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THE NATION IN UNREST

Country-Wide Revolt of Wage Slaves-- A. F. of L. Traveling Far Behind.

The opening of the convention of the American Federation of Labor finds the Nation in the midst of the greatest industrial unrest in its history. Strikes are becoming so numerous as to be of common occurrence. Owing to the extensive and interdependent nature of modern industry strikes are becoming more extensive and sympathetic. No longer are they regarded as exceptional or possible of suppression and limitation. The only question in connection with them is this: Where will it all lead to? What does it all mean?

Philosophers and economists may speculate and theorize on the general strike. They may denounce it as harmful to society; as a weapon that cuts both ways; and most often in the direction of him who wields it. But one fact is evident--too evident to permit denial--and that is that ever larger numbers of men and women have recourse to it in the adjustments of conditions. The pressure of industrial evolution is driving society, whether we like it or not, into the vortex of the general strike. Like a ripple in the water the strike widens over a larger area. More men and women strike, than vote against capitalism. And the issues involved in strikes are more bitterly contested than are the issues involved in elections.

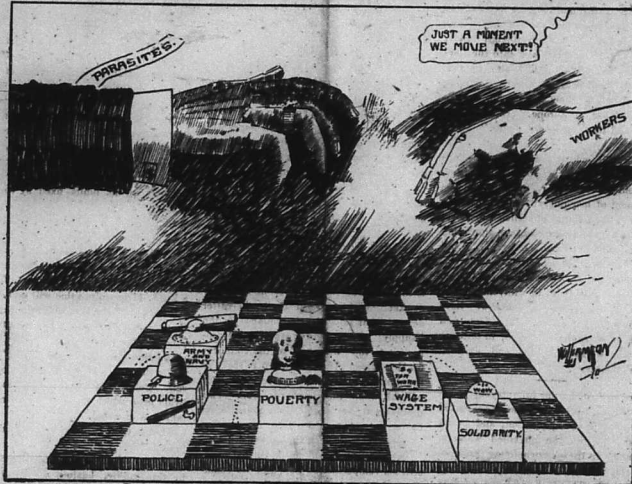
Millits, Pinkertons and strikebreakers are all arrayed against the striker; while the voter goes serenely on his way. To the man who ponders this contrast is not without profound significance. It shows that the striker hits at the foundation of modern society; that he is directly demanding a voice in the determination of its real ownership and control; that he is blindly, half-articulate, aspiring to the industrial democracy of which his union is the embryo.

The American Federation of Labor is not blind to this fact. It permits industrial strikes because it cannot do otherwise; and because it wrecks them on the rocks of craft unionism. But even this course is being played out; that, too, after being only of the briefest duration. The increasing cost of living is turning capitalism upside down; and surely such a force will not be shackled by the thin cords of a tottering system. If so, Mrs. Partridge and her attempt to sweep back the irresistible tides of the ocean are, after all, something more than delicious satire at the expense of the pigmies who vain would cause progress to stand still.

On all sides rises the cry of treachery against the A. F. of L. It was heard at Bethlehem, at Yonkers, now in New York City, again in Chicago. Long exposes appear in the socialist press, that, ten years ago denounced mob exposes as "union wrecking," "disruption," etc. Even that press is forced to the critical opposition of the handmaid of the Civic Federation. Time and the course of events are drawn to it constructive opposition also.

Meanwhile, Labor will continue to revolt. It will continue to strike and in its striking sweep before it the forces that vain would impede it. Labor the world over is thinking, stirring, seeking to rise erect in all the glory that is inherent in this strike; and that even now finds expression in the wondrous of a civilization that is great, despite its suppression and exploitation of the aspirations and needs of the toiling millions. Labor is becoming solidified. The clarion call of solidarity is ringing in its ears and throbbing in its

Playing Into Workers' Hands--A Clean Sweep



brain, awakening to life once more the dreams long trampled under and yet to be fulfilled. These dreams are taking shape. Woe to the misleaders and the trimmers who stand in the way of working class solidarity.

With working class solidarity all things are possible, even the clearing of ground for a new social era.

The A. F. of L. may convene and resolute. But social evolution will decide. The decision, if we mistake not, will be in favor of class progress and against craft reaction.

THE COMMENTATOR

COTTON LABORERS SCARCE

Mill workers are hard to get in the South and, according to H. P. Meikham, manager of a big factory in Georgia, cotton mill owners are not joyous of hearts these days, for they don't see their bank balances growing as they should. He thinks that the day of enormous profits in the production of cotton fabrics has gone. "Not so long ago," he says, "it seemed a plausible theory that the cotton industry of New England would be transferred to Georgia and the Carolinas; but it was only a dream. Our Yankee friends here their troubles, too, but they have in many ways a better situation than the mill men of Dixie. While they pay somewhat more for the haul of the raw material, they have the whole cotton belt to draw upon for their supplies, and after the goods are turned out the expense of delivery f. o. b. in New York is tremendously in favor of Lowell and the other New England factories.

"Only a few years ago we got mill hands in the South for 60c a day; now we have to pay them \$1.50, and the hours of labor have been cut from 72 to 60 a week. The northern help is more efficient and reliable. It's getting to be a hard thing to induce that class of rural dwellers who form the bulk of Southern mill laborers to enter the factories at all. Most of them only stay for short periods, preferring to go back to their little cabins in the mountains and exist in the primitive, semi-civilized fashion of their ancestors. This makes it exceedingly necessary to recruit the working force with fresh recruits from the hills, who in their turn will also desert the looms after the period when the novelty of town life has lost its charm, or the 'call of the wild' gets too strong to be withstood."

The American Federation of Labor is in session at St. Louis.

It is a big organization with little success.

