SOLIDARITY

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ANTHRACITE SITUATION

Why the Strike Threat of Months Ago Has Given Way to Peace Pow-Wow

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE I. W. W. STRIKE AT GREENWOOD

Written Especially for Solidarity by Justus Ebert

(Introductory Note.—Solidarity, anxious to get direct information on the anthracite coal situation, secured the co-operation of Justus Ebert, who visited Scranton, Pa., and vicinity, for the purpose. His articles follow. —Editor.)

SCRANTON AND ITS SUBURBS

Scranton is not an inspiring city. A hodge-podge of commercial and residential centers, railroad yards and mining sites, it lacks both harmony and color. Its predominant tone is grime; its predominant impression squalor. We struck it on Sunday in the midst of a raging snowstorm. It looked unusually cold, dreary and foreboding. So we found it to be. As a native said: "Scranton is both dry and dead on Sunday. The saloons are closed and there is nowhere to go but out, or to the churches. But who wants to go out on a day like this?" From which we concluded that he was not susceptible to the aesthetic influences of Scranton's abodes of religion.

But Scranton's environs are worse than bleak. We went seven miles, as far as Old Forge and Duryea, on the trolley. It was a hillside route, that went up hill and down dale, rounding curves and threatening every once in a while to slide off into the valley below. We noticed cheap stores, two-story frame houses, dingy-looking shacks, every now and then a low brick building and irregular unpaved streets and roadways. It was a sprawling, poverty-stricken aspect. Affluence is a stranger to the territory. Not so accident, disease and death apparently. We were impressed by the large number of doctor's signs. And noticed a church or two, with an occasional lawyer's shingle; not to mention the cafes and hotels. Drink seemed the antidote to poverty and the lack of social opportunities which the latter created.

What impressed us most, however, were the huge coal breakers. These are the skyscrapers of the anthracite regions. Situated often on a hill, they rise, ten and twelve stories high, above all else. Surrounded by uninspiring, mammoth culm piles and unprepossessing shacks, they symbolize both the strength and the benefits to the community of the big corporations owning and controlling them. They dominate everything, adding the sign of monopoly to the mineral blackness of the scene.

We looked across the valley, over the long lines of railroad tracks and coal cars, as our companion pointed out Greenwood to us. As Greenwood is also the name of a beautiful New York cemetery, we took an extra look. Greenwood, Pa., is not a place of landscape beauty, suggestive of underground burial and peaceful repose, in the New York sense. It is a bleak country-side. In it is located a colliery whose breaker seemed unusually imposing and austere. We found out, later on, we'd learn more about Greenwood that would give its appearance a more peculiar significance still.

WHAT OF THE THREATENED STRIKE

We had come to "the home of anthracite" because we wanted to find out for Solidarity readers just what is going on there. Months ago we read of a big strike looming up in its confines. Of the lack of immigrant labor supply, big storage piles, and opportunities and preparation for a big conflict generally. But a change had come over the scene. The operators printed big advertisements, conferences were convened in New York city; "the miners' chief was greeted with applause," says a headline in one of the newspapers. "Conciliation is in the air; peace will be the outcome." Why this transformation? Was it all cut and dried—staged in advance, and a bluff? If so, why so?

Sunday, and the next day, Monday, we took more looks around, met and talked with miners and miners' representatives, received and read newspapers, bought books and other material, and otherwise prepared to attempt an answer to the questions just raised. We don't think it possible to give all the answer. But we venture to furnish at least one or two new angles in attempting it. Before we do so, however, let us give some of the facts that we learned.

We've all heard considerable about the prosperity of the anthracite miners. According to John Mitchell, the Roosevelt Commission, resulting from the strike of 1902, made awards amounting to a very substantial victory for them. The readjustment of 1912 was also hailed as greatly beneficial. As a result, according to the newspapers generally, the anthracite miners were swelling the total deposits of savings banks at a rate that enabled them to make long visits to the old country, observe innumerable holidays, and seemingly, placed them in a position to buy out Baer's divine anthracite trust, at any time they might feel so inclined or desire it to their advantage to do so. The facts, however, tell a different tale, decidedly so.

ANTHRACITE WAGES

Wages in the anthracite regions are far from attaining the Croesus-like heights to which they so often climb in the newspapers. The miners we met told us of employes in the colliery at Avoca who drew $50-$60 some pay days for two weeks pay. This is at the rate of from $25 to $30 a week, or $1200 to $1500 a year, for a year of 52 weeks or [illegible] working days. But, unfortunately, the anthracite miners, as a whole, know no such wages and work days. The actual wages and number of work days cut down the above highest estimate in dollars by more than one-half and the amount of time worked by about eight weeks at the best of calculations.

Scott Nearing has written a book called "Anthracite." It is the accepted authority of the miners on anthracite wages and conditions generally. Therein Nearing makes comparative wage studies, such as the meager data available will permit. These studies show that the contract miners now work about 257 days a year, or 44 weeks in all. This is an improvement of about 5 or 6 days over previous conditions. Earnings have also increased. Wages were raised 10 per cent in 1902, and again 10 per cent in 1912. At the present time," says Nearing, pp. 117-118, "the average earnings of contract miners are in the neighborhood of $700. This would represent an increase of some 20 per cent since 1901. The contract miners constitute only a fraction (about one-quarter) of the total number of anthracite workers. The average annual earn-

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SIOUX CITY MEAT WORKERS STRIKE OVER

Conducted Mostly by Fakirs and Politicians, Results are Meager.

(Special to Solidarity)
Sioux City, Iowa, March 4.

The strike in the Sioux City packing houses is over and the men have returned to work under a new schedule. The new scale is 32c per hour for common laborers, and a proportionate increase for skilled mechanics, with an agreement of 50 hours work every two weeks. The final meeting was held in the Polish Hall, and the strikers were addressed by the priest, business men and the chief of police. The strikers were demanding a written agreement, but the business men said it was not necessary, as they would see that the packing house owners kept their part of the agreement.

During the past week the strikers met in the Lithuanian church. Among others who spoke to them were Fellow Workers Frank Cady, A. R. Sinclair in English; Billy Pidra in Polish and Lithuanian, and Clasco in Russian.

J. H. Strief, president Iowa Federation of Labor and other A. F. of L. officials addressed the men, urging them to join the union of their craft, offering nothing for the unskilled workers. Ninety per cent of the strikers are unskilled labor, composed of the following nationalities: English, Greek, Polish, Russian, Lithuanian; the last three named predominate. There is practically no organization in the packing houses.

Fellow Workers Frank Cady and Ed Payne were sent to Omaha, to try and prevail on the packinghouse employes there to come out on strike in conjunction with their fellow workers in Sioux City. They hired a hall in that district and had hand bills passed out advertising the meeting. They were arrested before the meeting, taken to the police station charged with vagrancy and suspicion. Immediately after their release they were arrested, ushered into a waiting automobile, taken to Omaha, held over night without a hearing and then deported to the Iowa state line.

In the meantime the employers in Omaha granted a voluntary increase in wages of 10 per cent, to forestall any possible action on the part of their slaves, to strike for better conditions or in sympaty with their fellow workers in Sioux City. The Sioux City street car employes received an increase of one cent per hour, which will pay an installment on hot cakes and coffee for their breakfast.

Several slimy politicians and the chief of police, Noneen, spoke to the strikers with their usual line, and also the A. F. of L. politicians, Mr. Michelstetter, candidate for councilman said that their only hope lay in electing workingmen to office and a similar line of political bunk. He is a member of the Typographical Union.

The strike is a victory, after all the efforts of fakirs to mislead them. I. W. W. speakers were heartily applauded and the sentiment looks good for industrial organization among the strikers. The strike committee of the slaves was opposed to I. W. W. speakers, and choked them off whenever possible. When Ed Payne and Frank Cady returned from Omaha, the chairman, Fred Judd, refused them the floor to explain conditions in Omaha. This chairman and Fred Fisher have been boosted by the local press and it seems they are looking for cheap notoriety, and are looking upon as safe men by the bosses.

Latest reports are that some men who went back to work have been discriminated against. They were rather prominent in the strike.

PRESS COMMITTEE.

BUFFALO LECTURES OF E. G. FLYNN

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, the well known I. W. W. speaker is holding a series of lectures in Buffalo, N. Y., under the auspices of Local 5, I. W. W. The remaining dates and subjects are as follows:

Saturday, March 11, Schwarzmeier Hall, corner Jefferson and Sycamore St. "Small Families, A Working Class Necessity."

Sunday, March 12, Harmonia Hall, 258 Genesee St. "Sabotage."

Monday, March 13, Harmonia Hall. "Patriotism and Preparedness."

All meetings begin at 8 P. M. Admission to each lecture, 10 cents.

Job control in all summer logging camps, with the workers on the job dictating wages and conditions, is the slogan of the Lumber Workers' Organization. It can be done, at least in Northern Minnesota, if it appeals to you, join. It is your fight, your union.

SCOTTISH AND RUSSIAN WORKERS

Assert Labor's Interests Despite War—Some Dramatic History for the World to Emulate.

There are some things happening in connection with the war in Europe that should be more generally known among the workers, both men and women, in this country.

First there is the suppression of Forward, a weekly paper, of Glasgow, Scotland. The daily press of this country has given little information about this historic incident. Forward committed the unpardonable crime of telling the truth about a subject affecting the interests of labor. Wm. E. Bohn tells the story in the March International Socialist Review, as follows:

On January 1 the Glasgow Forward was suppressed. This measure was taken because the Forward told the truth about what Scotch workers said to Lloyd George on Christmas day. This story is one of the big, dramatic stories of the struggle between capital and labor. It proves that the workers of Glasgow have clear heads and strong hearts. Would the workers all over the world could read it as it is told in the Forward.

A big evening meeting of Glasgow unionists had been arranged for Lloyd George. He was to explain why, under the provisions of the Munitions Bill, it is proposed to "dilute" skilled labor with unskilled at reduced pay. At the last moment the government officials got scared and postponed the meeting to Saturday morning, a time when many workers could not attend. Those who did attend gave the Minister of Munitions such a reception as he will not soon forget. While he stood on the platform waiting to address them they sang two stanzas of "The Red Flag." Every statement he made was met with questions or protests.

