Everett and Other Prisoners Need Your Assistance

EDUCATION — ORGANIZATION — EMANCIPATION

SOLIDARITY

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EVERETT JURY PANEL DRAWN

Greater Activity for Defense Now Required to Free Bloody Sunday Victims

By Charles Ashleigh

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 17th.

The panel of jurors, from which will be drawn the twelve to serve in the cases of the 74 men charged with murder, has been already published. There are 175 jurors on the list, of whom 71 are women.

MISS FLYNN HAS SUCCESSFUL TOUR

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn has just returned from a speaking trip through Washington, Oregon, Idaho and part of Montana in the interests of the defense of the 74 victims of Bloody Sunday. Everywhere the workers have heard eagerly the facts of the tragic and brutal massacre of November 5th and have given willingly of their time, energy and money to help set free our imprisoned fellow workers. Miss Flynn will now be engaged until the trial in the State of Washington and, more especially, in King County.

WELL KNOWN WOMAN VOLUNTEERS FOR DEFENSE

The Defense has secured most valuable aid in the services of Miss Caroline A. Lowe, a woman of national prominence who has entered into the campaign for the release of the 74 workingmen who are threatened with life-long imprisonment for their belief in Free Speech. Miss Lowe is an attorney-at-law, practicing in Kansas and California and was formerly vice-president of the Kansas City Teachers' Association. She was also National Lecturer for the Socialist Party. Miss Lowe addressed the U. S. Senate Committee on National Suffrage, during the Suffrage hearing in 1911. She was prominent in the fight for Free Speech in Kansas City, Mo., in the winter of 1913-14 when the workers won a clear-cut victory, securing the right to use the streets as a public forum.

SOME VICTIMS OF THE OPEN SHOP THUGS

H. Golden, the man who recently had his leg amputated, has been discharged from the hospital but is in no fit condition yet to move. Joseph Ghilezano, who was wounded four times and who was given a silver knee-cap, has had to return to the hospital, his leg being in a serious condition. Both of these fellow workers, who are still but boys, will probably be incapacitated for life from returning to their trades. They will bear for life the marks of the treatment received at the hands of the "law-and-order" gang. Such treatment will help the workingclass to remember how much the bosses value our lives, and will make us determine in future to LOOK AFTER OUR OWN SAFETY.

SHALL THE PACIFIC COAST MASTERS WIN AGAIN?

During the last few years there have been several labor cases on the Pacific Coast—AND THEY HAVE ALL BEEN LOST. The MacNamara cases, the Ford and Suhr, the Schmidt and Caplan, and the Billings and Mooney cases have all resulted so far in victory for the Manufacturers' Associations and Commercial Clubs. Now comes the Everett case. Will this also be a loss to labor? Shall the labor-hating bosses, their jewls dripping with the blood of previous victims, gain yet more innocent sacrifices to their profit-lust? A great fight must be put up if we would save our fellow workers. This fight cannot be won by the Defense Committee, nor by the lawyers alone; it can only be won if THE WORKERS WILL BACK IT UP!

WORKERS, DO YOUR DUTY!

Workingmen should aid in this defense not just because of sympathy with the men in jail, but because it is their duty. We believe in organization, we believe in class loyalty and all that it implies. Therefore it is the duty of each and every one of us to come to the aid of any member of our class who is threatened with death or imprisonment because he has fought the battle of our class. Any one of us might be in the same position tomorrow; we should then expect the workers to help us. Now, while we are on the outside, let us help those who are inside! LET EVERY WORKER DO HIS DUTY and the victory is ours! Don't forget, the first case starts on March 5th when Thomas Tracy will be tried. Upon the result of Tracy's case depend the cases of all the others.

Send all contributions to Herbert Mahler, Sec'y-Treas., Everett Prisoners' Defense Committee, Box 1878 Seattle, Wash.

Protests and resolutions should be sent to President Wilson and to Governor Lister, Olympia, Wash. Send demands to your congressmen and senators for a Congressional investigation into the tragedy of Everett, Nov. 5th. ACT NOW!

Prevention of Hard Times

Professor Arbuthnut of the chair of Political Economy of Western Reserve University, who spoke at the I. W. W. open forum in Cleveland last Sunday, Feb. 18, recommended the regulation of industry. He drew a comparison from Bible times when panics, as he stated, were the result of natural consequences, or rather the inability of the people to obtaian from natural resources sufficient to carry them through the non-productive seasons.

He frankly admitted that the hard times of recent periods were due to too much prosperity socalled. But when asked how many factors entered into the production and distribution of the necessities of life he steadfastly maintained that there were four, namely: land, labor, capital and management. He could not see how a shareholder or rather a coupon-clipper could be eliminated. He flatly refused to admit that it was because the working class does not get all it produces, and therefore the master class must look elsewhere for a market for the surplus, which was the cause of the irregularity, as he called it, in industry. He, however, failed to mention from what source the regulation should come. That the working class should assume to take it upon itself to have a say in this scheme, apparently never occurred to him. It was evident from the way he treated his subject, that he was suffering from a lack of knowledge of working class aspirations. Nevertheless, the meeting from a standpoint of propaganda was a decided success.

PRESS COMMITTEE

PROFITS ON AMMUNITION ORDERS

Show Enormous Totals.—Arms Company Earns Over Four Hundred Per Cent Net.

New York.—Gross earnings of $20,309,085 and net earnings of $4,-652,094, equivalent to 465 percent on its capitalization of $1,00,000, were reported by the Winchester Repeating Arms Company for the year ending February 5 last.

Of its total business for the year, $11,500,000 represented domestic orders and $8,500,000 foreign, chiefly European delivery. The gross increase was over one-third in excess of the preceding year.

Dividends of 25 percent were paid during 1915, and the stock, par value $100, recently sold as high as $3,000 a share, other quotations being $2,425 bid, $2,500 asked.

It is reported that the company contemplates an increase of capital to $30,000,000.

The annual report of the Atlas Powder Company, which has received large foreign war orders, shows for the year ending December 31, 1915, gross sales of $9,280,-492, against $5,133,308 for the previous year, a gain of $4,156,185.

Net income for 1915 was $1,671,-762, compared with $474,150 in 1914.

After payment of dividends on preferred shares the balance of net income for the year was equivalent to 35.80 percent on the common stock, against 9.80 percent in 1914. Total dividends of $650,065 were paid, leaving a surplus of $1,447,344. Disbursements on common stocks during the year amounted to 11½ percent, against 6 percent in 1914 and 1½ percent in 1913.

The Lackawanna Steel Company issued its annual statement for the year ending December 31, 1915, and at the same time announced that its $6,000,000 6 percent notes would be retired on March 1, a year prior to their maturity date.

The annual statement shows gross sales of $27,793,000 an increase of $11,511,000 over the preceding year; net earnings were $5,977,800, an increase of $4,396,000, and a surplus of $2,409,000 replaces a deficit of $1,652,-796.

THE CFEVELAND CONVENTION

The convention of the M. T. W. No. 200, to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, March 25th, is fast approaching. There is room here for good live wires who have the ability and can adapt themselves to different conditions. Members of the fighting 400, who have nothing in particular to do the first part of the spring, may as well put in the time on the docks or the boats of the Great Lakes and incidentally help to put the One Big Union on the map.

There is nothing about the work that any Wobblies cannot learn in a short time and become an efficient slave in this industry. It is hardly necessary to state that the lightning emancipation brand of organization is impossible on the lakes. There are men there that a pamphlet or paper will do wonders towards organizing. You cannot chase them off with a club, but have to gain their confidence, and by so doing will do more to propagate the One Big Union idea than by all the blather in the world. I notice the oil workers are going to bore a hole in John D.'s oil can this year, and with the help of our fellow workers on the range we are going to try to take the rust out of the steel trust.

We hope to see more of the old war horses in Cleveland soon, and at the convention. Come on in, the water is fine.

T. A. J.

NON-UNION

The Hibernian laborer paused in front of a book store, and a sign in the window caught his eye:

Dickens Works
All This Week
for
Only $4.00

"The divil he does!" he exclaimed in disgust. "The dirty scab!"—The Mediator.

MINNEAPOLIS

Local 64 holds meetings every Sunday at 3 P. M., Gymal Doled Hall, 11½ Western Ave. Also a dance every Sunday night. Visiting members invited to attend both meetings and dances.

Another $5.00 was voted the Everett Defense at today's meeting, Feb. 11. —Press Committee.

James Duffy, Sec'y, Tulsa, Okla., reports following letters on hand: Fred Lebhardt, L. A. Colberg, Ernest Browne, Rob Frogge, Wm. Denet Duc, Harry Johnson, W. E. McLaughlin, Clem. Ryan, E. B. Bedwell.

BOSTON M.T.W. SHOWS TRUE I.W.W. SPIRIT

Refuses to Scab on A. F. of L., Notwithstanding Bad Record to Contrary of Craft Organization.

