went wild with delight over
the avowal. He served notice on the American people
that its whole representative system is a farce, and it
jumped with joy.

We ourselves have no quarrel with that notice, for it is
the very soul of truth. We simply note the speech and
its reception as unspeakably significant, adding the re-
flection that this so-called Republic is already far down
the toboggan that ends in the man on horseback.

"REGENERACION."

A PROTEST FROM ACROSS THE LINE.

Victoria, B. C., August 25, 1912.

Governor Foss, Massachusetts, Honored Sir:

We, the citizens of the City of Victoria, in the
Province of British Columbia, in mass meeting as-
sembled, and after due discussion of the charges
against J. Ettor and A. Giovannitti:

Do hereby protest against the imprisonment of
these men; and be it further

Resolved, That we ask the Governor of Massa-
chusetts, in order to prevent further disgrace on
the said fair state, to immediately release these
innocent men that they may enjoy the rights
which the Constitution of the States guarantees
to honest and upright men.

Signed and sealed by officers of

A. F. OF L.
TRADE & LABOR COUNCIL,
S. P. OF CANADA.
I. W. W.

THE WORKERS' UNIVERSITY.

Books and Pamphlets For Sale By the Agitator
Publishing Association.

A Physician in the House, Dr. J. H. Greer.....	2.50
What is Property? P. Proudon	2.00
Flowers of the Mind, the best poems	1.25
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The Cost of Something for Nothing, J. P. Altgeld	1.00
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The Sale of An Appetite, a Purpose Story50
Francisco Ferrer; His Life, Work and Martyr- dom25
Communism and Conscience, E. C. Walker25
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Modern Science and Anarchism, Kropotkin15
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The Open Shop, C. S. Darrow10
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Law and Authority, Kropotkin05
The Wage System; Revolutionary Government... .05	
Appeal to the Young, Kropotkin05
Evolution and Revolution, Reclus05
Roosevelt and Anarchy, Jay Fox05
Trade Unionism and Anarchism, Jay Fox05
Anarchist Communism, Kropotkin05
The Mexican Revolution, Wm. C. Owen.....	.05
Direct Action vs. Legislation, J. B. Smith05
Anarchism vs. Malthus, C. L. James05
Patriotism Emma Goldman05
What I Believe Emma Goldman05
Two Workers, Malatesta05

HENDERSON BAY ROUTE—Steamer **Tyconda** leaves
Commercial Dock, Tacoma, for all points on Hender-
son Bay, including Ilwaco, week days at 2:30 p. m.,
returning next morning. Sunday at 8 a. m., return-
ing same day.

Around the World

France.

The government is carrying a severe campaign against the organized teachers. The Minister of Instruction issued an order in which he gave the teachers until Sept. 10th. to disband, because the tendency of their organization is "immoral and in-patriotic."

The teachers do not willingly obey this order, but protest with all their power against it. The government is determined to use every means and especially hunger, to bind the teachers to its will.

The mutiny in the Navy does not seem to have been quite as harmless as the official announcements tried to make it. From Toulon comes the news that on account of the trouble on board the armed cruiser "Verite" 60 officers and 100 sailors have been punished.

All the advanced elements are occupied by the Russet affair and have forced the government to investigate the Army hierarchy.

Russia.

On account of having in his possession forbidden works of Tolstoi, the well known Prince Nahaschidze has been condemned to one year in the penitentiary.

Martial law in Sebastopol on account of revolt in the Navy. In a conflict between loyal and rebel sailors over 100 were killed and 300 wounded.

Spain.

General strike in Barcelona and all of Catalonia, in which the railroad men have joined, in spite of the fact that they are "government reserves" and had been "ordered" to serve as such. For this they are liable to court martial, which shows the fine revolutionary spirit of the men.

Germany.

Riots spreading thruout the Province of Schlesien on account of the high cost of living. Public markets were wrecked, farmers were thrown into their egg baskets and dealers attacked by the infuriated women, who were organized and had agreed not to pay more than a given price for articles of food.

South America.

Syndicalism is spreading rapidly among the farm laborers and small farmers in Argentine.

Police sent to arrest the leaders of the striking quarrymen on Isla Mala, (Bad Island) Uruguay, have disappeared and a careful search have been unable to reveal their whereabouts.

Italy.

General discontent is spreading and great agitation is being carried on in the northern cities against the seeming endless war between Italy and Turkey.

British Columbia.