But the whole attitude of the union men toward the union-working government was best expressed at a

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GURLEY FLYNN IN CLEVELAND

Five lectures have been arranged for Elizabeth Gurley Flynn in Cleveland. Those who have never heard Miss Flynn will be sorry if they miss the opportunity this time. Those who have heard her, will be there again, in full force. She is without doubt the ablest speaker on the I. W. W. platform, and the variety of subjects treated by her in this lecture course will afford any workingman or woman a comprehensive knowledge of the principles and methods of the great industrial union movement.

The question of "Preparedness" is now more talked of than any other subject. Miss Flynn will deal with this question from a standpoint that will appear new to many. The facts and logic will be there to support her argument. "Women in Industry" is also one of the most vital problems of the present time, and is becoming more and more significant every day. Women wage workers especially will want to hear this lecture, which is indeed an eye-opener. The differences between the craft union and the industrial union movement has been a matter of special study by Miss Flynn, and will be thoroughly made plain in her lecture on "The A. F. of L. and the I. W. W." Other equally instructive phases of the new unionism will be brought out in speaking of "The I. W. W. and the One Big Union—Why and What For?"

Following are the dates and places of Miss Flynn's lectures in Cleveland:

Friday, March 17, 8 P. M., under auspices of Jewish Branch, at Royal Hall, 5217 Woodland Ave. Subject: "A. F. of L. and I. W. W."

Saturday, March 18, 8 P. M., Goodfellow Hall, 2077 W. 25th St., corner Freeman, under auspices of Hungarian Local. Subject: "The I. W. W."

Sunday, March 19, 8 P. M., Cleveland Propaganda Club, at Pythian Temple, Huron Rd. near East 9th St. Subject: "Patriotism and Preparedness."

Monday, March 20, 8 P. M., I. W. W. Hall, 226 Champlain Ave. Subject: "Women in Industry."

Tuesday, March 21, 8 P. M., I. W. W. Hall, 226 Champlain Ave. Subject: "One Big Union—Why and What For?"

Admission to the Pythian Temple lecture, 25 cents. To the others, 15 cents each. Tickets may be obtained at the Solidarity office, or at the I. W. W. Hall, 226 Champlain Ave.

HEALTH LAWS DO NOT APPLY TO FILTHY LUMBER CAMPS

So We Are Informed by the Minnesota State Board of Health—How Small Pox Cases Were Treated in One Camp.

State Board of Health, Capitol Bldg.,
St. Paul, Feb. 23, 1916.

Mr. Frank Hicks,
201 Christie Bldg.,
Duluth, Minn.

My Dear Sir:

The letter which you sent me from the International Lumberber Company's Camp 36, relative to conditions at that camp simply illustrates the need of some health supervision of such camps. There is no one in this state that has such power.

Section 4640, G. S. 1913, gives the State Board of Health authority to make regulations governing certain things, but the things we can govern are mentioned in the section and industrial camps are not named. We have tried, through various legislatures to get just this one term, "Industrial Camps," introduced into one of the subdivisions of this section but have failed. We have appealed to representatives and senators from the northern part of the state to help in getting such an amendment in the law, but apparently they do not take enough interest to push the matter through.

The whole attitude of the Legislature seems to be that it is afraid to give the State Board of Health power and yet when such cases as this come up they demonstrate that the State Board of Health should have power.

Here is a case where apparently the men are not properly handled from a medical viewpoint, although they pay for hospital care. I do not blame them for kicking.

As for the smallpox situation, if it was handled as described in this letter it was rotten from A to Z. Of course I cannot condemn without hearing the other side but this man seems to know what he is talking about.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) H. M. BRACKEN,
Executive Officer.

THE STORY IN DETAIL

Above is a letter that will conclusively show the hand of the bosses of the lumber industry in making legislation to protect themselves even against furnishing decent sanitary conditions for the men who produce their wealth. Every few days our organizers or delegates meet the workingman with the soft pine head who says you can fix them with the law. The law was, as this letter infers, made for the boss to do the worker. No one in the whole health department of the state of Minnesota has power to say anything in regard to the health of men in industrial camps. To hell with the lumberjack, is the motto of the lawmakers as well as their owners, the lumber barons.

Here is the story of the conditions which Minnesota has no authority to regulate, as told by A. George Jensen, one of your delegates at the time in Camp 36, under letter dated Jan. 24. Jensen was one of the men subsequently quarantined:

"Three days ago five men quit and walked the four miles to Big Park and got their checks cashed. They started to board the train for Deer River when the conductor spied them and promptly ordered them off and sent for the constable. When he got there with the justice of the peace they were ordered back to camp. The following day the county doctor arrived. He took one look at the sick man and promptly pronounced it smallpox, but never said one word about removing him.

"The men came in that night, but to their dismay, after a talk with the doctor, found the company had no idea of removing him from the rest of the men.

"The men talked strike to force the boss to remove the sick man and fumigate the camp. I raised the objection that we could do nothing as a mob, without forming some kind of organization. One man would want this and another that and it would only cause dissension. I suggested that we call a meeting, elect a strike committee and find out what we wanted to do. After some heated discussion and some hesitancy the hundred odd men in camp moved into the office, with another man and myself as spokesmen, self-appointed of course, as whoever heard of a mob with spokesmen.

"From the boss we got the very satisfactory information that we could all die of smallpox, but he could not do anything without orders from the head office. Next night we found the whole camp under quarantine. We are still sleeping in the same bunkhouse with the poor fellow the bosses are willing to murder with foul air added to smallpox, on the golden altar of their greed. Meanwhile we are their slaves, living in a pesthouse, and perhaps more of us may also be sacrificed on the same altar, because we are not sufficiently organized to fight such condition.

"While this goes on the walking boss of the camps, who was in the camp the day the men were quarantined was rambling around the country. If he carries the smallpox to others, will it be murder, legal or moral, or both? If a boss can spread smallpox, why is not that liberty allowed the worker?

"Perhaps then we are rather glad we are quarantined, as none of us can quit, no matter how they feed us or what dirt they hand us. If some of us die, what is that to a boss? If we die, our wages quit and they hire a live one to rob and kill through outrageous conditions and foul air."

After the above letter was written, Jensen and six others living in the bunkhouse were changed to a pesthouse, and for days went without medical attention. The camp finally went on strike to force the company to give these men medical attention. Imagine a strike to force a boss to give medical attention to smallpox cases. The men forced the company to give the sick men a doctor TWICE A WEEK.

THE SMALLPOX BROKE OUT IN CAMP ON JAUNARY 21ST. THE MEN IN CAMP WERE VACCINATED ON FEBRUARY 8TH.

The foreman, who would be a disgrace to the management of a Siberian penal colony, wanted to well-lop Jensen for not being satisfied with these conditions and for being a ring leader in the strikes against these conditions, which the health board of Minnesota has no power to regulate.

Jensen, though a taxpayer at Duluth, took the matter up with the state board of health, and the answer is their acknowledgment of their lack of power to even touch these conditions. Jensen knew, as does every member of the Industrial Workers of the World, that only as the workers force the bosses to give them decent conditions, through making laws on the job, and making the bosses obey them on the job, can the workers get justice. That is, they can only get justice when they have the power to take it. The letter written to the state board of health shows every any justice for the workers. The clear statement of fact in the answer makes clear and verifies the statement—that the law and justices are dead! Dealings of the boss class to murder but never to protect the workers.

The workers can, through organization get anything they want. Their power once organized is limitless. How long do you want such outrages, lumberjack?

J. A. McDONALD.

Since the I. W. W. went into the woods it has been a nightmare for the boss. Even the people who put soup in superstition can't content the worker any more. Preachers whose favorite text is, "Servants be obedient to your masters" are asked if Christ did not say, "Call no man master; all ye are brothers." Exit.

Organization gets more pay. More pay gets more organization. Watch us grow.

Some bosses are enthusiastic over something the other fellow's help. Organization is anarchy, and the organizer should be run out of town. Bosh. It is merely a question of power, and the I. W. W. generally has the power, Jack.

Quit fighting one man power fights and join the I. W. W. where your fight is that of every man in the organization. "An injury to one is an injury to all" gets results. It wins.

The yaps who are always attacking the foreigner instead of their real enemies, the bosses—were merely born over four centuries too late. They should have warned the Italian, Christopher Columbus, that no foreigner was allowed in America. The foreigner but the yap is the working class enemy of the worker.

Chicago graft scandals seem to prove that the fair sex of the robber class can be as "proactical" as men in politics.

Texas experiment station makes interesting test to decide which bees feed, we suppose. If they interviewed restaurateurs in Washington they would soon get inside information.

French soldiers crippled in battle, beg work, says a headline. Why don't they choose some of the choice pickings of recruiting officers or the sweet blessings of ministers to eat?

A gospel sharp is conducting a series of revival meetings in Spokane. One day he preached a sermon on the value of a soul, and the next roasted them for not contributing more liberally to church work.

Wilson wants a big army of workers to fight for the bosses. The I. W. W. wants a big army of workers to fight for themselves on the job. Which is the nobler and manlier fight?

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The Price Philosophy Of War And Peace

We like to read Theo. H. Price, editor of "Commerce and Finance." He is a breezy stylist and an unfailing optimist, who works wonders with facts, and often regardless of them. Most optimists are metaphysicians, who believe in the superiority of mind over matter, and exhibit a contempt for the material that is noteworthy, if not altogether satisfactory. Mr. Price is an impressive example of the type.

Just now, Mr. Price is the great exponent of the psychological effects of war. War, he tells the credit men at their Chicago meeting, is a great mental stimulus and, as such, is conducive of prosperity. "Inventive ingenuity and productive efficiency are increased by war," he declares. The result is great economic development and commercial expansion for years to come. Accordingly, where Walthers believed war was beneficial in that it helped to kill off the surplus population, Mr. Price exalts war because it creates surplus wealth and good times generally (for those who remain behind, of course.) Price cites England after the Napoleonic wars, France after the Franco-Prussian war and the U. S. after the Civil War, to prove his psychological theory correct.

However, there is an inconsistency noticeable. On other occasions, when not addressing credit men, Mr. Price deplores war and hopes the Allies will end it victoriously. If war is such a productive stimulant, why end it at all? Why not keep it up all the time, as a continuous wealth-producing feature of "civilization," instead of an intermittent derangement born of the capitalist necessity for marketing? And instead of having "peace-at-any-price" men, why not have "war-at-any-price, especially Theo. H. Price" men? What's wrong with the Price war psychology, anyway?