(Special to Solidarity)

Boston, Mass., Feb. 13.

On the 10th of February the Eastern Steamship Company told the men on board their vessels that they either had to join the Welfare Union, a union of the bosses, with some notorious scab herders at its head, or get off the ships, according to Delegate R. McDonald of the Marine Firemen, Oilers and Watertenders' Union. These men were pulled out of the ships and the docks are picketed.

The same day we were asked to supply the ships with men which we refused to do, as we won't be used as a tool for any one. Later on the assistant port mate of that company called at our hall and promised that if we supplied the ships now they would give us full control in their company. When asked by the writer the reason why he preferred our men, he explained that he had been fighting the International since he was sixteen years old, which I don't doubt. He also related how he and the sailors' union officials had spent many dollars of that union's money in revelry, while he was a runner for a shipping master in New York.

A special meeting was then called and a phone was sent to the International asking them to send a committee up to our meeting to explain the situation, from their point of view.

Agent Libby, a delegate, and several members came and the agent was given the floor. He said that he appreciated very much our action of inviting them to our meeting and then he started to spread some soft soap, saying that his union always had fought fair and open with us (meaning that they never scabbed when we struck) and that he hoped that we would not go on board the Eastern Steamship Co.

When he finished Secretary Llorca took the floor and showed that the A. F. of L. never had fought us fairly as the agent had stated, but had scabbed whenever they had a chance. Llorca then backed up his statement with facts:

Last spring when we had control of the Eastern Steamship Company's boats we went on strike for $45 for coal passers and $50 for firemen. The International scabbed on us by sending them coal passers at $40, which rate has not changed up till today, while our rate is $45 where we have control.

Again in Novemoer when we struck on the fish boats for three firemen at $55 on each vessel, the International supplied men at $50 and in many cases only two firemen.

Then last week the Crown Princess Cecilia, the interned German liner, laying in the Boston harbor, required a new crew because the German crew had been taken off by the United States authorities, and a call for men was sent to our hall. We supplied the crew, then the International got busy and informed the district attorney that a crew of I. W. W. anarchists, a murderous bunch, were liable to finish the work of destruction started by the Germans. This of course meant that our men were put ashore.

After Llorca finished the agent was asked to respond and defend his outfit against the charge of scabbing. He maintained that he didn't want to put men on the fish boat when we were on strike but the fishermen's union (A. F. of L.) forced him to. He did not try to argue the other cases of scabbing.

After he got through the delegation was asked to see the vote taken by our members whether we were to supply men for the Eastern Steamship Co. or not. The vote was taken, and unanimously carried by the ninety men present at the meeting not to supply the ships. We instructed the committee to tell their organization not to fear the I. W. W. but to keep an eye on their own members as it is reported that several tore up their A. F. of L. cards and joined the Hell-fare outfit.

P. S.—The North Star of the Eastern Steamship Co. sailed tonight with a scab crew.

George Herstig please communicate with M. H. Moertl, 226 Champlain Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

LESS THAN THIRD OF MEN ARE FIT FOR U. S. ARMY

In Case of War, Says Manly, This Country Will Pay Heavily For Bad Industrial Conditions.

By Basil M. Manly

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 16.—Figures just made public by the war department show that the United States army accepts only 26 per cent of the applicants for enlistment. About three-fourth of the recruits who present themselves are thrown out chiefly because of physical defects.

It has been charged that this high percentage of rejections is due to the fact that mostly, the riff-raff and scum of America's industrial population present themselves for enlistment, and therefore the ratio of rejection is no index to the physical fitness of the American people.

Some have even claimed that if the whole industrial population were included 75 per cent would measure up to the army standard.

This rosy dream of the fitness of the American people for military service is shattered by a report made public by Dr. J. B. Lowman, chief surgeon of the Cambria Steel Co., one of the largest industrial plants in the country.

The nature of the work done in this great steel plant is such that only strong men in the vigor of manhood apply for jobs.

The weakling could not stand the strain of steel mill work a week, and never applies for a job; and if he did apply he could not pass the keen eye of the employment agent.

Dr. Lowman shows that of the 12,302 employees of the Cambric Steel Co., 64.5 per cent, or nearly two-thirds, were physically defective. His tests were less rigorous than the army tests, and the results may therefore be taken as conclusive evidence that at least two-thirds and probably three-fourths of the industrial population of the United States could not measure up to the army standards!

What is the cause of this high proportion of physical defect among the men upon whom America must depend in time of war?

Whose fault is it that less than one-third are fit?

The evidence of the figures is conclusive—The Overstrain of modern industry is primarily to blame for the defectives!

One-sixth of these steel workers, the surgeon's examination shows, were suffering from "abdominal hernia and open canals." In other words, they were ruptured by the heavy work they have been performing year in and year out, 12 hours a day.

One-tenth had defective eyes, which in the case of these men who have no leisure to read or otherwise strain the eyes through excessive use could only be caused by the conditions under which they work—constant glare of molten metal, air surcharged with particles of metal and grit and filled with blinding fumes.

This is the condition among the strongest and huskiest of the industrial population. When we come to the indoor trades the conditions are even more startling.

Examination of 2,000 garment workers by the United States public health service showed that 68 per cent had defective vision as the result of the fearful eye-strain which their work imposes; half of them had curvature of the spine; more than one-fourth had chronic throat and nose affections, and 26 per cent had flat or weak feet, which would disqualify them for military service.

Altogether it is doubtful if even 5 per cent of the adult male garment workers would be available for war service.

This means that instead of being able to count on all men of militia age, the United States will be unable to use at least two-thirds and probably three-fourths of them!

It means that in case of war the United States is going to pay—and pay heavily— for bad industrial conditions, low wages, and wretched living conditions, just as England did.

They say that the war has taught England her lesson, and it may be that nothing lass than war will teach us ours.

FREE SPEECH VICTORY IN CUSHING OIL FIELDS

(Special to Solidarity)

Dumright, Okla., Feb. 9.

Dumright put herself on the map, with a miniature free speech fight by arresting Arthur Boose as he stepped off the box, on the night of Feb. 6th.

Efforts were made to have him released that night, but the chief of police was determined to vag him. Next morning, Boose was brought up for trial and after much whispering and chair-scraping, court was adjourned until 10 o'clock next morning. About that time the fire whistles blew and there was a mad dash for the door by the chief and his henchmen, who thought the wobblies were going to burn up the town. None of the spectators heard a word of what was said by the court. Boose had to inquire when he was to be tried.

A call was sent to Tulsa, Okla., and that afternoon the rebels began to come in. They came in quietly and in small parties. But every man was determined to have Boose released, and free speech.

On the night of the 7th we had a street meeting, in which we defied the powers that be, to deprive us of free speech. But they, in the meantime, had reconsidered the idea of opposing street meetings and we were not molested.

Boose went to trial at 10 o'clock on the morning of the 8th. The trial was a farce. They knew they had nothing on Boose, but were determined to hand him the original package, and after considerable sparring by both prosecuting attorney and judge, they finally goaded Boose into a sharp reply. That was what they wanted. The judge informed Boose that he had nothing on him, and that he was just about to dismiss the case against him, but he (Boose) was too smart and he would fine him $25 and costs.

We got busy and had an interview with the mayor, in which we matched strength. He was convinced that Dumright could not whip us into subjection, and lost all desire to fill his little two by four can. So he released Fellow Worker Boose. That night we held a street meeting, with Boose on the box. He made a fine talk to a large crowd. After the street meeting we held another meeting in a hall, the rent for which was partly paid for by the mayor of Dumright. At this meeting, which was largely attended by outsiders, Boose outdid himself and held the crowd until a late hour. Literature sales and the collection for the Everett defense were good.

The oil companies are beginning to fear the I. W. W., as we have stated to make better working conditions in the oil industry. On a six-inch line at Vinita, Okla., a band of wobblies working for Sinclair & Cudahy Pipe Line Co. struck for more pay. They were getting 40c a joint. They forced the company to pay them 50c a joint, and are now digging 10 and 12 joints a day.

Reports from all oil fields show that we are meeting with success in organizing the slaves in the oil industry. The arrest of Arthur Boose in Dumright was the first show of fight by the master class in the oil fields, and they were K. O.'ed in the first bout.

F. J. GALLAGHER, Del. 880.

The acting Danish consul at Room 405 Mills Bldg., San Francisco, writes to Solidarity as follows: "I am endeavoring to locate a Dane, Wm. Christensen, born July 11, 1868, in Copenhagen, and have been referred to your association by the secretary here. Would you kindly ascertain if he is a member of your association and if you succeed in getting any trace of him, advise me, so that I may try and locate him through other channels. The only reason for my inquiry is that his aged father has not heard from his son for four years and is very anxious about his fate." Any reader of Solidarity having this information should send same to above address.