The Construction Workers on the Grand Trunk R.R. are pursuing their fight for better conditions and higher wages with vigor. They issue a four page Bulletin, which shows they are alive to the power of the press.

THE LABOR MOVEMENT IN FRANCE

A Study in Revolutionary Syndicalism

By Louis Levine Ph. D. Cloth \$2.00. Paper cover \$1.50. Longmans, Green & Co., N. Y.

As we have shown in the articles "Anarchism and Syndicalism," the second one of which is published in this issue, Syndicalism is not a creation of yesterday, nor a philosophy evolved from the fertile brain of an economist, but an evolution, a growth of over forty years, worked out of their experience by the workers themselves.

Foolish, backward workmen may repudiate it; farseeing, designing capitalists may denounce it, but it will not down. It is here, a vigorous, lusty offspring of working class economics, and it is for us to accept it, as we accept the sky-scraper, the flying machine and the various other marvels of modern society.

This is the first book to give a comprehensive sketch of the evolution and history of Revolutionary Syndicalism in English. The book is written in a most sympathetic manner, giving the spirit as well as the letter. The author begins at the French Revolution and traces the efforts of the workers to organize, and the machinations of the ruling class to prevent organization.

He shows, truly, that the middle class took possession of France after the Revolution, by the laws passed forbidding laborers to organize while allowing the capitalists to associate in their Boards of Trade to further their own private ends.

This is preliminary to the main purpose of the book which deals particularly with the modern evolution of

organization among the toilers and their fight against the ruling class for the right to organize, and the varied struggles among themselves which have finally resulted in the present vigorous Revolutionary Syndicalist movement on one hand and the tenuous, truckling, socialist political party on the other.

The author brings out one point admirably clear—and he surely cannot be charged with partiality or bias in the matter—that is the utter failure of Politics either as an ideal or as a practical present-day solver of immediate economic problems.

The lesson of the book is clear, that what the French workmen have past thru must assuredly be gone thru here and in other countries. Maybe in a modified form, owing to a variability of temperament. But the conditions being the same, a like experience must inevitable result.

The French are merely some distance ahead of us. Their mobility of temperament, their easy grasp of knotty problems, the quickness with which they will jump into a situation and try it out, and their readiness always to test new propositions have given them a decided advantage over the rest of us, who are so slow-moving and careful lest in the breaking of new ground we stub our delicate toes.

No one reading this book with a clear, open mind can fail to see that in this country no less than in France and every other capitalist country, Syndicalism must be the goal of the labor movement, and that the I. W. W. for many and varied reasons cannot supply the gap of syndicalism here.

We will quote from this most valuable book in a future issue. Every student of Syndicalism should read it.

J. F.

FROM THE MAIL BAG.

Editor The Agitator—

Fellow worker:—Enclosed find renewed subscription for myself, also a starter for a friend of mine.

I like your paper, tho I'm not struck on boosting for a Syndicalist movement in this country. I believe we have something better. The reason the rebel fellow carries a card in a job trust is that he has to hold his job.

I dont hold the key to the safe where the brains are kept, and maybe your way will help some. J. H. L.

Reply.

How are we going to solve the problem of Labor while this "job trust" of two million toilers are allowed to remain outside the scope of our educational propaganda, and the rebels not only refuse to educate it but actually help to perpetuate it with their dues? Isn't that a peculiar position for rebels to occupy? Surely we cannot hope to solve the problem without these two million! Surely we have some message for them! What, then, is the most reasonable action to take, stand off and denounce them for not coming after it, or to carry it to them and whisper it gently into their ears?

Some chose the former method, the Syndicalists use the latter. In this the Syndicalists differ from other Revolutionists. In The Syndicalist League, then, we have an organization entirely different from any other. It has a field of action wholly to itself and is not competing with any organization. Therefore, when you say you have something better you speak wrong; you have something different, that's all. J. F.

Editor The Agitator—

Fellow Worker:—The last No. of The Agitator is a dandy. I enclose \$2 for which send us another bundle of the same issue. Yours for Syndicalism,

St. Louis, Mo. J. A. La Bille.

A SYNDICALIST LECTURE TOUR

Jack Wood, the well known organizer and lecturer, will soon begin a lecture tour in the interest of THE SYNDICALIST LEAGUE OF NORTH AMERICA and THE AGITATOR.

He will start from Seattle, going east, and will cover all cities on the way. He will address indoor and outdoor meetings, and where meetings cannot be arranged he wishes to confer with individuals interested in the new movement.