Perhaps the reason has already been indicated in the first paragraph. War's paradox of creating wealth most abundantly while apparently destroying it most flagrantly is not entirely what is claimed to be by metaphysical psychologists. Mr. Price himself makes evident that war wealth arises in part from new credit uses of wealth already in existence. From other sources, it is easy to see that it is also inflated wealth, that will shrink in value when war demand ends—to the great advantage of the big capitalists, and the detriment of society as a whole.

But the main and most important objection to Mr. Price's theory is that it is only half-true and therefore wholly unreliable. It is true, decidedly true, that war has great stimulative effects. It is also true that any stimulation is invariably followed by reaction—by relaxation and prostration. Accordingly we find the WHOLE history of war to be one of feverish energy, followed by acute depression, in which the wealth of years is dissipated and devoured. It is the inevitable rebound from abnormal production and the readjustment which it necessitates.

Mr. Price has cited the Civil War in the U. S. A. in support of his theory. The Civil War was followed in 1873, by a most acute depression, which afflicted this country for 20 years and was well-nigh universal. David A. Wells, an American economist of much greater solidity and penetration than Mr. Price, wrote (in 1889) a masterly book, entitled "Recent Economic Changes," in an attempt to get at the causes of that depression; and he attributed them to the change in the exchange value of labor which "the inventive ingenuity and productive efficiency" of his time, expressed in the then recently formed combinations and trusts, had made possible. Another American writer, Wm. Goodwin Moody, in his work "Land and Labor" (1883) makes evident the fact that the war gave great impetus to the change; and that with the war's end began the series of events that culminated in the crisis of 1873. This present war is also giving impetus to production, but with this difference, that, thanks to the greater development of the capitalism of the world, the rebound is likely to come much quicker. Take the Russo-Japanese war of ten years ago—how long did the impetus which it gave to Japanese-Asiatic development last? As is well known, Russia and Japan have both experienced acute depression since the end of the war between them. They had cut the Gordian knot of the need for markets by war, only to find themselves in bad straits and in the same needs again, all within a comparatively short time.

It is well to dwell on this change in world-capitalism a little longer, in order to see the folly of war as a substantial stimulant to production and good times.

After the Civil War, there were still in the U. S. A. millions of acres of mountain and prairie land, on which to build railroads, found towns, cities and states, and develop natural and industrial resources. Those millions of acres are not in evidence today. There are no more states awaiting settlement and development. U. S. expansion is now being sought by way of South America and China.

What holds true of the U. S. holds true also of other countries. Where are the Indias, Australias, Canadas, Africas and Chinas awaiting British exploitation now as they did 50 years ago? Do we not find Germany crowding England for economic existence? And do we not also find, of the former fields of expansion now turning on their developers as competitors, thereby placing them at a still greater disadvantage? Surely Mr. Price's theory of a prosperous future based on the warring past is not likely to be as roseate or as long-lived as he would have his hearers imagine.

When we come to the question of capacity we find Mr. Price suffering as badly as in the matter of opportunity. The capitalist capacity to produce wealth today is double and treble that of a hundred or even 50 years ago. Some 15 years ago, Lucien Lauriet, a Socialist statistician, estimated that much was the productive equipment of this country, that its wealth could be replaced in six years, if by some prodigious phenomena it was wiped off the face of the earth. There has been much progress since then; making this too low an estimate for the present time. The replacement of wealth destroyed by the European war will be rapid; the new combinations which the war has evolved are a guarantee to that end. "Prosperity" will not and cannot last long under the circumstances. The Price prophecy is not what it appears to be. Hence presumably his own desires for peace. Hence, also, the anxiety with which capitalists who are not war-intoxicated, regard the future.

We might leave Mr. Price now. But we dislike to part from him without some words of thanks. As an editorial subject he has performed a useful duty, much like the horrible example at a temperance lecture. But he also says a few things that working-men should take to heart, in view of the bugaboo of "foreign competition after the war," now raised by capitalists in general. Says he:

"The effect of the war has already been to advance wages and reduce the supply of labor in Europe; and the record of economic history justifies the belief that wages, once increased, are not likely to be seriously reduced again.

"Moreover, few of us realize the constantly diminishing importance of labor cost in production as compared with the economies which have been secured through the use of labor-saving machinery and the scientific utilization of by-products.

"It is unnecessary, and it would be tiresome for me, to elaborate upon this point, but all of you must realize that since the invention of the steam engine, the efficiency of the individual has been multiplied many times over and that the products of an average man's energy assisted by science and invention, is today probably twenty times as great as it was one hundred years ago.

"We have, therefore, in my opinion, but little to fear from the much-talked-of cheap labor of Europe, and our best commercial defense, if to be found, not in the erection of a tariff wall, but rather in the studied increase in our own efficiency."

We will now leave the Price philosophy of war and peace in the hope that the workers, too, will give thought to the studied increase in the efficiency of their own organizations, especially that of the I W W. As Mr. Price's subject indicates, the workers need ever new and improved unionism and class action. J. E.

Elements of Disintegration

The temptation of men in the working class to desert their comrades and join the middle classes whenever the opportunity affords is one of the elements of disintegration. During some dramatic episode like a big strike, this temptation ceases to exert so powerful an influence; but the moment peace is declared, it starts its insidious call again. The wives and children of the one assailed urge him to abandon his comrades and join the bourgeoise, where style and comfort seem to be the rule and where the wolf never knocks at the door even when sickness and old age creep on.

Let a worker be especially bright, let him get high wages and make a dollar or two in speculation, he will immediately begin to sniff at his less fortunate brothers. He will take on airs and believe his rise is unconnected with that of his fellows. His effort towards integration stops and in its place he starts a movement towards disintegration. From being an original producer, he changes into a parasite on the back of labor. His whole family changes with him and the cause of solidarity loses another helping group. He is bribed with the bribe of property. His ideals change from the brotherhood of man to the kingdom of wealth. He looks with longing to the seats of those in the halls of authority. From hating the oppressors of labor, he goes to envying them and ends by loving them and becoming a foe of the oppressed. The most zealous tyrants are the renegades of labor. Those who fight a movement the hardest are those who once supported it most eagerly.

I should like to see how this tendency towards constant disintegration is going to be stopped. Capitalists call it wearing out the movement by constant attrition. Is there no counter weapon?

ROBIN ERNEST DUNBAR.

(We are unable to see how this desertion of individuals from the revolutionary ranks calls for worry on our part. It seems to us one of the slightest forces of disintegration. The only manifestation of this spirit that does harm is that of the so-called "labor leader," whose ideals and aspirations have become "middle class" while he still clings to the job of "leading" the slaves. The out and out deserter, on the other hand, is really a benefit to the movement, as he becomes an object of execration to his former comrades, and who hold him up to scorn before the public. Aristide Briand, of France, did more good to the labor movement of that country as a Minister of State, suppressing a general strike of railroad workers, than he had done previously as an advocate of the general strike for workingmen. It is of course true that these renegades of labor fight the movement more bitterly than anyone else, but like all "zealous tyrants" they have a tendency to overdo the thing, which reacts not unfavorably upon the movement as a whole. The Judases never wear out the revolutionary spirit, by attrition or otherwise.—Editor Solidarity.)

Arrest Of The Magons

February 18th those fearless champions of the Mexican peon and loyal comrades in the class struggle International, Ricardo and Enrique Flores Magon, were again arrested and thrown into prison. Since their release from McNeil's Island, some three years ago, they have with the greatest self-sacrifice kept up the publication of their revolutionary paper, El Regeneracion, at their little printing plant at Edendale, a suburb of Los Angeles. In sickness and poverty they have toiled for a living on the little ranch by Silver Lake and devoted time needed for rest to the propaganda of the principles for which they have suffered so much.

It does not take particularly sharp eyesight to see a connection between the anarchist scare being thrown by the flunkey press of the country, the suppression of a paper at Chicago, the use of the postal laws to silence Margaret Sanger and Emma Goldman, and all these in their relation to the preparedness program. We may not agree with the propaganda of the Magons, but we cannot afford to acquiesce in these attacks upon free speech and a free press. Who knows who will be squelched next?

We who know the Magons personally know they are not "bad men," as luridly set forth by the Los Angeles papers. We know them as martyrs to the principles in which they believe, as men of stern integrity, a loyal at all times to the working class, faithful friends and courteous gentlemen. They won the profound respect of the officers who took them to McNeil's Island. Indeed, one of these officers had lived as a next door neighbor to them in Los Angeles and has nothing but praise for them as neighbors. And yet, an armed crew was sent out to arrest them this time and treated them with shameful violence, as a result of which it was necessary to take Enrique to the emergency hospital. Both of the men are in very poor physical condition, due to the hardships of the life they have lived. Enrique has been suffering for months with acute stomach trouble. These are the men who have been captured like dangerous criminals and their bail fixed at an exorbitant figure. Los Angeles friends are trying to secure bail.

On the 26th an International Workingmen's Defense League was organized in Los Angeles, with the following officers: President, Luke North, editor of Everyman Magazine; Vice Presidents, Sam Atkinson, National Lecturer Rationalist Association, and R. B. Garcia; General Secretary, Edgcumb Pinchon; Assistant Secretary, Lucile Norman; Recording Secretary, Georgia Kotsch; Treasurer, Dr. T. Pepper, El Regeneracion; Financial Secretary, P. D. Noel.

This league at once retained Attorneys Harriman, Ryckman and Kirk to take charge of the Magon case.

Wm. C. Owen, editor of the English page of Regeneracion, who is also indicted, has not been arrested. The indictment, which Judge Ryckman pronounces most flimsy, is for "using the mails to incite murder, arson and treason."

This I. W. D. League is organized as a permanent body and its members intend to devote their services free to assisting those who are prosecuted for activity in the class struggle. The league's address is 621 American Bank Building, Los Angeles, California. Funds are needed to take care of the Magon case, which is at the same time taking care of your own liberties, such as you have, of speech and press.

GEORGIA KOTSCH.

One agitator on the job is worth a hundred around the stove. Where are you?

"Safety First". Smallpox broke out on Jan. 21st at Camp 36, International Lumber Co., at Big Fork, Minn. The men in camp were vaccinated Feb. 8th. "Profits first, no matter who dies, but be sure they pay their hospital fees first—we need the money."