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Self-Discipline or Herd-Discipline?

A correspondent elsewhere in this issue touches upon the basic idea, as he conceives it, of German patriotism. He finds it in the development of the "gang spirit," which, according to a professor of psychology whom he quotes, has been carefully and persistently schooled into the working class of Germany. From the conclusion of our correspondent, with reference to the I. W. W. and the "gang spirit" we are compelled to disagree.

All other things taken into consideration, it is precisely this "gang spirit," this herd-like discipline, that makes the German system distasteful to the active spirits of the Western world. And it is also this very "gang spirit" that will prove its own undoing in the end. The gang idea implies a leader, who is followed because he is assumed to possess more nerve or better judgment than his associates. His word becomes law, and disobedience from below meets with swift punishment from the top. No doubt quick and effective action is possible under this system, provided the leader possesses real executive ability in his undertakings. But the "gang" spirit is best exemplified in militarism, and finds its justification in the terrible fear that characterizes all wars.

As a basis for sure and permanent industrial union organization, the "gang" spirit is bound to prove a failure. The I. W. W. was conceived as an experiment in VOLUNTARY co-operation. That implies the right to thorough discussion and consequent appreciation of any move that may be under consideration. Attendance at any I. W. W. meeting will convince the observer that this right is recognized and insisted upon by the membership. In the field, at times, some necessarily quick action, may cut off discussion, but even then it is well nigh impossible to get I. W. W. men to act simply because someone says they must. "Diplomacy" needs to be of a very high order in I. W. W. "leadership" so called.

In our opinion it is well that this should be so. We can conceive of nothing more stultifying to the revolutionary spirit in our organization than the application of the "German system" of autocracy and discipline imposed from above down. We must, on the contrary, seek to develop the spirit of intelligent co-operation on the part of I. W. W. units, through individual and group initiative, and expand more and more the number of intelligent and self-disciplined units. Failing in this, even though the I. W. W. were to augment its membership to a million or more next week, its doom were sealed; its pathway to destruction properly inclined and well oiled.

The I. W. W. started out to achieve INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY; to wipe out the "gang" spirit, which implies sheep-like following of a bell-wether, in our organization, even as we purpose to wipe out the capitalist herding of the working class. Industrial democracy cannot be imposed upon the workers from above; it must be achieved by the workers themselves through an intelligent recognition of the necessity of co-operation and through an organization capable of expressing that co-operation without depriving its members of any of the essentials of democratic control.

The process may be slower and less immediately "successful," but it is the only way to the goal we have set out to reach. To build and secure the New Society we must have self-disciplined men, and not merely herd-disciplined sheep.

Nearing The Crisis

The diplomatic relations of the United States and Germany are severed. It is the initiative of a similar bloodshed that has waged in Europe for the last three years. And why these relations now at length have been broken is an old story, the same that the warring nations had before the war: "That the sacred laws, the rights and lives of the American people are in danger and must be defended."

True, the German submarines have destroyed ships that have had Americans on board, but these Americans knew that any ship carrying ammunition for the Allies was not safe and therefore risked their lives being fully aware of the situation. However, it aroused the indignation of our patriots to the extent that the friendly terms have been threatened quite frequently, each time being saved by a simple exchange of "notes" and promises. But continued broken promises got too numerous and notes failing to accomplish any understanding resulted in the severance of diplomatic relations. The trouble with Germany was inevitable, caused by America's accommodating relations with the Allies in supplying them with ammunition and other necessities. This consequently resulting in Germany's declaration of indifference regarding the safety of the American ships any more than of other countries carrying ammunition.

It is inconsistent and an error to think that the real cause of the severance of the relations is other than the attempt of the American capitalists to guard their interests, who have reaped millions in profits out of the European war. If the ammunition trade were cut off, it would leave little or no cause for Germany's threats, (at least wouldn't give any excuse for such threats). But are these ammunition capitalists willing to do this? No, indeed, it would mean the end of their enormous profit making to which they have had unrestricted opportunity since the beginning of the war. And if America does not get mixed in this war it is just as bad. So these ammunition kings must be permitted to carry on their trade or either entangle the working class of America in this awful war. The latter is now possible at any moment. The American capitalists are just as heartless as are the capitalists of the warring nations. Here the influential class and their interested satellites have accused the European nations of barbarism and are themselves ready without hesitation to induce the working class of America into horrible bloodshed the moment their profits are endangered. Wars are impossible unless there are workers to fight them. And to induce the workers, war must be disguised and beautifully colored. Beautiful phrases to stir their blood such as: "The honor to die for your country," etc.—a brass band, a regiment of boys in uniform, banners and, alas! the country's blinded workers are ready to give up their lives—For the welfare of the nation? No—for the welfare of the exploiters whose fortunes are exposed to danger! You must go to the rescue, to the rescue of those who have made you work long hours paid you starvation wages and thrown you aside when not needed. Workers, how do you regard this war problem? Have you thought that you have a battle of your own which is still unfought? Are you preparing? The different labor movements of this country have officially announced their anti-war attitude, but have not taken any active part in educating the workers as to the various means for preventing war! That is advocating the use of direct action and spreading the general strike idea, which are the worker's strongest weapons with which to defend himself.

The only labor organization that advocates absolute and active anti-militarism is the Industrial Workers of the World; and which is the only movement that will succeed ultimately in preventing wars. But our organization is still in its infancy and can not possibly cope with the situation. through the means of direct action and its other methods. But in the meantime the most we can do is spread the philosophy of the I. W. W., get the workers organized in the one big union and try our principals in action. We must prepare for the coming crisis. The master class is preparing and will leave no stone unturned in its endeavor to keep its slaves blind, to prolong the present social system. Unhesitatingly, it will make cannon fodder of you, induce you to murder your working class brothers, make widows of your wives and orphans of your children. Workers, what does this mean to you and your class? What is the consequence? And what will you have gained by it? It is not your battle although you fight it. It is not your triumph although you win. War is hell! It brings only destruction and misery to the working class and therefore you have no reason to encourage it, but to curse it as a most terrible menace to civilization. Workers, prepare! You possess a powerful weapon which is your industrial power and which is the only power that can prevent war and ultimately cause the overthrow of this capitalist system. Use it by joining the Industrial Workers of the World. United and prepare for your own battle!

ROSA KNUUTI

The German Worker and the "Gang Spirit"

Battrick, Mont., Feb. 1

Solidarity: In your issue of Jan. 20 F. Jakel asks the question "Why are the German workers more contented and less rebellious than the workers of any other country?" and answers the question by saying "The German workers believe it is better to eat in an autocratic monarchy than starve in a democratic republic."

In your editorial comment you say that this answer is "perhaps correct, as far as the German working class is concerned." Now while it may be true that the German more than some other is inclined "To live by bread alone," there are some other very weighty reasons for their show of patriotism in August, 1914, etc.

One of these reasons was called to my attention by a professor of psychology in an eastern university upon his return from Germany nearly 20 years ago. He said that the German government was taking great pains to instil the "gang spirit" into the German people. Every means that could be used from cradle to old age was worked upon an apt and docile people to turn their natural social instincts into such channels as would lead to the supremacy of the German commercial and military classes. It may be said that other nations have done the same. But no nation perhaps Japan excepted, has used the systematic methods of the German government. Their crowning achievement in this line consists in the fact that each industry has become practically a national institution. It thus appears on the surface as though industrial society and the state are one and the same thing. The social democratic party swallowed the bait whole. The German working class was led to the slaughter and not one voice raised in protest.

Industrialists of all countries can learn some valuable lessons from Europe's tragedy.

The political state is a parasitic body fastened upon economic society. Our purpose is not to capture and reform, but to destroy it. The machinery of production and distribution is the skeleton of industrial society. We too must encourage the gang spirit. But it must act in the industry not the state. Even in such situations as confront the German and Japanese worker where the industrial framework is co-extensive with the state the working class by organizing industrially may contend with and ultimately conquer the state and abolish it. To confuse industrial society with the state is hardly less than a crime for it perplexes the mind of the worker weakens his gang spirit in industry and strengthens his enemy the state. To shun the state is to weaken it. To work with it is to add to its powers. To leave the point of production is to give up our natural position in society. It may lead to another commune or another world war.

Industry has already outstripped all the boundaries of language, religion and state. It is imperative that we make the spirit of industrial solidarity equally extensive. That the state will soon be unable to control the "gang spirit" is evident to the powers that be. Note Wilson's plea for a "concert, of power," *for order merely*, not an instrument of aggression. It is up to us to see that the One Big Union shall be just as extensive as the industrial structure. Go ye unto all the world and preach this gospel. Then the I. W. W. will be not only "an imperishable ideal" but an imperishable fact.