This is an excellent opportunity to learn what Syndicalism really is, and Jack Wood is just the man who can tell you.

Every I. W. W. local shud arrange one or more meeting, and where the local will not do so, individual members shud volunteer to arrange them.

The I. W. W. press and Headquarters for some reason have not given the rank and file a ghost of a show to learn anything about Syndicalism. They have suppress everything on the subject presented for publication.

Why shud not the rank and file of the I. W. W. find out for itself? Write Jack Wood, who is a member, at 803 31st St., Seattle.

A TELEGRAM TO HAYWOOD

New York, Sept. 16, 1912.

Wm. D. Haywood,
Lawrence, Mass.

Stick to the General Strike and Direct Action. Thousands of workers in New York are ready to go to jail with you. Ettor, Giovannitti and Haywood must be freed, or every wheel in America will be stopped.

(Signed by Anarchist Organizations)

- LIBERTARIO PENSIERO AZIONE.
- ERA NOVA.
- ITALIAN FRANCISCO FERRER.
- FREIE ARBEITER STIMME.
- VOLNE LISTY.
- GROUP INTERNATIONAL, Arbeiter Ring.
- I. W. W. No. 179, Branch No. 2.
- MOTHER EARTH.
- GOLOS TRUDA.
- BREAD AND FREEDOM.
- ARBEITER LESER, CIRCLE.
- CULTURA OBRERA.
- RUSSIAN LABOR GROUP.
- GROUP ANARCHY, Arbeiter Ring.
- EXECUTIVE FEDERATED ANARCHIST GROUP.

A PHAMPHLET

About Oct. 15th I shall have printed (in sixteen-page, self-covered phamphlet form) tent ohusand or more copies of "State Socialism and Anarchism," by Benj. Tucker. My object is to supply a complete exposition of Anarchism at cost for propaganda. I will take orders for any amount at the rate of \$4.20 a thousand, or forty-two cents a hundred, purchaser to pay expressage from Grand Rapids, Mich.

CHAS. W. BERGMAN, Alpine, Mich.

THE AGITATOR

Financial Report For June

Receipts, (subscriptions, etc.,)	\$25.85
EXPENSES	
June deficit,	\$18.84
Jay Fox, wages, 5 weeks,	\$40.00
Faler & Co., Linotype,	11.60
Postage,	5.93
Help,	1.00
Total,	\$77.37
Deficit	\$51.52

RECEIPTS

Seattle Agitator Club, \$11.40; Porter, Stuhr, each \$5; Mohring, \$3; Murdock, \$2.50; Cook, \$2; Raymer, Pohlman, Communistic Library, Bergman, Wassilefsky, Local 380 I. W. W., London, Houghton, each \$1; Solomon, Snellenberg, Seattle I. W. W., Long, each 75c. Vliet, Levine, Scarceriaux, Penhallow, M. Beck, Syndicalist League, Kan. City, each 50c. Peterson, \$1; Lavroff 30c. Trew, Quaide, Maloy, Mill, Reese, Prato, Frazel, Eggleston, Lundgren Guerin; each 25c.

THE EDITOR'S DEFENCE

The Editor of this paper has been convicted on the charge of "encouraging disrespect for the law". If this verdict is allowed to stand every radical paper in the State will be at the absolute mercy of the prosecutors, and may be thrown into jail at any moment.

The interest of free speech demands that this case be appealed, and we urge that you subscribe to this fund.

The Free Speech League,

NATHAN LEVIN, Treas. Home, Lakebay, Wash.

Monthly FREEDOM 36c. a year.
Anarchist Communism; 127 Ossulston St. London N. W.

Weekly REGENERACION 3 months 50c
Organ Mexican Revolution, 914 Boston St. Los Angeles

10c. a copy THE TOILER \$1. a year.
A Militant Monthly; 1621 Locust St. Kansas City, Mo.

10c. a copy MOTHER EARTH \$1. a year.
Monthly, Devoted to Social Science, 55 W. 28 St. N. Y.

Communistic Library—Meets every Thursday night from 8 to 10; every Sunday morning from 10 to 12. Free lessons in English and Esperanto. Books in any language free.
711 Hudson St., Trenton N. J.

Wanted—Working people for a co-operative colony in Tennessee. Address: H. E. Sawdon, St. Elmo Tenn.

Send us 5c. for a copy of The Syndicalist.