A lumber jack has to sign up an agreement before hospital fees can be collected from him. That is Minnesota law. Organize and refuse to pay; that's common sense.

There is only one "Union Restaurant" in Bemidji, Minn. It has never employed a union man and has paid cooks 75 cents a day this winter. "What's in a name?" asks Shakespeare. Not much in that name, eh Jack?

Status of the Clerk to the Labor Movement

Much has been said about the relation of various professions and trades to the labor movement, but the clerk has received scant attention. And yet the clerk is a man (or woman). He requires food, clothing, and shelter, the same as any other worker, he seems to be a misfit in the labor movement. Other workers put no dependence in him and there is a spirit of enmity between him and the rest of the working class. Nevertheless, his importance is underestimated. His close relationship with the boss, while it arouses enmity and contempt in the minds of the manual workers, places him in a position to know the plans of the boss, and with such information, it is much easier to forestall the acts of the boss against the workers. If the clerk is not now a positive factor in the labor movement, we must not overlook the fact that he can be a powerful negative factor. The first consideration for the labor organizations is to counteract the negative influence and enlist his sympathies and energies on the workers' side, and next to develop his positive influence by propagating the idea of unionism among his fellow workers, and developing solidarity among the clerks as a craft.

The possibilities of the "Wooden Shoe" in the hands of a clerk are manifest. In any large industry everything is governed by written instructions. These are followed implicitly by those under authority. Even an act of carelessness or simple mistake are sometimes costly. Imagine what could be accomplished if the mistakes were made intentionally and with studied precision. Invariably mistakes are found out, but are often too late to rectify, or result in heavy loss and bad reputation with the business world. An error in a message can send a train off the rails as easily as an open switch or a loosened rail. A carelessly constructed order can send two trains crashing together, resulting in thousands of dollars loss of property and perhaps loss of life. While such acts purposely committed are unjustifiable, inasmuch as they accomplish no purpose and jeopardize the lives of other fellow workers, it serves to illustrate the extreme possibilities that are within the hands of the clerk. In a commercial institution, such as a factor or wholesale house, a few misquotations in prices may cause no end of trouble, and make it difficult to explain to customers, and can cause the loss of trade and reputation among their patrons. Again valuable documents may be unostensibly misplaced and place the manager in an embarrassing position. Access to the files of a corporation can disclose certain information and practices that would discredit them in the eyes of the public and patrons as to be ruinous to their successful operation. These are a few of the instances where the clerk could become an important factor in the class struggle.

The next question is how to secure this ally. The clerk as a rule does not know his own status. He hates his boss as much as the manual worker. He is subject to more humiliation than any other class of labor. He may be skilled in being familiar with the affairs of the company for which he works, but his skill is of the head and not the hand, and anybody with ordinary intelligence and education can soon work up to the average clerk's position under the guidance of other clerks. The public schools turn out in profusion young men and women, who naturally fall into a clerkship and are willing to accept any salary to get a start and experience. It is from this eager army of aspirants that the employer selects the best at a paltry salary and discards the rest. This surplus of labor serves as a drug on the clerk's position the same as the unemployed reserve army on other crafts. It is this situation that takes the independence out of the clerk, deprives him of action. Those who were discarded, get any sort of work they can and are soon disgusted with their much vaunted education and kick themselves for wasting their time in school when they might have been learning a trade and command a more decent salary.

The ethics of the graduate from school is at variance with his real station in society. He has always been taugh that there is always room at the top, but he soon finds that the top will only accommodate a few and it is invariably crowded. He is filled with the idea that a man of education is superior to the manual worker and to be successful, he must mount upon the backs of others. He aspires to be a business man some day and does not know or care that success in a business way means appropriating something that has been produced by the manual laborer he scorns. His close relationship with the boss blinds him to their diversity of interests and makes him a ready ally of the boss. Here is where his importance comes in. In the event of a strike of the shop workers, he sticks to his post and assumes additional work in an effort to show his loyalty to his employer. He is even ready to doff his collar and don his overalls to go to the factory and take his place as a strike breaker and prides himself in his patriotism, and manfully endures the blisters on his tender hands. He may watch the parading strikers from the office windows as one would view a dog fight and consider himself as far above the striking workers as a spectator the dogs he watches. The taunts of the strikers fail to cause a blush of shame to come to his face. The clerk as a rule receives much less than the wages of the factory worker, and he is ever complaining with his fellow clerks of their meager salary. In view of this, it is quite beyond understanding how he flies to the rescue of the boss when his fellow workers have the courage to strike. So much for the clerk as he is and now for what he might be.

As stated above, the importance of the clerk and office forces are underestimated. Suppose in case of a strike in a large factory, the janitors would quit. The cuspidors would soon be running over, waste baskets would soon become full and cover the floor. Nothing could be more degrading than for the clerks to have to clean out their own, and others' cuspidors and carry out the rubbish that accumulates. Even if they did, through heroic loyalty to the boss, their time would be taken from their work and they might as well be on strike.

Supposing the office boys would quit. The clerks would have to send out their own mail, do up their own packages, run errands, and deliver packages. This would consume their whole time as it would take them twice as long because they would be unfamiliar with the work and where to get and put things.

Supposing the file clerks would quit. They could not find their correspondence, and anyone unfamiliar with the files would only make matters worse by endeavoring to locate what they wanted. No business could be contracted without constant reference to files.

Supposing the correspondence clerks would quit. The boss could not write his own letters, there would be no one to dictate to. The incoming mail would pile up unanswered. Patrons would become disgusted, and angered because of the inattention to their letters. Even should they be able to secure a new force of clerks, they would be worse than useless. They would be unfamiliar with the names of officers and patrons. They would have to be shown everything and there would be no one on hand to show them, as the boss has his own matters to handle and knows little of the routine duties of the clerks. The new clerks would know little or nothing about the goods they were handling and would make many and costly mistakes.

The fact that a clerk's position cannot be filled on short notice, if recognized by the clerks, would be a powerful club to swing over the head of the boss, as no matter how skilled a clerk may be, he is only a burden until he becomes familiar with the work. In this respect, he has the advantage over the skilled mechanic, who can go from one shop to another and ply his trade without being discommoded by the change. This makes it easy to import skilled strike breakers, who can soon take charge and produce as much as the striking employes. The clerk is protected from the strike breaker from the very nature of his work.

(Continued on Page 4. Cols. 1 and 2.)

ANTHRACITE SITUATION

Continued From Page One.

ings of the other workers in the mines appear to be from $150 to $200 less than the average annual earnings of the contract miners." Here we have already a picture different than that presented by either the newspapers or our own rough estimates.

Nearing also analyzes figures by the Lehigh Valley Coal Co., showing that even among contract miners earnings and work days vary widely. One and one-tenth per cent earned $1,000 and over; another one and one-tenth per cent, $900 or under $1,000; three and six-tenths per cent, $800 or under $900; ten and one-tenth per cent, $700 or under $800; twenty-two and one-tenth per cent, $600 or under $700; thirty-one and nine-tenth per cent, $500 or under $600; nineteen and one-tenth per cent, $400 or under $500; eight and two-tenths per cent, $300 or under $400; one and seven-tenths per cent, $200 or under $300; one and one-tenth per cent, under $200. That is, of the 923 contract miners employed by the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. in 1901, 60 per cent earned less than $600 a year or $12 a week; with work days ranging from 249 to 159 for the year. Ten per cent earned less than $400, or $8 a week. With such varieties of wages and work days among the contract miners what are they likely to be among the laborers and other workers? These variations hold good today also, despite the improved wages and work days noted by Nearing.

WAGES AT GREENWOOD

These facts are vividly brought home by a strike in the Delaware and Hudson Coal Company's colliery at Greenwood—the Greenwood described above. This strike is being conducted by the I. W. W. Its object is to secure miners' day pay of $2.72 for all miners whose pay per car falls, owing to rock and other bad conditions of mining, below that amount daily.

In a report of the Greenwood strike, the "Scranton Times" of Friday, Feb. 25, prints the following:

"There is a very peculiar situation in Greenwood as shown by the duebills of the striking miners, most of their laborers receiving more money."

A duebill, it may be explained, is a bill to the miner, showing amounts due to him after the company has deducted all the charges against his earnings.

"The laborers won't work for less than two dollars a day and miners, who showed duebills at the meeting yesterday had anywhere from 31 cents to $19.38 coming to them.

"SOME SAMPLE DUEBILLS

Anthony Potrosky, who is number 159 on the company's roll, worked eight days. He was out of the mines several days because of the death of a child at his home. It was the intention of Potrosky to pay something on the funeral account when he received his wages. His duebill showed him entitled to $2.51 for the eight days. He told his story at the meeting yesterday.

"NET EARNINGS 31 CENTS

"Ludwig Cling was another to tell his story during the session. There are seven in his family, and he has been mining for some time. His number is 160. His earnings for two weeks amounted to $24.31. The deductions included three kegs of powder, cost of sharpening tools, ton of coal, and $14, which was paid his laborer. His balance was 31 cents.

"Some of the duebills shown at the meeting yesterday follow, most of them being for two weeks' work.

"Miner No. 157 earned $7.67, and the deductions were $7.75, leaving him in debt 8 cents to the company.

"Miner No. 159 worked eight days and received $2.51, and one ton of coal. Claims to have been cheated out of $17.91. Same miner for a previous two weeks received 8 cents.

"Miner No. 518 worked nine days, got out ten cars of coal and earned $38.51. The deductions were $40.49, and his net earnings were $8.02. His laborer received $14.

"Miner No. 475 got out twenty cars of coal and was docked three-quarters of a car. He received net earnings of $19.38.

"Miner No. 481 got out fourteen and one-half cars of coal. His earnings were $36.76, and the deductions were $25.83, his net earnings being $10.43. His laborer received $18.

"Miner No. 461 got out twenty cars of coal and his earnings were $34.45. The deductions were $19.91 and his net earnings were $14.54. His laborer received $13.

"Miner No. 516 got net earnings of $19.75 and his laborer received $14.

"Miner No. 75 mined ten cars of coal and was docked one-quarter of a car. He worked nine days and received $33.00. This miner works alone in a chamber.

"Miner No. 55 earned $43.13 and the total deductions were $26.01, leaving him a balance of $17.12 for two weeks' work.

"Miner No. 107 earned $37.92 and the total deductions were $19.65, leaving him a balance of $18.27. His dockage totaled $5.40.