A. B. C.

Out of the Capitalist Ditch

Victor Hugo describes the tragedy of a charge by the French cavalry on the battlefield of Waterloo, where the sunken road of Ohain was directly in their path. The fatal ditch was not seen till it was too late to turn aside or halt, and rank after rank of men and horses were swept into the pit and to their own doom to make a crossing for those who came after.

It is no figure of speech to say that the working class is advancing against the profit-taking masters over the bodies of their fellow workers who have fallen in the ditches of capitalism. Five men went into a capitalist-made ditch in Everett on November 5, and the lumber trust is trying to throw 74 more into the sunken road for the remainder of their lives. The power and wealth of the lumber trust and the shipping interests of the Pacific Coast are determined to send these men to the penitentiary.

The Southern Pacific R. R. has obtained convictions against Billings and Mooney in San Francisco. The Steamship companies have killed, crippled and convicted workers all along the Pacific Coast in the past year. In turn the lumber barons are doing their share of the bloody work to prevent organization in the western woods and mills, and the conviction of the 74 would be a long step in that direction.

It is for us to defeat their purposes.

If we fail to free the men who are under indictment by the Commercial Club of Everett, it will mean that the efforts of the past twelve years to build a union of the workers for the benefit of the workers, will receive a serious setback.

The setback will not be in the revolutionary program of the workers who have been making every effort to carry forward the work of organization, but will mean that a large part of their efforts will be taken from the work of organizing where it properly belongs, and be applied to the work of defense.

The change of venue asked by the defense has been granted, and the cases will be tried in Seattle, and will begin on March 5. The men will be tried separately and Thomas H. Tracy has been selected by the prosecution to be the first one on the docket. The prosecution made no objection to the motion for a change of venue, as the defense had a large mass of affidavits of residents of the county proving that there is a very bitter prejudice against the defendants among the economic masters of the county.

No worker should think that the Everett tragedy will not occur again in other places. The masters are now planning that and worse in all parts of the country, should the ones who produce the wealth of the nation dare to demand more of the wealth they produce. "Everett, the spark plug of the West," is the slogan carried at the head of the the editorial page of one of the Everett daily papers. The spark of revolutionary fire that leaped forth here on November 5 should be made a flame throughout the world wherever American products are sold or made, unless the men in jail are unconditionally released.

It is on the job that the work of freeing the men must be carried forward. The lawyers who are conducting the defense are doing all that lawyers can do, but it will be our economic power that will free the men if they are to be freed.

The issue is clear, and can no longer be disguised. The issue now is whether we shall be slaves, or free men and women. The economic masters are doing everything in their power to establish a condition of abject slavery for all their workers. If we defeat them we must fight them at every turn, and the fight will be long and bitter, for it is a fight for freedom itself. But to men it were better to fight and be defeated than to allow the Iron Collar to be fastened on our necks.

Wherever you work the question of the freedom of the 74 men in Everett is a personal question to you. No matter what you work at, see that the boss makes less profit from this day until the Everett prisoners are free. Do not stop to consider whether he is a good boss. There are none of that brand. All bosses are bad—for the slave. And as you fight the boss for the benefit of the men in Everett, you will gain strength for the fight that you must make for yourself.

These 74 men in Everett are not cowards. Everyone of them is staking his chances of life freedom against a hope that the workers of America will awaken to the true situation while it is yet time.

We must ACT! And the time is NOW!

STUMPY

The Tools of Big Building

(Advertisement Bankers' Realty Investment Co.)

Huge derricks, powerful hoists, clamorous concrete mixers, the ubiquitous wheelbarrow—all these are the tools of big building. But they are relatively unimportant. Busy hordes of workmen, delving deep into the earth for foundations, or clinging dizzily aloft in the fabrication of a giant steel skeleton—they are the tools of big building. But still we have not reached the heart of the matter.

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(Continued On Page 3 Col. 4 and 5)

Cotton Pickers in Northern Cities

By Helen B. Pendleton, in The Survey

Early last spring, when a marked shortage of labor was felt, northern industries turned to the South and began to import Negroes by the thousand. Railroads and industrial plants furnished transportation and offered undreamed-of wages to the simple farm hands from the cotton fields of Georgia and Alabama.

Estimates of the number of Negroes that have come north vary anywhere from two hundred and fifty thousand to half a million. So far there seem to be no trustworthy figures. Newark, it is said, had absorbed about ten thousand. How many are livin~ in the adjoining boroughs no one knows.

At first the railroad and other companies furnished the transportation, sending agents all through the South, who painted in glowing terms—who knows how highly colored?—the high wages and advantages of the North. But apparently that was not long necessary. The news spread like wildfire; it was like the gold fever in '49. The Negroes sold their simple belongings, and, in some instances, valuable land and property, and flocked to the northern cities, even though they had no objective work in sight. And they are still coming. Enough money has been saved from their unprecedented wages to send for wives and children. Almost every day one may see in the Pennsylvania station groups of Negro women sitting patiently, surrounded by bundles and babies and shivering in cotton garments, waiting for night to come, which will bring the men to meet them.

While getting ready to crowd up here, the Negroes composed a chant down in Dixie which ran like this:

"New Jersey, New Jersey, the land
where the fritters
Fall into the syrup right off of the
trees!"

"But I ain't seen the fritters nor the syrup!" exclaimed one of these dusky southerners the other day.

The high cost of living has soared far beyond the reported rise of 18 per cent in wages. The corner grocery, with its bewildering bright-colored canned goods, and other dazzling shops offer unusual opportunities for getting rid of money. The instalment houses, too, are reaping a harvest. The stores of "hog and hominy," corn meal, syrup and sweet potatoes which the migrants in many instances clubbed together and brought on with them in freight cars are gone by this time. The process of learning to use hard coal, which they must buy in small quantities, is wasteful. And the saloons welcome them heartily. No one draws the color line there! Negro ministers and social workers who are among them report with sorrow and amazement the amount of whiskey (no beer) that these people have already formed the habit of buying. Evil tentacles, too, have grasped young southern Negro girls, who have disappeared into houses of ill fame.

A number of undesirable, helpless folk, including widows and deserted wives, have "come along in the excitement," as one old cripple remarked. These the Associated Charities workers are trying to send back to the sunny South. One old man, totally blind, is easily recognized as belonging to the type of itinerant beggars familiar on the streets in southern towns, where they sit, making a cheerful noise on some screeching instrument. He says Newark is a wicked city, because the accustomed nickels and pennies do not fall readily into his hand, and is therefore quite willing to return to his native land.

Many of the older men did not intend to engage in hard labor, because they had a number of strong young sons in the family group. But illness has overtaken some of these young people, and the older ones have been obliged to take heavy work, with the result that they too have fallen ill. The native Negro residents of the city and suburban towns have been kind and generous in helping the southern strangers. They have collected money to send numbers back home, and when the bitter cold weather began, they collected and distributed thousands of garments. Resident colored people have also taken hundreds of newcomers into their own homes until rooms could be found for them.

But while different churches and kind-hearted people have been most active in helping individually, there was no concerted movement to bring all these forces together until recently, when the Negro Welfare League of New Jersey was organized.

On the other hand, there are unscrupulous Negroes who have not hesitated to take advantages of the trust the strangers have reposed in them.

On January 6, a voluble, well-dressed Negro, representing himself as a house-agent, got $80 in first payments for rooms and then disappeared. White sharpers, too, have been active. A favorite method of getting money is to pretend to be a secret-society agent and secure membership fees from the unwary.

Almost all newcomers are from southwest Georgia and the adjoining counties. It seems impossible that a Negro is left in Dothan, Alabama. In fact, a white farmer writes from near there: "There has been lots of darkies left here and nearly all the good ones is gone."

They are country folk by every implication of their being, with the slow southern speech that to the northern ear is at first unintelligible. Already they are the despair of house-wives, who eagerly welcomed much-needed houseworkers, innocently supposing that these people, whose chief labor had heretofore been picking cotton, would readily adapt themselves to city homes. In the factories and freight-yards the men and boys, when overheated, throw off their outer clothing, just as they would in the mild South, only to be laid up as a consequence with grip and pneumonia. With swollen feet from the unaccustomed roads and pavements and long hours of toil, they are obliged to lose many days' work. The Municipal Employment Bureau reports that they are now only applying for indoor work, as they have begun to realize the hardships of outdoor labor in a northern winter. To the outdoor worker the snow, too, is a disagreeable hindrance. "All this stuff flyin' 'round in the air confuses me!" they say. When we read in trade journals of the difficulty of inducing these laborers to stick to their jobs, we are not entirely convinced that it is altogether "because they cannot stand prosperity," as one journal puts it.

Moreover, the fumes in the munition factories have made many of them temporarily ill, and they have therefore sought other places and accepted lower wages. The recent destruction of several ammunition plants has thrown a number out of work and frightened away more, so that the difficulties and real hardships attached to their new jobs, added to the strangeness of their surroundings, have been the chief cause of the irregularity of their labor. We know of many families that have been obliged to move again and again in order to find a home, while the breadwinner has had to accept lower wages for that reason.