"Miner No. 174 earned $50.93 and his deductions were $34.60, the balance being $16.33.

"Miner No. 115 got net earnings of $21.00 and his laborer received $24.00."

The next day, Saturday, Feb. 26, the Times printed more duebills, reproducing one of them in full, exactly as made out, as follows:

"Duebills were shown now and then and miners told of the wages received when they went to the pay-car Thursday.

"THIRTY-SIX CENTS WAGES

"Miner No. 485 had thirty-six cents coming to him when he went to the car for his two weeks wages. His total earnings amounted to $24.38 and from this amount there came deductions of $24.02 as follows: Two kegs powder, $3.00; 22 sticks of Atlas powder, $1.32; sharpening tools, 25c; coal, $3.45, and laborer, $16.00. He was docked one-half a car.

"Miner No. 133 made total earnings of $39.56 and the deductions were $22.98. His laborer received $11.50. The net earnings of the miner totaled $16.58.

"Miner No. 160 got out fifteen cars of coal and his earnings were $40.27. The deductions were $25.87, his laborer receiving $20. The miner's net earnings amounted to $14.40. There are seven children in his family.

"The following is a copy of a duebill picked at random during the meeting:

DELAWARE AND HUDSON CO.
GREENWOOD COLLIERY

Stephen Bieryta—No. 474:

4 cars at $1.21	$ 4.84
1 1-3 yards rock at $3.05	4.03
33 hours as miner, $2.42	7.98
1 1-3 yards allowance, 1,199	1.59
Total	$18.44
12 sticks Atlas	$ .72
Oil	.40
Tools sharpened	.25
50 fuses	.35
1 pick handle	.25
Rent	6.50
1 ton of coal	3.20
Total	$11.67
Total earnings	$18.44
Total deductions	11.67
Net earnings	$ 6.77

"The rent and one ton of coal added to net earnings makes a total of $16.47. The $6.77 had to provide food, etc., for the family during two weeks.

"WHAT THEY LIVE ON

"There are six in the family, husband, wife and four children. The $6.77 represents forty-eight cents a day for the family, or eight cents for each of the occupants daily. The $14.40 taken home by Miner No. 160 represents $1.03 cents a day for the family or fifteen cents for each of the seven."

This should be convincing. Professors may compare, and companies compile, but strikes lay bare the naked truth. They show a great variety of low pay and bad conditions.

The facts above disclosed are of the worst. The "D. & H." is held to be "a belly-robber, that would take the food out of a starving man's stomach." Nevertheless, it is also said that the wages paid by it at Greenwood are nearly typical of the wages paid by all the coal companies throughout the anthracite regions.

ANTHRACITE PRICES AND ORGANIZATION

Nearing, after taking up wage increases, takes up cost increases as affecting the anthracite miners. Using U. S. Bureau of Labor statistics he finds food costs to have arisen 60 per cent since 1890. Clothing, from 1903 to 1914, about one-third. Rent is also considered higher, though figures are not given (Anthracite, pp. 142-3). Food, clothing, rent—these constitute almost four-fifths of the income of the ordinary workers' family. Nearing estimates that this should be from $718 to $768 a year for anthracite families of six. He sums up the entire situation thus: "Expressed only in terms of food prices, the real wages of the contract miners (that which they will actually buy.—J. E.) have been decreased during recent years, in spite of the increase in the wage rate and the number of work days."

Also

"Although there are no satisfactory wage figures for the great body of the anthracite workers, if the position of the contract miners is any indication of that of the other anthracite workers, they have failed, in spite of the immense expenditure of time and effort and money on the organization and the up-keep of the union, to get an increase in wages equal to the rising cost of food and presumably to the cost of living at large." (Ps. 150-1.)

This statement it will be well to bear in mind. It voices the sentiments of large numbers of anthracite workers towards the United Mine Workers and its officials. They believe the latter to be a costly machine, bringing no real results to the workers. This feeling is a great factor in the present situation.

Organization must be effective to win working class support. The workers will go to the organization that makes improvement possible. They show an inclination, in the anthracite regions, to join the I. W. W. At the same time, the operators and the officials of the United Mine Workers incline towards harmonious action. "There's a reason," as already indicated.

"A MORAL NEWSPAPER"

"The Scrantonian" is published every Sunday in Scranton. The leading banks, mercantile establishments and doctors of venereal diseases advertise in it. Its specialty is suggestive reports of sex crimes and bawdy-house politics. It is a lucrative, "moral family newspaper" of 24 pages and some circulation. Its editor is Steve McDonald, delegate of the Newspaper Writers' Union to, and President of, the Scranton Central Labor Union. This body is about as powerful as its president's paper is pure and ennobling. Both are symptomatic of the degenerated condition of the labor movement in the anthracite regions and the country generally.

ANTHRACITE AND POLITICS

Is it necessary to point out the close relations existing between the Wilson administration and the United Mine Workers of America? Is not a former Secretary-Treasurer of that organization now Secretary of Labor in the Wilson cabinet? Did not this Secretary of Labor interfere in behalf of the Wilson administration in the Colorado episode? Are not all the forces of the Wilson administration being used to avert strikes, with good results to employers and corporations? Have not Samuel Gompers and the Executive council of the A. F. of L. presented to President Wilson a claim for further recognition from the administration for services rendered" to the country" in the critical labor situation arising from the European war—services preventitive of strikes and resulting in a control of the labor movement least harmful to capitalist profits and interests? Are these political influences at work everywhere throughout the land, and absent only in the anthracite regions?

In the Scranton district one hears resentment against the political influences to which the miners are subjected. It is the belief, among some of the anthracite coal miners that politics "did them dirt" in the year 1912. In that year of presidential activities, the sliding scale was abolished. This gave the miners an increase with every advance in wholesale prices at tide-water. In 1903, according to Nearing, "this sliding scale award set the wages of the miners 4 per cent above the rate awarded by the Commission" (of the strike of the previous year). This tide-water price, according to the men with whom we spoke at Scranton, was $4.50 a ton. Nearing notes great wholesale price increases. Chestnut, between 1898 and 1913, increased almost exactly 60 per cent, or from $3.35 to $5.31. Egg, 40 per cent, or from $3.61 to $5.06. Stove, 33 per cent, or from $3.71 to $5.06. (See Anthracite, pp. 85-6.) In Scranton miners say, "Coal is selling at $40 a ton in Europe now." This may be, and undoubtedly is, an exaggeration. But prices are undoubtedly much higher now than when Nearing made his estimates. They serve to show how much the miners lost through the political game of 1912. And how much they stand to lose through the political game that is now playing, according to all indications, and not a few very broad intimations.

We described above "The Scrantonian." We'd almost forgotten it, it is so easy to forget such sheets. In "The Scrantonian" we get an idea of the resort to politics characteristic of the U. M. W. officials. In an article on the Greenwood strike (issue Feb. 27) the need of a congressional investigation of the D. & H. collieries is hinted at. This is the usual beginning in the game of political dickering and jobbery.

Petty politics play a strong part in the activities of the United Mine Workers in the anthracite regions. As usual these petty politics are also short-sighted politics. They afflict even individuals.

"THE INUNDATING HORDES OF "EUROPE"

We've all heard of "the inundating hordes of Southern Europeans and Slavs" that periodically submerge anthracite mine labor and social standards; though, strangely enough, it is "the uncontrollable foreigners" who are blamed for strikes and other decisive attempts at improvement. These "hordes" are mainly recruited from the peasantry of the old world. They are problems in assimilation; not exploitation. Accustomed to the leadership of church and nobility, wholly lacking in the knowledge and experience arising from democratic organization, political and economic, unfamiliar with the worldly wisdom of their new homes, they are too often regarded as stupid and inept, when they are blindly striving for education and development to fit their new surroundings. Petty politicians accordingly despise them; and, despising them, come to regard them as stepping stones to "something easy." At Greenwood, for instance, in a strike there some two years or more ago, a committee of four told the foreigners to go back to work, as everything was settled. They had seen the "super" and "settled everything." "How settle everything?" asked the "inundating foreigners." "How settle everything?" They found out when they were finally forced back to work defeated. The four committeemen got the pick of the mine jobs, and always made good wages thereafter.

This spirit prevails among the United Mine Workers officials in the strike at Greenwood. They hope to profit through the scabbery of their membership; despite the revolt of the "inundating hordes" against the miserable wages already given in great detail in this series of articles. To this end, they, with the true "anti-foreign" sense of superiority, condemn the "inundators" as lacking in technical judgment and skill and therefore to blame for their own low wages. Nothing could be more short-sighted and at war with the facts in general.

THE U. M. W. AND THE I. W. W.

Of course, they will blame the I. W. W. for this state of affairs. They claim to have the whole anthracite region organized. Consequently the I. W. W. should go where there is no organization. This is no justification for scabbing. To the real unionist, scabbing is never justifiable, except under extreme circumstances. This is not one of them. Besides the claim is not true. It is not borne out by their own actions in dealing with the operators. For years they have tried to compel the operators to adopt the check-off system, which compels the operators to collect dues from their employees, thus making every one of them a member of the union. Why was that necessary, with the whole field organized, and every employe already a union man? And why was the demand for the check-off abandoned, when, with every man organized, it was deemed necessary, and could have been secured?

The fact is that the United Mine Workers' officials have made the organization a weak and distrusted one, unable to enlist enthusiasm and make a strike threat effective. A man who has opportunities for study in both the bituminous and the anthracite coal fields of Pennsylvania, asserts that less than 40 per cent of the anthracite workers are organized in both the U. M. W. and the I. W. W.

It is well worth noting in this connection that the I. W. W. is organizing in unorganized towns, often where the workers permitted the old union to expire because of their lack of faith in its ability to accomplish anything for them. Since August, 1915, the I. W. W. has kept organizers and speakers in the Scranton district. The results were shown in the first I. W. W. convention at Old Forge, on Sunday, Feb. 6: Ten towns and twelve locals and branches were represented by 46 delegates. This is important in its bearings on the questions raised in the opening paragraphs of this series. In addition to the political influences, the I. W. W. is a threatening factor in the anthracite situation. Let us give the facts on which this belief is based.