The industries of New Jersey went after these laborers because they needed them in their business. But, although the Negro is warmly welcomed as a laborer, it is increasingly apparent that as a Negro he is unwelcome. In a suburb of Newark there are forty Negro families who are better housed than the average and who thus have a chance to develop proper home life. When the white ministers of the place were asked to invite the colored children to their Sunday schools, they demurred, saying it "would not work." So a separate building was hired by the Negroes themselves and they are carrying on their own Sunday school.

Soon after the migration began to be noticeable, suddenly, mysteriously, almost in a night, the signs To Let and For Rent in the part of the city where small houses and flats were available were changed to "For Sale," and a recent advertisement for rooms, inserted by Negroes, brought only two replies, neither of them from Newark. These humble newcomers, therefore, have been forced into finding lodings in basements and in the worst parts of our city.

Several generations ago, when the Negro was a human chattel, the master was considered a bad business man who did not properly house his slaves. He lost money by it and the community did not prosper. But industries of New Jersey have utterly failed to provide the housing which would enable their Negro help to live decently and in enough comfort so that, while growing accustomed to their unsual work, they might be stimulated to become useful and efficient.

In the last two weeks the Negro Welfare Committee, with the help of trained investigators from the Associated Charities, has visited 120 self-supporting families, all of whom were found in the worst sections of the city. A close study of fifty-three of these families reveals that 166 adults—only twenty of whom are over forty years of age—and 134 children, a total of 300 souls, are all crowded into unsanitary, dark quarters, averaging four and two-sevenths persons to a room. These fifty-three families pay a total rent per month of $415.50, an average of $7.86. The average wage of these people is $2.60 a day. In not one of the 120 families was there a wage-earners making the maximum wage of $3 and $4 a day. Here are some of the notes brought back by visitors who recently made these studies:

"Wife and three children living over a stable. Husband earning $11 a week." "Three families in four rooms." "A little house, not fit for a chicken-coop." "A sorry-looking house for so much money—$15 a month, doors off the hinges; water in the cellar: two families in five rooms." "Indescribable; so dark they must keep the light burning all day." "This family lives in three rooms on the second floor of a rickety frame house, built on the side of a hill, so that the back rooms are just about the ground. The entrance is in a muddy, disorderly yard and is through a tunnel in the house. The rooms are hard to heat because of cracks. A boy of eighteen was in bed breathing heavily: very ill with pneumonia: delirious at times."

And so the list goes on, describing difficulties and tragedies that would be sure to overtake numbers of unsophisticated country people recently arrived from a part of Georgia and Alabama not far from the Gulf of Mexico. Unused to city life, crowded into dark rooms, their clothing and household utensils unsuitable, the stoves they have bought being all too small to heat even the tiny rooms they have procured (the instalment houses are charging from $20 to $30 for these stoves), shivering with the cold from which they do not know how to protect themselves, it is small wonder that illness has overtaken large numbers.

The health department's report for December states that excessive lobar and bronchial pneumonia were responsible for more than one-third of the 975 cases of diseases reported last month. There were 287 more cases of sickness reported than in the preceding month. The deaths from the malady number ninety-four.

Health Officer Chaster said the cause of pneumonia increase must be laid to the severe weather in December and to the increasing number of colored laborers from the South who are employed in large industrial plants of the city. He continued: "It is unfortunate that these people have been allowed to come here without any advice as to how to live and keep themselves in health in this climate. The colored man has a natural predisposition to chest diseases, such as tuberculosis and pneumonia, and to the latter he falls an easy victim."

Dr. Craster said also that old, dilapidated buildings, long closed as undesirable for habitation, have been opened and rented to them. "These houses," he said, "are rented out as housekeeping apartments irrespective of the fact that there are no facilities for such purposes. Kitchen ranges, lavatories, baths and toilets are either altogether absent or inadequate. There is no heat in a majority of these places, with the consequence that whole families are found crowded around a small kerosene or coal stove in stuffy rooms, with no ventilation, where all the housekeeping is done and where frequently the whole family sleep together to keep warm."

The health inspectors report that wherever these conditions were discovered they directed the inhabitants to get better quarters and notified the owners of the premises, by written notice, that the rooms were not again to be rented. They further recommended that a campaign of education be instituted by the health department for better homes. "They (the Negroes) seem to be a simple, easy-going, honest sort of people, who know no better."

It is all very well to tell them that they must not live in such abominable buildings, but, ignorant as these people are and much as they need instruction as to how to live in this climate and in a strange city, they are with few exceptions anxious and willing to move into decent homes and neighborhoods. *There are no decent houses for them to rent.*

Many have burned their ships behind them, others had no ships to burn, and many came north because of a desire to get away from parts of the South where race troubles are acute. All are dazzled by the lure of city life. They are here to stay. It is reported that thousands more are preparing to come in the spring.

There are nearly one million Negro farm operators in the South, and it is estimated that the total wealth of the Negroes of the United States is about one billion dollars. They own twenty-one million acres of land, or more than thirty-two thousand square miles—an area greater than that of the state of South Carolina. The pall of illiteracy is slowly being removed from the South and higher and secondary education are becoming increasingly abominable for the Negro. A Negro farmer at Albany, Georgia, is the owner of 10,000 acres of land. Ninety families reside on his plantations. A fourteen-year-old Negro boy won the first prize for cotton at the Oklahoma State Fair. The champion corn grower of Missouri is the principal of the Bartlett Farm and School for Negroes at Dalton, Mo.

But while Negro farmers are 29 per cent of the total farmers in the South, Negro farm owners are still only 7 per cent of the total owners.

The South is more prosperous today than she has ever been before, with diversified agriculture making rapid progress, railroad expansion inevitable and factories fully employed. But there is also a shortage of labor there, and the South can ill afford to lose a half million farm laborers who are adapted to the southern climate. The Negro has made his best progress down South. The southern people should strive to keep him there, not by laws and lock-ups, but by better wages and by more and better opportunities of profit sharing, and above all by the cultivation of the spirit that will make it more and more possible for the Negro to accumulate property and to live in peace with his neighbors, especially his white neighbors. To that end it is hoped that the citizens of southern state will search for and put into office such public officials as the present governor of Kentucky.

On the other hand, there is no doubt that the Negro laborer from the South between the ages of twenty and forty will be able to compete successfully with the northern laborer if he becomes properly acclimated. But one cannot fail to see that the overcrowded, unhealthful and often evil surroundings in which the little children of these people are already placed are sure to result disastrously for them, and that no large increase of wages or other advantages of city life can compensate. It is not entirely a Negro problem. It is the city laborer's problem. The Slav and Italian and Russian Jew face the same difficulty. The influx of a number of people who happen to be Negroes merely augments it.

This migration from the South will be a blessing in disguise if it will show the people of this community the absolute necessity of getting together not only to improve living conditions among these strangers, but to begin to solve the whole problem of providing proper housing for the great mass of the people whose labor is the chief asset of the city. Meanwhile there is trouble brewing for the municipalities that have invited southern Negroes to become residents of the most crowded parts of the United States, without any other preparation than a pay envelope.

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Canadian Compulsory Act A Failure

By Ralph M. Easley
Chairman Executive Council, the National Civic Federation, New York

When testifying recently before the senate committee on Interstate Commerce which was considering the advisability of the adoption by this country of a replica of the Canadian Compulsory Investigation Act as a means of preventing such an occurrence as the threatened railway workers' strike of last summer, I was asked whether, after fifteen years of dealing with strikes and lockouts, I was prepared to submit a concrete plan, the adoption of which would preclude a recurrence of the danger of a tie up of the railroads of the country through a walkout of employees.

I replied that fifteen years ago I could have given several such programs. One of them would have provided for compulsory arbitration, and another would have been the Canadian Act, had that remedy been known at that time; but in fifteen years' experience I had found that many of the things of which I had formerly been so cock-sure, would not work when tried.

I am opposed to the adoption by Congress of any law patterned upon the Canadian Compulsory Investigation Act, because it will not fulfill the expectations of its advocates. Had the Canadian principle been in force here last summer, I am satisfied that the 400,000 members of the railway brotherhoods would have been on strike in August instead of in conference at the White House. Although the legislation that resulted was only emergency legislation that neither side wanted, its advocates can say at least that the strike did not take place, and that there is less likelihood of its occurring now than at many times before.

When I say that the Canadian Act will not work in this country, I am basing the statement on the fact that it does not work in its own country. Since compulsory investigation has failed to stop strikes in a country with a practically homogeneous population no larger than that of Greater New York and vicinity, it surely could not have the desired effect in a country of 100,000,000 people of forty different nationalities.

The trouble is that we have been accepting at face value the statement made by the promoters and administrators of the act, which is never a safe thing to do. While they point out that of 191 cases all but 20 were settled, they do not point out that 32,000 men, or 22 per cent., struck nevertheless. They do not point out that in the 191 disputes there were dozens of little strikes involving from 4 to 100 employees—sixty-three of these cases, to be exact—which could have been settled by any voluntary mediation board; but under the law the cumbersome and costly machinery of the national government had to be invoked for the four, the six, and then the ten employee class as well as for cases of real consequence. There were 109 cases for 250 employees and less; and the largest number in any one case involved was 8000—and they struck.

Twice as many labor disputes, involving five times as many employees, are settled by voluntary boards in New York City every year as all the disputes that the Canadian Compulsory Investigation Act has disposed of during its entire lifetime.

Here are a few "settlements" by the Canadian Board, which are typical of the twenty reported failures:

Six thousand members of the United Mine Workers' Union struck against the Western Coal Operators' Association in defiance of the law. Afterwards they were persuaded to apply for a board, and an award was handed down that they did not like, so they struck again and tied up the mines for seven months.

In the Grand Trunk Railway dispute, with its 3000 conductors and trainmen, both sides were so displeased with the award that they began negotiations independently of the board. After a month of fruitless endeavor the men struck.

In the city of Toronto, in a dispute between the electric workers and the city-owned electrical works, the award favored the men, but the city refused to comply, and the men struck.

In a dispute between the Western Coal Operators' Association and 2100 miners, after the award was handed down neither side accepted, but began negotiations and worked out an agreement themselves, all of which looks very well in a report, were it not that the men had been on strike all the time, even before applying for a board, which was a violation of the law.

In a dispute between the British Columbia Telephone Company and its 321 electrical workers, the men struck without asking anybody's consent, so far as the record shows.

No attempt is ever made to enforce the penalty provided by the act, when the men strike without waiting for an investigation. The author of the Canadian law himself is official authority for the statement that the compulsory feature has made more law breakers than all the jails in the Dominion of Canada could hold. To jail ten or fifteen thousand men is neither a physical nor a political possibility in Canada, any more than it is a physical or a political possibility for the United States to jail 400,000 of the members of the railway brotherhoods in case we had the Canadian act and they struck in spite of it.—*American Review of Reviews.*

The Tools of Big Building

(Continued From Page 2)

most competent purchasing agents, highly efficient building superintendents, a permanent group of artisans and laborers—these and many other factors, human, mechanical and executive, have been welded into one strong, competent construction engine which guarantees clients the very best building that ingenuity can evolve for a stipulated sum.

Now, fellow workers, you can see from this add. that this company has its men organized for its own welfare, creed, color, or nationality does not concern them; work in harmony for "US" is their "Motto." Look at these men who work on Sky scrapers—they are undoubtedly organized—for the boss—but when it comes to their own interests they are a sorry sight. There are usually many crafts and when one is on strike the other is at work thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars.

Construction workers union No. 573 will have a convention in Omaha April 29 for the purpose of devising ways and means to get all construction workers into one big union, or, in other words, to follow out the plan of organization laid out by the Bankers' Realty Investment Co.

They know that in organization is strength, the members of the A. W. O. know that in organization is strength and if you construction workers get together you will know that in organization is strength. So all together, boost for the big convention at Omaha, on the job, and off the job and above all things, make it a point to be there.

MAT K. FOX

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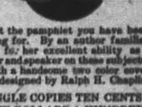
SABOTAGE

By Elizabeth Gurley Flynn



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We, the undersigned, desire to assist towards propagating the ideas of industrial unionism among the German workers, and feel the need of a German paper to that end. Forming ourselves into a committee of three, we solicit the attention of all German workers who feel that a German paper is necessary, and ask those who desire to establish such, to send all money towards assisting the same to Wm. D. Haywood, General Secretary of the I. W. W. at 164 W. Wash. St., Chicago, Ill. Hoping all interested will write to the above address, we remain,

Yours for Industrial Unionism,
Peter Sharp, Geo. Holzel, C. Schramm.

New hall of 85-2 is at 1001 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill. Meetings every Saturday and Sunday.

—Subscribe for Solidarity.

MOORE AND VANDERVEER CALL BLUFF OF EVERETT PROSECUTION

Snohomish County Ready to Prosecute Workingmen But Not the Bosses Who Murder Them.

(Special to Solidarity)
By Charles Ashleigh

A thorough substantiation of the statement by revolutionists that the law exists only for the masters, as a weapon of oppression for slaves, has been given by the Prosecuting officers of Snohomish County.

Our attorneys for the Defense, Moore and Vanderveer, have repeatedly urged upon both the former and present Prosecuting Attorney of Snohomish County that they issue warrants for ex-Sheriff McRae, Captain Harry Ramwell, Mayor Merrill of Everett, and sundry other important persons who have distinguished themselves by a signal display of brutality on various occasions.

Fellow Worker C. H. Rice was one of the party that went to Everett on October 30 in order to hold a street meeting and which was met at the dock by a body of Commercial Club gangsters and taken in automobiles to Beverly Park and there made to run the gauntlet between long lines of these drunken and blood-lusting cowards. Rice was terrible beaten up that night, as his sworn statements show. His arm was broken and he was beaten severely about the head. The then Sheriff McRae shouted to his cohorts to "break his G— d— neck!" and another well dressed gentleman danced about crying "Burn him! Burn him!" They also robbed Rice of a dollar and a half, all the money he had.

Louis Skaroff, another member, was most damnably tortured in the jail in Everett by three men one of whom was Mayor Merrill of Everett, according to Skaroff's affidavit. Skaroff was knocked unconscious. His head was banged against the stone floor and his fingers were placed under the castors of an iron bed upon which his three tormentors were sitting.

These are but a couple of examples of the brutality practiced by the officials and Commercial Club members of Everett upon workingmen. It will be noticed that these acts are all "illegal" and therefor, according to "Law" the perpetrators should be punished.

But they weren't! Nor were the murderers of Looney, Rabinowitz, Baran, Gerlat and Johnson punished or even charged with their crime. In the face of this the political and pulpiteering mouthpieces of the bosses assure us that "we are all equal before the law!"

Our attorneys presented the affidavits of several fellow workers who had been treated with abominable brutality by these thugs to Webb, the former Prosecuting Attorney. Together with the statements they made a formal demand that he immdeiately issue warrants for McRae, Mayor Merrill and others. Webb avoided the issue by continually putting it off and then pleading that it be left to his successor in office, Lloyd Black.

When Black came into office, the demands for the warrants were again presented but they have again, on one excuse or another, been refused.

This may seem hardly believable to some who still are wrapped in the blind and complacent belief that our officials are pure and our law impartial, but it is true. Our attorneys have made every effort to secure warrants against these respectable criminals, but in vain.

Can the workers be blamed for having no respect for the law and its admnisirtation?

Anyway, the buck has been nicely passed to the prosecution; and it is now up to them either to issue warrants—which it is a cinch they won't do, for their personal and class friends—or be openly branded as servile tools in the hands of the masters.

Of course, we of the Industrial Workers of the World, did not need this proof that the law is merely the club of the boss to be used on the head of the rebellious worker. But it may serve to open the blinkered eyes of some "patriots" who are continually swelling with pride over "free American institutions."

One small victory has been won by our side. We have secured a change of venue and the case has been transferred from Snohomish County to King County. This means that the trials will take place in Seattle.

But this victory is by no means an important one. No one should be deluded into the idea that there will be plain sailing for us from now on. The masters are spending money like water. They are using every means, fair or foul, to ensure the railroading of our 74 fellow workers.

Unless every effort is made to save them, they will probably go to the penitentiary for life—or even worse! There is a move on foot now in the Washington legislature to repeal the law abolishing capital punishment. The masters would not be satisfied with putting our boys behind the bars for life; they want more blood. The gallows is the bosses' favorite way of disposing of rebels.

Workers, if you wish to save our fellow workers from the gallows or from the death-in-life of penal servitude you must ACT NOW!

We have only from now until March 5th, when the first trial takes place. Before the trial is the time to strive for our class brothers' release. WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Money is needed, and needed urgently, for the Defense. Funds should be sent to Herbert Mahler, Secy.-Treas., Everett Prisoners' Defense Committee, Box 1878, Seattle, Wash.

CONSTRUCTION NEWS

Compiled by Robert Russell

Contracts for the following construction have been let, and work will begin at an early date. Watch this space for definite dates in future issues.