We've already referred to the article on the Greenwood strike, hinting at a congressional investigation, in "The Scrantonian" of Feb. 27. Let us quote the same article now as illuminative of the general situation, always bearing in mind that the I. W. W. began real organization in August, 1915, or before the time that the U. M. W. strike threat was first written about. Says "The Scrantonian":

"The D. & H. Coal Company does not want to have anything to do with the union of any organization, the purpose of which is to protect its members from exploitation. This can be said of nearly all, if not all of the coal companies. IT IS ONLY WHEN THE I. W. W. REPRESENTATIVES STEP INTO THE FIELD THAT THEY SHOW ANY DISPOSITION TO TREAT WITH THE UNITED MINE WORKERS." (Caps are ours.)

McDonald, labor leader and newspaper writer, ought to know what he is talking about. He says, in substance, that the operators show a disposition to treat with the U. M. W. because it is an organization that fails of its purpose to prevent exploitation, and because the I. W. W. is in the field to make that purpose effective through its own organization. The operators chose the lesser of two evils.

A big strike would be provocative of conditions favorable to I. W. W. growth. It would afford opportunities to expose all capitalism, whether represented in a modified form by the United Mine Workers, or full blown by the anthracite coal combinations. This would be unfavorable to both and so both unite to oppose its possibility. Both unite to oppose I. W. W. growth and the spread of anti-capitalist principles which such growth makes possible.

(To be concluded next week)

THOUGHTOGRAMS

By Stumpy

Some time ago Gen. French of the British Army said that "the infantry is the queen of battles" in spite of the heavy artillery and machine guns. Today the unskilled workers are the kings of the strike. Perfection of machinery has broken down the supremacy of the skilled mechanic, and in many industries it is but little odds whether he stays on the job or not in time of strike, for the industry runs just to the extent that the unskilled tend the machines. The skilled might be willing enough to keep the industry going, but there are not enough of them to take the places of the vast numbers of the unskilled.

If you object to war, do something more practical than hold protest meetings. Napoleon said that an army travels on its belly, and he was an authority on armies. Instead of indulging in a mess of words about it, just control the belly of the army by seeing to it that no food enters it. If you do that you will be famous enough for practical purposes without trying to find a new way to say the same old things.

Economic conditions preach more convincing sermons than any politician ever thought of. A part of the solid south threatens to defeat the Democratic party because they now want a protective tariff for their infant industries, and some of the northern states threaten to defeat the Republican party because their manufacturers want free trade to promote their foreign commerce. Let economic conditions talk to John Farmer and Small Business for a while. But there are a few millions who have had their little heart to heart talk already. We might explain the I. W. W. to them.

Many claim that the best way to promote patriotism is to adopt universal compulsory military training, on the ground that service will produce or result in patriotism. Compulsory service is necessary in a slave system, but a poor makeshift for whole-hearted devotion to an ideal.

The Spokesman-Review of Spokane says that it is to the credit of organized labor that the coal miners continue at work while their officers are negotiating for new arrangements. The U. M. W. must be a hopeless case when they receive the praises of an M. & M. mouthpiece. Such papers have not yet praised the miners who recently joined the I. W. W.

The Spokane Chamber of Commerce has been promoting a series of lectures by the army officers of Ft George Wright during the winter. In one of the most recent lectures the offer was made to allow any rifle cl affiliated with the National Rifle Association the free use of the Fort rifle range one day a week, one Krag rifle free for each five members of the rifle club, and 120 rounds of ammunition free for each member. Whether the army is officially increased or not, the bosses are preparing for us if we ever attack them in the old military way. They are sadly mistaken as to where the attack will be made. While they are preparing for an armed force the intelligent workers are mining their strongholds by organizing to take and administer the industries, and permit the masters to read philosophy.

It is just possible, and also quite probable that Wilson had some positive knowledge of what the course of the U. S. is soon to be with relation to the European war. It would not be at all impossible that the munition makers and bankers who have recently given credit to England and France to the extent of hundreds of millions, have arranged a second term for Mr. Wilson if he will make their loans and profits secure. The easiest way he could do it would be to have the U. S. enter the war against Germany, and recent developments look as if that were the game.

England and France have borrowed and bought on credit apparently beyond the limit of their ability to pay. If they lose in the war the U. S. financiers will stand a poor show to receive their coin. In the possibility of such an event the simplest thing would be to have the U. S. "declare war" against Germany, and supply the money and ammunition to the allies. This game would make ammunition business good, improve the possibilities of collections and extend bond issues to enormous sums. The glittering bauble of the presidency would be small exchange for such a prize.

It seems that the U. S. Government has many irons in the fire with its army and navy plans. Rear Admiral Badger stated a few days ago that the navy plan has been since 1903 to keep a larger fleet than Germany, but now the plan is to make it the largest in the world in the next ten years. Perhaps it is merely a coincidence that the half billion dollars England borrowed recently comes due ten years hence. But a navy would be handy to collect bills with.

The courts of the state of Washington have recently decided that the police are within the law in practically anything they wish to do. The Spokesman-Review in commenting on the decision says: "There are some sorts of criminal cases in which the police have to take measures that appear peculiar. They can be trusted not to abuse their discretion and authority. The public is deeply indebted to the Corporation Counsel (of Spokane) for the persistence, acumen and ability with which he has pushed the task of freeing the means of justice from hampering legal technicalities."

The police forces of Washington will readily see the value of that decision when they again feel like breaking men's jaws, knocking out their teeth, kicking them in the stomach, and man-handling women in the labor controversies of the future as they have done in the past.

To paraphrase the classical story of a certain poker game we might say. "For ways that are dark and tricks that are vain, the politicians are peculiar." For months the politicians have been acting the part of fortune tellers and claiming they could see war clouds in the teacups and trouble for the peaceful. When asked for details of what they saw or what they knew, they made vague but horriferous statements about how things would get us. Bankers, powder makers and other timid folk were properly impressed, but man people went calmly on trying to make a living at the expense of someone else, so a new tack had to be taken.

Instead of pretending to mysterious wisdom they now claim to possess positive knowledge. Their latest game is to say that they must correct German actions in the holy name of the Freedom of the Seas. When some of the skeptical ask if that is what they had in mind all the time they heave a sigh as mournful as nine cocktails and say, "I hope we can prevent it." Then congressmen will hear from home, the army and navy bills will be passed, we will be started on the road to a military side show to our industrial despotism, the politicians will chain the dogs of war again and tell us how hard they worked to maintain peace, and Gompers will still plug for the employers he pretends to fight.

A recent issue of the Century magazine has an article on "British Labor and the Future" that contains the following very significant statements: "Already, in the few months since the beginning of the war British labor has gained what it needed most if it was to defy its masters—a new assurance of its vast power, a common purpose, and a clear vision. It is the mental attitude of the laboring man that counts; not what he has already done, but what his mind may impel him to do in the future." The future action of labor is now worrying the governments of Europe as much or more than the maintenance of their battle lines. Is it too much to hope that American labor will break away from the civic federation before the crisis is upon us?

In looking ahead at the certainties of the future one can not well avoid a sense of grim humor at what must soon be the predicament of the peaceful politician. It is certain that the present congress will take some steps to increase the army. Measures of oppression generally start quietly and in a small way, but gather force as they progress, and as time goes by the military power will be constantly strengthened until the proposal of Gen. Wood will be adopted, viz., that "Manhood suffrage goes hand in hand with manhood obligation for service." Then how can the advocates of peace vote out the military system without joining the army and making the military system, the thing they are fighting, that much stronger?

It is the old fight of tyranny to keep the workers in subjection. In ancient Greece it was held that man existed for no purpose other than to support and strengthen the state. The idea that the state may have some duties toward its citizens, or in fact be formed and maintained to provide for the safety and welfare of its members, is an idea of democracy or equality.

But to combat tyranny as it appears now will require the most improved methods. To go into the masters' army and take an oath of allegiance to him for the sake of a chance to vote him out will bring us nothing. In the days of the Land League the Irish tried to gain the power to overthrow England by joining the English army and the only effect was to strengthen the power of their masters. Our only hope is to build an industrial organization of our own, and it must be built in the industries only. The wage workers are not trained to direct either military or political action, and to prepare for such a course would take too long, and be too doubtful in the outcome. But in the industries we are invincible, once we see clearly what we want.

THE PREAMBLE

Of The Industrial Workers Of The World

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of the working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for the every-day struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

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A WORD TO YOU, MR. TRANSPORT WORKER

How do you expect to get better wages and conditions aboard ship? You never will do it as individuals. You will have to organize industrially. When we say industrially, we mean if the sailors get off the ship, the firemen, cooks and stewards, also the longshoremen and teamsters will walk out. This is the plan of organization the Marine Transport Workers of the Industrial Workers of the World is putting before you.

We hope, Mr. Sailor, you are not going to work for $30 per month all your life. Of course you will tell us you were organized before. Yes, you had the craft form of organization. When the sailors struck, the longshoremen stood at work; when the longshoremen struck the sailors stood at work; still they belonged to the same general organization, the A. F. of L.

These facts help the boss; they don't help you. We must have One Big Union of Transport Workers, no matter what color of skin, no matter what nationality or creed. The men in the fire room are already in such a union; they realize they are weak without your help, as you are weak without theirs.

We hope you will study this leaflet carefully, because if we are to better our conditions it can only be done by ourselves. The ship owners are getting rich since the war in Europe; they have in some instances doubled their freight rates and passenger rates went up also. You have not benefited by this, because you were organized on wrong lines before, and at the present time you are not organized at all.

The I. W. W. is a union where the workers will have the say in case of a strike. We will elect a committee to deal with the companies, not allow a few officials to go and see the companies, like the A. F. of L. leaders do, and sign the men up for two years without asking the men anything about it, as they did with the longshoremen.

With a strong industrial union on this Eastern water front, we ought to get the Frisco wages. You seafaring men should aspire to have a place to call your home and a wife, the same as your fellow workers ashore. We hope you will study this labor question, and some day instead of us shooting one another for the benefit of kings, presidents and millionaires we will organize in the One Big Union for better treatment ashore and at sea.

If you mean business and expect to get results, don't hang back and wait for George to do it, because George might wait for you. Kick in, right now. All hands together. This call is issued to sailors, firemen, oilers, watertenders, coalpassers, cooks and stewards, longshoremen, coopers, electricians, tugboatmen, floatmen, coal boatmen, lightermen, teamsters, loaders, every man connected with the operations of shipping.