BUILDINGS

Orlando, Fla. U. S. Post Office. Westchester Const Co. $50,000 Soon.
Columbia City, Ind. City Hall G. B. Goodhall & Son. $50,000. Soon.
Skowhegan, Mich. U. S. Post Office. W. H. Fissell & Co. $57,650. Spring.
Cleveland, O. Factory Bldg. Walther Engineering Co. $110,000. Soon.
Newark, O. Baptist Church. $50,000. Early Spring.
St. Paul, Minn., Tel. Exchg. A. H. Stem. $40,000.
St. Paul, Minn., 3 Apt. Bldgs. Thos. D. McNulty. $60,000. May 1st.
Omaha, Neb., Apt. Hse. Drake Realty Cons. Co. $50,000.
Omaha, Neb., Apt. Bldg. Busk & Wind. $170,000.
Wassau, Wis. Factory. Zeitler & Lamson, Chicago. $75,000.
Irwin, Ia. Hgh School. C. C. Norgaard & Son. $50,000.
Milwaukee, Wis. Warehouse. M. R. & C. Transportation Co. $380,000.
Minneapolis, Minn. Apt. Hse. T. F. Curtis. $400,000. Now working.
Thief River Falls, Minn. Grd School. Rose & Harris. about $50,000.
Minneapolis, Minn. Church. H. N. Leighton. $115,000.
Minneapolis, Minn. Hotel. P. E. Crossier. $200,000.
Superior, Wis. Elevator. Barnett & Record. $500,000.
St. Paul, Minn. Fctry. Add'n, H. L. Collins Co. $55,000.
St. Paul, Minn. Factory. A. H. Kurtz. $50,000.
Omaha, Neb. Creamery. Patridge-Thompson Co. $200,000.
Omaha, Neb. Factory. Standard Furnace & Sply Co. $70,000.
Waterburry, Conn. Hgh School. Norcross Bros. Co. $324,900.
Jacksonville, Fla. School. R. V. Lebarre. $78,338.
Athens, Ga. State Normal Bldgs. H. J. Carr & Co. $71,000.
Rock Island, Ill. Hemann Cons. Co. Amunition Bldgs. 15 Buildings.
Newark, N. J. Warehouse. Essex Cons. Co. $80,000.
Albany, N. Y. Alterations City Hall. Morris Kantworitz $330,000.
Burlington, N. C. U. S. Post Office. McAdams & Mitchell. $57,000.
Springfield, O. Farley &Drake. Several Bridges.
Wenatchee, Wash. U. S. Post Office. Sound Cons & Eng Co. $75,000.
St. Cloud, Minn. Enlarging R. R. Shops. Ambrose & Wahl. $50,000.
Glendive, Mont. N. P. Depot. $80,000.

STREETS AND ROADS

Huntington, Beach, Cal. Ocean Ave Impv't. Leigh G. Garnsey. $60,000.
Lakeland, Fla. Paving. Alabama Paving Co. $176,475. Spring.
Sheldon, Ia. Paving. Dearborn Const. Co. About $50,000.
St. Joseph, Mich. Macadam Road. Walter Bridgebenowski. $80,650.
Hamilton, O. Paving (Dixie Hihgway) A. Wirtz Co. $118,000.
Houston, Tex. Paving. Horton & Horton. $50,000. Soon.
Everette, Wash. County Road. P. J. McHugh. $152,000. Soon.
Cedar Rapids, Ia. Paving. T. F. McCauly. $90,000.
St. Paul, Minn. Paving. Fielding & Shepley. $350,000.
Montevideo, Minn. Paving. Fielding & Shepley. $53,000.
Appleton, Wis. County Roads. W. P. Wolf. $250,000.

SEWERS & DITCHES

Wakefield, Neb. Drainage Ditch. Pollard & Campbell. $75,000.
Foreman, N. D. Drainage. D. K. McPherson. $113,000.
Minneapolis, Minn. Sewers (recommended by City Council) $500,000.
Hampton, Ia. Ditch. J. H. Salisbury. $180,000.
Savannah, Ga., Sewers. Cardlina Cons Co. $45,000.

WATERWORKS & RESEVOIRS

St. Paul, Minn. Resevoir. G. J. Grant Cons Co. $246,000.
Mitchell, Ind. Waterworks. Sturtevant Co. $115,000.
Moran, Kansas. Water & Light Plant. $50,000.
St. Paul, Minn. Resevoir. Winston Bros. Co. $251,000.

RIVER & HARBOR

Port Arkansas, Tex. Repair Work. David M. Picton Co. $52,000. Soon.
Savannah, Ga. Dredging Harbor channel. John Emil $122,000.

RAILROADS & BRIDGES

Ft. Dodge, Ia. Viaduct. City $60,000.
North Tonawanda, N. Y. Ton'wanda Creek Br'dg. New York State Dredge Co. $649,000. Soon.

A. W. O. BULLETIN

February 13.

What shall your answer be?

A verdict of "Guilty" was returned by the jury in the case of Tom Mooney vs. the State of California. "Murder in the First Degree" was the "charge" placed against him. Because of this verdict, returned by a bribed jury Tom Mooney will be sentenced to death. They will hang him by the neck until he has strangled. His life will have been taken because he dared to be an agitator. Being an agitator, forceful and aggressive, he offended and worried the robber class. They decreed that he should die. But, upon the shoulders of those who so decreed, rests the responsibility for the cowardly act. Every rebel in California will make it a point to see that heavy fine is paid by the bosses. In this they will learn of their mistake.

To victimize labor agitators is the modern way of fighting organized labor—to arrest and charge them with murder, not so much because they believe them guilty of any crime or that they care to kill the individual, but because they want to make the struggle of labor so costly, that the workers will stop the fight in despair. This is not an argument against the principle and purpose of organized labor. This is an evidence that we must use different methods in the future. We cannot raise sufficient money to fight the battle in court, nor is it necessary. The workshop is the battlefield for the proletarian. By using proper methods on the job, we will soon convince the master class that, to arrest and convict members of the working class, who are waging the class war, is too expensive a proposition for them. We must say to them, "For every dollar we pay out for expenses of law, you will pay five."

Arthur Boose was pinched at Drumwright, Okla. The delegates are commencing to show marked signs of progress in the oil fields. Harry Trotter and M. A. Hathaway are, with the assistance and co-operation of job delegates and members, laying the foundation for a whole lot of trouble for the oil kings at New Wilson. We won the first round at Drumwright. The mayor now says that he is in favor of the I. W. W. You will soon hear something from the M. T. U. both in the east and in the west according to a late War Bulletin.

A. R. Sinclair is now in charge of the branch at Bemidji. Nels Madison has resigned and gone west. He will help the jacks organize out in Idaho. From way down in summery Tennessee we are receiving encouraging reports backed up by applications and money orders. We will soon have added to the list of branches on our letter heads, Memphis, Tenn. That will look o. k.

The lumber and mine bosses tried to start a riot in the state capitol last night, yet they all believe in law and order.

Construction Workers' Union No. 573 will establish a branch in St. Cloud in the near future. Got a big bunch of new members already and more on the way. Rockford, Ill., will also become a branch of No. 573, so we are informed.

We have no sick or death benefits. Members should remember that to meet in the branch and vote funds for such purposes cannot be permitted. In fact the funds in a branch are the funds of all of the members of the union and a branch secretary should send them to the Central Office, so that he may receive proper credit for same.

Yours for the O. B. U.,
FORREST EDWARDS,
Sec'y A. W. O.
JAMES RILEY,
Chairman O. C.

CHIPS FROM REDWOOD

Eureka, Calif., Feb. 8.

Solidarity:

The idea set forth by P. C. Wetter in the issue of the 3rd inst. Solidarity, is a good one, and should be brought before the workers until it is carried to a conclusion and realized.

Since I was sent to Eureka to build up an A. W. O. branch out of the Lumber Workers' Industrial Union 431, I have done some inquiring and studying of local conditions. A great majority of the slaves are Slavonians, Russian Finns, Scandinavians, and we have about 65 good Italian members.

All the important revolutionary literature and song books should and must be published in the various foreign languages. A Slavonian organizer is badly needed here now, and not in the spring when the lumber industry is at a standstill. Also a man of the Joe Ettor type. Louis Parienti lined up 31 Italian members in a few days at Elk, Calif., recently.

Why doesn't the G. O. send out a national organizer to California and wake up this state. The local unions would be only too glad to advertise the meetings and arranged dates and furnish the hall.

Eureka branch A. W. O. will soon move upstairs into a hall with 10,000 feet floor space, lighted by windows on two sides, a secretary's office, clothes check room, fine light arrangement, and dance floor. Over one hundred solid chairs on hand now; also upright piano.

We would like to invite Forrest Edwards to take a vacation before the spring business meeting, and make a speaking tour of the state in the interest of the A. W. O., lumber and construction industries. How about it, Edwards?

The native slave of the golden west needs an awakening from his false air of happiness and put-on Wilson prosperity. Look! California needs a district organizer for a few months.

Branch of 300, Eureka, will try to arrange an Everett defense meeting soon.

FRANK WOOD,
Delegate 852.

INVESTIGATION OF RISING FOOD PRICES

President Wilson on Feb. 10, says "The Public," directed the Trade Commission and Department of Agriculture to investigate the advancing prices of food. In his letter he said, in part:

"While the population of the nation has increased 26,000,000 since 1900, the production of the two leading cereals, corn and wheat, while tending to increase, has shown only a slight advance, and that of the meat products in the same period has shown an increase of only 3,500,000,000 pounds, a decrease of 29 pounds per capita. . . . It has been alleged before committees of Congress and elsewhere that the course of trade in important food products is not free, but is restricted and controlled by artificial and illegal means. It is of the highest public concern to ascertain the truth or falsity of these allegations. No business can be transacted effectively in an atmosphere of suspicion. If the allegations are well grounded, it is necessary that the nature and extent of the evils and abuses be accurately determined, so that proper remedies, legislative or administrative, may be applied. If they are not true, it is equally essential that the public be informed, so that unrest and dissatisfaction may be allayed."

The Sioux City I. W. W. announces a Smoker and Entertainment for the benefit of the Everett defense, to be held in their hall, Feb. 24th. An evening of enjoyment is assured all who attend. All rebels coming this way will be greeted with a warm hand of welcome.—Smoker Committee.

LITERATURE IN STOCK

In its issue of Feb. 3, Solidarity announced that it would publish a list of pamphlets and other literature still in stock with the I. W. W. Publishing bureau. Below is the list and quantity in stock Feb. 7. Secretaries and agents will please cut this out and keep it for reference. Do not order stuff not listed here, until notice of re-publication is given. This will save a lot of extra work, if agents will pay attention to this notice:

Revolutionary I. W. W. (Perry)—7,850. Price 5c copy; $2.50 per 100.
Sabotage (Flynn)—6,050. Price 10c copy; $5 per 100.
I. W. W. Song Books—2,350. Price 10c copy. $5 per 100. Orders limited to 200 while they last.
Eleven Blind Leaders (Williams)—400. Price 5c copy; in quantities of ten or more, 3c each.
New Unionism (Tridon)—20. Single copies only, at 25 cents.
Advancing Proletariat (Woodruff)—300. Single copies 10c; in quantities of 10 at 5c each.
One Big Union in the Textile Industry (Koettgen)—7,900. Single copies 5c; in order to close these out, textile unions and others in textile centers may obtain them in quantities of 500 or more for 1 cent each.
High Cost of Living (Dougherty)—300. Single copies 2c; ten or more at 1 cent each.
Trial of a New Society (Ebert)—314. Single copies 50c. Six or more 25 cents each.
What Every Girl Should Know (Sanger)—55.
What Every Mother Should Know (Sanger)—20. Single copies, 30c. Both for 50c.
Industrial Relations Reports (Walsh)—350. Single copy 10c. Twenty or more at 5c each.
Sheet Music—"Workers of the World, Awaken" (Joe Hill)—700. Single copies 25c; 5 for $1.00; 10 or more at 15c each.
"The Rebel Girl" (Joe Hill)—400. Same prices.
One Big Union Pennants—145. Each 25 cents.

We can also supply the Revolutionary Pictures and Post Cards as heretofore, the pictures at 15c each, $1.00 per dozen, $7.00 per hundred. The post cards, 2c each; 15c per dozen; 70c per hundred.

Address I. W. W. Publishing Bureau, 112 Hamilton Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

PREPARING FOR WAR

Washington, D. C., Feb. 13.—The United States is rapidly preparing for war—if it comes.

Army men, railway heads, navy officials, heads of the biggest industrial plants in the world, the head of the American Federation of Labor and financial kings have mapped out plans for mobilization not only of men and munitions, but of labor, capital, transportation facilities and all things that would go to make for strength and power behind as well as at "the front."

DEFENSE COMMITTEE MEETS

Preparations for quick mobilization of military and industrial resources took definite shape today at a second meeting of the council of national defense, which was attended by Secretaries Baker, Daniels, Redfield and Wilson.

Brigadier General William Kuhn, military attache in Germany at the outbreak of the war, detailed the system by which Germany mobilized her men and materials.

Committees to round up raw materials attend to transportation facilities, labor and to all other details are being appointed with leading men of the nation at their head.

KENTUCKY NEGRO KNOWS POWER OF ORGANIZATION

Here is a story which vividly illustrates that which is very helpful to any organization.

A planter down in Kentucky had just employed a strange Negro as a mule driver. He handed him the whip, climbed upon the seat behind a pair of mules and asked the darkey if he could use the whip. Without a word the mule driver drew the lash through his fingers, swung it over his head and flicked a butterfly from a clover blossom alongside the road over which they were traveling.

"That isn't so bad," remarked the planter. "Can you hit that honey bee over there?"

Again the negro swung the whip and the honey bee fell dead.

Noting a pair of bumble bees on still another blossom, the Negro switched them out of existence with the cracker of his new blacksnake, and drew further admiration from his new employer.

A little farther along the planter spied a hornet's nest in a bush beside the highway. Two or three hornets were assembled at the entrance to the nest.

"Can you hit them, Sam?" he inquired.

"Yes, sah; I kin," replied the Negro, "but I ain't agoin' to; dey's organized.—The Mediator.

NOTICE TO LOCALS

The Everett Prisoners' Defense Committee has sent to every local of the I. W. W. two of the memorial art panels issued in commemoration of the death of the five fellow workers murdered by the master class in Everett on Nov. 5th. These pictures are beautifully executed in red and black by Morris Pass and should be upon the wall of every local. The price is 25 cents each and locals are asked to remit the amount if possible. It should be easy to sell one of them if only one is required for the hall. Many locals and individuals have sold quite a number of these pictures, the profits on which go to the defense of the 74 boys in jail.

Wilson wants a concert of power, "for order merely." His idea of order is well shown by comparing events on the Mexican border with those in Everett. To safeguard capitalist lives and property he sets all the national machinery at work. At the massacre of workers he never bats an eye. —A. C.

CALL FOR CONFERENCE

To All Dock Workers, Seamen, Marine Firemen, Cooks, Stewards, and all others engaged in Marine Transportation:

Greeting:—

A conference of the workers on the Great Lakes engaged in the above occupations will be called in Cleveland, Ohio, at 226 Champlain Ave., March 25, 1917, at 9:00 A. M.

This conference will be held for the purpose of laying plans for perfecting our organization on the Great Lakes this coming season. Permanent officers will also be elected.

All members of the organization who intend to work on the Lakes this coming season are requested to line up in advance of this date, and then be at the conference. Let's make M. T. W. 200 the real power on the lakes this coming summer.

Wm. D. HAYWOOD,
General Sec'y-Treas.
C. H. EDWARDS,
Sec'y-Treas. M. T. W. 200.

SPANISH LITERATURE

Los Angeles, Calif., Feb. 10.

Solidarity:

Please announce in Solidarity that "El Rebelde" has just printed in Spanish the pamphlet, "Eleven Blind Leaders," thinking that little booklet will clear up the minds of a great many Spanish workers who still believe in salvation through ballots.

If all the locals will help, we may be able to publish other pamphlets soon, so we can spread industrial unionism faster all over the Spanish speakng republics of America.

Address of "El Rebelde" is Room 15, 114 So. Spring St., Los Angeles, Calif.

A. V. AZUARA.

Will Henry and David Brenner please communicate with Robert Russell, 913 5th Ave. So., Minneapolis, Minn.

Members working in and around the vicinity of Norfolk, Va., may pay dues to the branch of the General Recruiting Organization at 125 Talbot St.—M. T. W. Hall. Cards sent by mail will be promptly attended to. Also members are requested to send in job news and keep this office posted regarding what is going on.—Jas. Phillips, Delegate.

Joe Shelby Johnson is urgently requested to write to his mother, Mrs. John E. Traff, 1619 Texas Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Reuben Griffith is asked to write to his mother, who is sick and wishes very much to hear from him at once. Address care of R. J. Griffith, 218 Center, Colorado Spring, Colo.

John Fendell, Rigby P. O., Pa., desires the address of Fellow Worker O'Byrne, formerly of Los Angeles.

Mail at headquarters of 85-2, 1002 W. Madison St., Chicago. Walter L. Staford, Michael McDonald, Wm. Thompson, Wm. Ford, Charles Chisen, Emil Larson, J. W. Elliott, J. Rob. Con Kurman, Mons Ludger Depuis, Richard Connor, James Platt, Maurice Partin, Fred S. Wilcox, Dan Dennis, Fred Saterfield, H. C. Waelon, Bob Martin, B. Rothman, Bernie Warkausty, Nels Nelson, Mrs. J. Manley, David O. Roberts, J. Selhen, Harry E. Smith, W. C. McMahan, John Murray, John Murphy, Frank Jones, Walter Nichols, Frank Farrell, Herman Johnson, A. Anderson.—V. R. Conahan, Sec'y.