If this interests you, call at the headquarters of the Marine Transport Workers' Union of the I. W. W. Open every day until ten o'clock in the evening at No. 119 Charlton St., New York City. The initiation fee is $1.00, which entitles you to membership book, constitution and one month's dues. Our card is exchangeable in any port of Europe.

Organization Committee of the Marine Transport Workers of the Industrial Workers of the World, 119 Charlton St., New York.

Status of the Clerk

(Continued From Page 2)

What methods shall be employ to propagate the idea of the One Big Union and Solidarity among the clerks? The clerk must be conscious of the part he contributes to society by his labor power. As the clerk creates no tangible value, he usually has no idea of the value of his services. For the reason that no tangible value is created, he is paid a salary which barely covers the necessities of life. As a rule, the clerk in the beginning is a young man or young woman, with but few items of expense outside of what it costs to feed, clothe and shelter them. In many cases he has received support from the home, and their salary is used for spending money. This particular faction of clerks serves as a drug on those who must support themselves, a family and sometimes their parents. As long as the boss can secure young, bright, schooled men and women to fill the position in the offices, with a salary that merely makes spending money, he will not voluntarily increase the salaries of those who have families and others dependent upon them. He may say, or think, that he is not running a charity organization. The clerk knows how hard it is to secure a new job and how hard it is to get familiar with a new job, and he accepts insults and humiliation, long hours, and pitiable salaries with a submissiveness born of discouragement. Yet withal this, his attitude towards the manual workers is one of superiority, although the man in overalls may be getting double the wages. The high collar seems to be an insurmountable barrier between the clerk and his fellow workers. The higher the collor, the greater the gulf between them. If the clerk could get the idea that his interests were intertwined with the interests of the other workers, they could work hand in hand towards the common goal. The clerk must be made to see the discrepancy between the value of his labor power and what he actually gets. When this becomes evident to him, he will begin to recognize his class interests, and not until then, will he lean towards the manual worker in a spirit of solidarity. If the clerk seems haughty to the man in overalls, the man in overalls seems rude and uncouth to the clerk, and we must get a medium to bring these opposite poles together. Social intercourse must be generated between the two before a friendly spirit will be shown and this intercourse must be generalled by those free spirits who can take each man's censure and reserve their judgment until an opportune time. Such individuals must be familiar with the life of a clerk and the life of a manual worker, in order to understand and bring together the opposing factions. The clerks must not miscontrue the methods of the unskilled workers in endeavoring to obtain their end. The unskilled worker cannot use the gentlemanly and respectable tactics of the skilled workers. His position can be filled on short notice from the ranks of the unemployed that linger about the employment offices from day to day. The only recourse he has is by physical force and by installing fear into the hearts of the would-be scabs. This will explain in a measure, the difference between the so-called properly conducted strikes of the skilled crafts and the disreputable strikes of the unskilled workers. It is this lack of solidarity that holds the different factions of labor apart and prevents unity in their operation.

So then let us not consider the clerk a negligible quantity and unworthy of our notice, but let us direct our energies in this direction through the agency of the few who are able to understand and expound the idea of One Big Union and Solidarity among all workers.

E. GATOBAS.

"All for one and one for all." Some class. It's the I. W. W. way. Make it yours.

A Bible was found on a burglar caught at Harrisburg the other day with a red ink circle drawn around the words, "Seek and ye shall find." If he had been a worker organized with all his fellow workers he would have found "Ask and it shall be given unto you," quite practical.

Orders valued at $240,000,000 have been placed with steel companies since Jan. 1. Gott must be all in in our endeavor to get the steel industry organized.

Where is the lumberjack who was working at sixteen a month last fall and said, "The I. W. W. cannot raise wages up here!" He is working at $35 a month and saying, "I told you they would." Get in and help, boys.

A BALTIMORE PUZZLE

(Special to Solidarity)

Baltimore, Md.

Too often the I. W. W. has had to fight the combined forces of trade unions and the bosses, but here in Baltimore there has arisen a most peculiar situation.

To make the situation clear it is necessary for me to give the reader some idea of the standings of the different organizations in the clothing industry here. The A. F. of L. has practically all the cutters and a few others, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers has somewhere between six and eight thousand. These organizations are bitterly fighting one another.

The I. W. W., at present, has close to 2,000 members in Baltimore. There are more than eleven hundred good standing Lithuanians, the Italians report between six and seven hundred members, and the standing of the Polish Branch I have not, as yet, learned. New members are coming in right along. We save everything here from one member in a shop to shop committee.

Now for the mutual scrapping! It going on between the A. F. of L. and the A. C. W.

A few days time ago, after a bitter strike, the A. C. W. came to an agreement with the proprietor of the Lt Grief Clothing Co., which is located at Milton and Ashland Ave. (Grief has three shops.) About two weeks after the agreement was made the A. F. of L. got busy on the job, and, we understand, had some success in lining up some of the workers. This was more than the A. C. W. could stand and they called a strike. On the following morning, they called out the other Grief plants, where many I. W. W. members were employed. Not knowing the cause of the strike many I. W. W. members left the job, but when they learned the nature of the strike they refused to work, saying that it was none of their business whether the A. F. of L. organized on A. C. W. territory or not.

We have no desire to assist either one of them as organizations, but here is the "pickle" we are in.

The A. C. W. came to us and asked us to strike. The A. F. of L. came to us and asked us to work. The boss came to us and told us to make it an I. W. W. shop and he would deal with neither the A. F. of L. or the A. C. W.

It is hard to say what tune they are singing, in words it sounds like, "I love you, love you, love you," but in reality it is, we think, "Love me, and the world is mine."

Again. At the Strause Bros. plant, three girls, who were members of the A. C. W., joined the I. W. W. The shop chairman of the A. C. W. ordered the foreman not to give them the work, the boss obeyed. The girls were left without work. The A. F. of L. heard of it and threatened to strike if the girls were not given work. The girls are working at their old places with I. W. W. cards in their pockets.

In one bunch of shops today, I. W. W. men are striking together with A. C. W. members for the 50-hour week, and in other shops they are striking against one another.

As a whole the situation looks good for the I. W. W. While the A. F. of L. and A. C. W. fight one another—we win.

You will hear more from Baltimore.

E. F. DOREE.

(Polish, Russian and Italian papers please copy.)

SCOTTISH AND RUSSIAN WORKERS

Continued From Page One

meeting which was held at Parkhead Forge, apparently on the same day. The shop stewards, as they are called, were there in session when Lloyd George arrived. Mr. "Davie" Kirkwood presided. Following is the tale of the meeting as given by the Forward:

"The Chairman said: 'This is Mr. Lloyd George. He has come specially to speak to you and no doubt you will give him a patient hearing. I can assure him that every word he says will be carefully weighed. We regard him with suspicion, because every act with which his name has been associated has the taint of slavery on it, and he would find that they, as Scotchmen, resented this, and that if he desired to get the best out of them, he must treat them with justice and respect.'

"This reception seemed to flabbergast the Minister of Munitions. He spoke about our brothers in the trenches, of the number of new factories, the big guns to blow the Germans out of France and across the Rhine, and of the need for unskilled labor being used for work on which skilled labor is now employed.

"When he finished Kirkwood asked if he was prepared to give the workers a share in the management of the works? THEY, AS SOCIALISTS, WELCOMED DILUTION OF LABOR, BECAUSE THEY REGARDED AS THE NATURAL DEVELOPMENT IN INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS. They were not like the Luddites of another generation, who smashed the new machinery. But this scheme of dilution must be carried out under the control of the workers. They recognized that if they had not control, cheap labor would be introduced, and unless their interests were safeguarded they would fight the scheme to the death.

"Mr. Lloyd George here interjected some remarks to the effect that the workers were not capable of managing workshops, to which Kirkwood boldly retorted: 'These men, for whom I ask a say in the management, carry the confidence of the workers, and have confidence in themselves. They brought out the men of the Clyde in January in defiance of you, in defiance of the government, in defiance of the army, and in defiance of the trade union leaders. They not only led them out but they led them back victorious. They let it be known that if their demands were not granted, masters might force them to the workshops, but could not make them work. Who run the workshops? Men drawn from the ranks of the working-class. The only change would be responsibility to the workers, instead of to the present employers. If production was to be improved, the benefit must go to the workers.

"Mr. Lloyd George stated that he was a revolutionist by proposal, and the present was not a time for revolutions, when the country was engaged in a life-and-death struggle with a foreign foe.

"'Ah,' said Kirkwood, 'you are thinking as a lawyer. It takes engineers to reason out an industrial situation like the present one. The settlement of it would affect engineers, not lawyers. This war has proved conclusively to the workers that one engineer is worth a hundred lawyers, even of your kind.'"

This fine definition of class-consciousness left the Minister of Munitions without an answer. There is no answer to it that he or any other representative of capitalism would dare to give. Let us make it current around the world: "One engineer is worth a hundred lawyers."

Another article of great interest appears in the March New Review. This is not the war as it affects Russian labor. It is entitled, "The Attitude of the Russian Socialists," and is by Alexander Kolontay. It tells primarily of the movement against capitalism and czarism carried on in Russia by the Socialists called "The Majority Group." We read that "By means of meetings, secretly printed leaflets, papers and the work of the secret organizations, the revolutionary Social-Democrats carried on fighting against the war by stirring up the revolutionary spirit of the proletariat. Hundreds of our comrades have been arrested for this activity and sent to jail by the agents of the government fighting for 'freedom' and 'democracy.' And still the fight goes on. The great number of strikes which have taken place during the war are some of the good results achieved by the work of the uncompromising and internatinal wing of the Russian party."

A foot note appended to the foregoing states that

"During the war the Russian workers not only managed to maintain their economic struggle, but organized a number of political strikes. In April, 1915, there was a large protest strike on the memorial day of the massacre of the gold workers in the Lena district, and 400 men were arrested. On the first of May, 35,000 workers went on strike in St. Petersburg. In June and July, the textile workers in Kostroma and Iwano-Woanesensky engaged in an economic struggle ending with riots than 100 workers killed, many wounded and a large number of arrests. As a protest against these bloody events the workers in St. Petersburg organized strikes. The movement developed great strength in August and September, when, after the dissolution of the Duma, the workers demonstrated against the government; their demand being 'Down with the government!' In St. Petersburg 150,000 men were on strike, 25,000 in Nijni-Novgorod, and a large number in Moscow, Charkow and in the South of Russia. Not only this the war nearly crushed the revolutionary movement, but during the last six months the movement has grown in intensity.

"Influenced by the internationalists the workers in St. Petersburg refused by a large majority to participate in the 'Industrial War Committees,' the purpose of which is to organize the defense of the country."

These items should inspire the workingmen and women of this country, who have not the great disadvantages of war to contend against, to work more determinedly and enthusiastically for the I. W. W. They show what labor can do even when the odds are of the very worst.

A SOCIALIST WORKINGMAN.

SEAMEN'S LAW NOT ENFORCED

In a recent speech before the Economic Club in New York, Andrew Furuseth, author of the La Follette Seamen's Act, charges that this law is not being enforced, because the shipping interests have sufficient influence with the officials of the Department of Commerce.

This Seamen's Law is the law that was to be said seamen's law for the American seamen. It was supposed to make the seaman a free man. According to this law, a sailor can quit his job at any port of call. This law was supposed to abolish the present real crime by which the police power of the United States is used in every American port to hunt down seamen of foreign ships and force them to go back to their ships.

But, now that this law is passed, Andrew Furuseth, who is president of the International Seamen's Union, finds that it is impossible to have it enforced.

The workers should take this as a lesson, and not bother about trying to get the capitalists to pass laws and to enforce laws that are against the capitalists' interest.

The only real law for the workers is the law the workers pass in their union hall and enforce on the job.

P. C. WETTER.

There will be a card party and dance given by the Cleveland Propaganda League of the I. W. W. at their hall, 1304 Superior Ave., Saturday evening, March 11, beginning at 7:30 P. M. Two prizes will be given. Refreshments served. Admission 15 cents.

Sioux City I. W. W. headquarters have moved to 412 Pearl St. All mail should be addressed to A. R. Sinclair, Sec'y 400, or Alex Miller, Sec'y 592. All active members welcome.—Alex Miller, Sec'y 592.

Local 595, Omaha, is getting ready for a smoker to be held on March 19th, at local headquarters, 1301 Douglas St. The entertainment is in charge of an efficient committee who promise something good in that line and unusual attractions. Admission 25 cents.—Press Committee.

INDUSTRIAL BOOM IN THE SOUTH

(Special to Solidarity)

Greenville, S. C., March 4.

At present the cotton mills here are flooded with orders, and some that haven't been on double shift, now are. The reason that means they near every mill in this town is going full blast.

Wages have been gradually reduced, until it takes a starved good slave to make $1.75 per day. The old weavers say, "It seems like every mark gets longer and longer," which of course reduces your wages. This same stunt was pulled over on the A. F. of L. in Anderson, S. C., and succeeded in making a ten per cent cut in wages, and nothing was said by the American Federation of Labor officials. Why? Because they have a good job and don't want to lose it.

Recently the above named union has been doing some very rotten work here. There are some stunts being pulled here in Greenville by the A. F. of L., that will soon wise up the people and cause them to demand an investigation.

All who are interested in spreading the Industrial Workers of the World in the South, will find this the

Our organization broke the ice here, and I think it really belongs to the I. W. W. This is a fine field; the material is here, a good bunch is ready who, like myself, were born and raised in the South and believe in scrapping at once.

So come down, boys, and let's show the mill barons who operate their mills, and make this a banner year for the I. W. W. in this glorious South. Everything is on the boom, with prospects that everything will be on double shift before summer sets in. The Southern R. R. is also working two shifts getting a double track down. Yes, this is the textile center of the South—13 cotton mills in this town.

SOUTHERN REB.

"METAL"—NOT STEEL— & MACHINERY WORKERS

Toledo, Ohio, Feb. 27.

Solidarity:

"Steel Worker's" suggestion for a Steel and Machinery Workers' Union are just the checker and ought to be put into operation right away. Conditions seem to be very favorable for such an organization in Toledo right now. In fact the membership has just been debating the feasibility of launching such an organization in this locality. Only we had proposed to "Metal" and Machinery Workers' Union, and I believe this would be a better plan, since a lot of us would be left out in the cold should the organization be confined exclusively to steel. Several of us, including myself, are employed in an electrical supply shop, and brass and copper are the principal materials used. We feel that we, and as many other metal workers as possible, should be included in the organization, at least until such time as it becomes large enough to be subdivided into smaller units.

Personally, I endorse the idea of local union with branches, and though the sentiment here is somewhat divided. At the present stage of the game, centralization means greater strength and efficiency and these are just the qualities necessary for an organization to accomplish anything for the workers.

It seems to me that the general organization would do well to endeavor to organize the Department of Manufacturing and General Production, by dividing the workers into groups according to the materials used, namely: Metal and Machinery Workers' Union, Leather and Rubber Workers' Union, Paper Workers, Glass and Pottery Workers, Textile Workers. The Wood Workers would probably properly come under the Building Constructors' Union, as would also the Stone Workers.

There should also be a general organization of miners in the I. W. W., instead of a hard coal miners' union in the East, and a metal miners' union in the West. The Oil Workers' Union might also well be merged with the Miners' Organization until well enough developed in that industry to warrant its separate unit. Closer and more compact we can get our ranks at present, the more strength and power we shall possess. I would rather see half a dozen strong industrial unions, than forty weak, struggling ones.

But just now let us organize a big, strong, Industrial Union of Metal (not steel) and Machinery Workers.

R. A. YOUNGBLOOD.

Evan C. Gordon please communicate with James R. McPherson, 556½ Main St., Kansas City, Mo. Matter of importance.

Tacoma Locals 238 and 380 have moved to a new hall at 1114 S. 14th St. All mail for the locals should be addressed to Sec'y I. W. W. at above address.

We wish to announce that the Los Angeles Recruiting Local 602 has a new address, 1000 Main St., L. A., Room 10 P. M. All wage workers are welcome. Any fellow workers coming this waysdrop in and give us a visit. Headquarters of the local at 408 Commercial St. Address all mail to P. O. Box 1278, Los Angeles, Calif.—John Troy, Sec'y.

All the mines around Redding, Calif., are running full blast. A couple of Spanish and Italian speaking fellow workers could do great work agitating on the job; most of the slaves employed are Spanish and Italian. The scale of wages: Miners and timbermen, $3.50; muckers, $3; chuck tenders, $4; timber helpers, $2.25. All wobblies coming through drop in.—Carl Kuhlman, Sec'y.

Circulation Statement

Previously reported gain	1342
Subs received during week	96
Subs expiring this week	42
Gain for the week	54
Total gain to date	1396

Slim Simmons—6

"I was doing some stevedoring one summer in Savannah," Slim told us. "We had the M. T. W. well built up there. The boss was a petty larceny guy who had his office in a saloon. That he owned. It was necessary to go through the bar after getting paid. Most of the scissors left their money right where they got it.

"We M. T. W.'s wouldn't drink there on a bet; he had plenty beer, anyway. Well, the boss didn't know what M. T. W. meant, but he thought the T stood for Temperance, and as a larger bunch would walk away from the bar without stopping to unload one or two, each pay day, he became alarmed and canned about half our men, which was all he could spare. Of course we all quit, and also announced that they could come around when they wanted us providing they shortened the hours and raised the pay. They laughed.

"That strike was the fairest affair you ever saw. A gang of scabs were put to work, about half as many as they needed, but the company said through their newspapers that everything was splendid. That was the most exciting thing the yellow journals could make out of it. Of course there were always three men on picket duty, but they apparently were stalling; they spoke when spoken to, and they said also that everything was splendid.

"Because of the shortage of scabs and the awkwardness of those working, the first boat to leave was away late, but finally it was ready and the steamship company started to get their crew together, and that's where things began to happen. Although there were lots of A. B. seamen there, they could not get half a crew. When asked about sailing the men would say they had no intention of sailing with a scab-loaded cargo.

"The next day our dear boss came down to our hall and told us the men were fired and all the strikers would be taken back and our other demands granted. He told us what a good fellow he was and was sorry there had been any misunderstanding, and he hoped everything was all right now. We told him it was. He said, 'Then you'll be back to work in the morning?' We said, 'No, the sailors are on strike now.'

"He was short and fat; his expression, and the way he beat it out the door was a dandy imitation of John Bunny. Next day he was back and was very mild. He was sorry he had lost his temper and said he supposed we were kidding him. We told him, 'Yes, we're kidding you but we're kidding on the square.'

"Well, he told us all over again what a good fellow he was and handed us he had granted our demands, said if he had anything to do with the steamship company he would see that the sailors got what they wanted, but wondered why we wanted to tie up with such a booze fighting bunch of roughnecks as sailors anyway. So we told him that we had just received from the wireless telegrapher on board to the office boy on the dock were organized to stick together.

"When it finally soaked into his conk that we intended to stay on strike until the seamen got theirs, he had another fit and waddled out the door which was almost too narrow for him. He was back next day with the same salve; he wanted to coax us back. We had a lot of fun kidding him. One fellow would step up and say, 'All right, I'll go back.' A smile would spread over the boss' face, then another fellow would step up and announce that he would go back. The smile would broaden. Then the first one would say, "Oh, I guess I won't, either." The smile would slow down.

"Well, we were already to go back, but never more than two at a time at a time. We kept the old man smiling and looking sorry and hanging on one foot for an hour and a half, then he got disgusted and made a quick exit again.

"The strike lasted four days more which was longer than we expected, but we all got what we wanted. After we had been working a few days, the curiosity of the boss got the better of him; he wanted to know what M. T. W. stood for. One fellow answered, 'Why M. T. W. stands for SOLIDARITY.'"

ROY LEE.

SANGER BOOKS OUT OF PRINT

Word just came to us from the publishers of Sanger's books, "What Every Girl Should Know" and "What Every Mother Should Know", to the effect that the last editions of both these books are now exhausted. Readers are therefore asked to take note of this and not order any further copies until we can announce that arrangements have been made by the author for the publication of another edition.

Have you been reading Solidarity regularly? If not you have been missing the biggest thing in American journalism. A paper not afraid to write the truth and hurl its scorn and contempt at robbers.—McDonald.

No matter where you go you will find the I. W. W. red card and the little button that stands for the big idea and red blooded fellowship and aid. The world is your home and the best fighters in it your friends. Just show your card. If anyone asks you, why not? Are you a scab? Barge, join. Are you a boss—you'll be eligible after we get stronger; we'll give you a card with the overalls.

VOLUME SEVEN

LUMBERJAC

And All Men of the

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