It has a membership of 1,800,000; an immense army that is without power in the industries controlled by the big trusts:

The steel trust has beaten the A. F. of L. to a frazzle. So has the packing trust; the oil trust; the tobacco trust; in brief, all the large corporations.

Now the building trades corporations are preparing to prove the weakness of the A. F. of L. The method is an aggressive one. It is nothing else than an industrial lockout.

The new building trades corporation slogan is: "Arbitrate, or be forced into idleness and the streets." It was formulated in St. Louis, right under the very nose of the A. F. of L., and at the very time that President Gompers was delivering his usual bombast about its invincibility.

The St. Louis plan places each contractor under bond to obey a labor committee of the contractors' association. If union men in one branch refuse to arbitrate every contractor in the city is under bond to stop work on the job and discharge all men pending the settlement of the contractors.

In New York City arbitration is in vogue. It is an arbitration that has labor in chains. The unions chafe under its restraint. They are restless. They threaten an industrial strike. Only a week or two ago it was said in the press that 100,000 of their members would go out to assert their rights. As January 1 draws nearer, and contracts are to be renewed, this kind of news will grow more frequent and decided. With it all, the contractors claim to hold the trump cards, and they count on the spot.

The A. F. of L. will continue to meet. Secretary Frank Morrison will continue to grow enthusiastic over its vast numbers.

President Gompers will continue to pour out his bombastic eloquence over its strength. And the trusts and corporations will continue to prove it weak and impotent. They will also continue to force action along industrial lines, in spite of Gompers and the Civic Federation, which fears an industrially united working class more than the devil is said to fear holy water. Labor's answer to the industrial lockout will be industrial war on industrial lines.

Help to make it a genuine and successful answer by building up the Industrial Workers of the World.

COAL AND IRON WORLD

The Western Steel & Iron Co., with a capital of \$500,000, has been chartered in Kansas to build a plant at Pittsburg, that State.

The Pittsburg Elastic Enamel Works at Sharpville, Pa., have resumed, after an idleness of over a year. It will be run at full capacity, and give employment to about 150 hands.

The Richmond Iron Works Corporation of Richmond, Va., is erecting a new factory to make automobiles.

The manager of the Gramm Motor Truck & Car Co., which is completing a \$200,000 factory at Lima, O., states that the concern is to start in January with a force of 400 men. It is designed to employ 1,000, with a capacity of 5,000 cars per annum, or a gross annual business of \$10,000,000.

At the Mahoning Valley Works of the Republic Iron & Steel Co., at Youngstown, O., all of the departments will be in operation this week. Last week only the puddling mills were in operation.

At the Brown-Branch plant all of the departments are in operation. The 3-bar mill, 10-inch continuous mill and the 10-inch mill.

As the result of the settlement of the

Continued on Page Four.

REVOLT SPREADING

New York Shoeworkers, Joining I. W. W., and Fighting Bosses and Tobin's "Union."

(Special to Solidarity.)

Brooklyn, N. Y., Nov. 20. Shoeworkers' Industrial Union No. 168 of Greater New York is winning its right to existence. It has four strikes on hand; and the prospects are that more will follow.

The Shoeworkers' industrial union is nearing the 1,200 membership mark, and, according to report, local manufacturers have met and decided to crush it. The four strikes referred to are those at Posner's, Gregg's, Griffin & White's, and Wichert & Gardner's.

The strike at Posner's is won; the men are to return to work tomorrow morning, with the discharged I. W. W. members reinstated.

At Gregg's, discrimination against the I. W. W. was also practiced. Gregg contended at first that the men were discharged owing to a lack of orders. When, however, the remainder of the shop crew agreed to work less hours in order to keep the men at work, Gregg showed his true colors. He insisted on his right to discharge the men; and that he was once a union man himself; but of "a different kind of union." He was told that his "right of discharge had its limitations; that though he owned the factory and the machinery, he could not make shoes without shoemakers. They were most essential and demanded to be treated accordingly. Gregg was obdurate, with the result that the entire shop crew struck, tying up the whole establishment. Two pickets were arrested and released on bail.

At Griffin & White's an increase in the price list, of from two to three cents a pair was demanded. The firm asked for time to consider the demands; and named a day when the answer would be given. "On the date assigned," they tried the same performance again; whereupon the men went out, convinced that the delay was intended to put them at a disadvantage.

At Wichert & Gardner's, the general conditions have become unbearable. The men are all compelled to join the Tobin Boot & Shoe Workers' Union. They pay \$13 a year dues to that organization, which is deducted from their envelopes by the firm every week. The firm, in exchange, gets the union label and the advertisement that goes with it. The employees, in their turn, get from 20 to 25 per cent less wages than those paid by the scabbiest shops in the borough of Brooklyn. The lowest priced shops in the borough pay 17 cents a pair for turn and welt work of certain grades; Wichert & Gardner's price is 15c. Other grades bring 18 and 19 cents; Wichert & Gardner's price is 14 cents. In addition, other grievances exist, that the men seek to abolish.

The strike at Wichert & Gardner's is a revolt against low wages, bad conditions, and the Tobin Boot & Shoe Workers' Union. There is an absolute lack of confidence in the latter organization that wins favor for the strike. The fitters' organization are with the turn and welt workers and will come out with them next week. The cause of this lack of confidence in the Tobin union is founded on the conditions which it tolerates, as described above. Any appeal for redress on the part of the workers, is met with the cynical statement on the part of the walking delegates, as business agents, "that the shoe workers don't pay for protection; they pay for the union stamp and the 'good conditions' it produces. These business representatives

(Continued on Page Four.)

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COMPERS AND THE "RACE QUESTION"

Solidarity has received the following note from a reader in Chicago:

"You have undoubtedly read the brutally frank remarks 'Lord' Gompers made regarding our unfortunate fellow citizens of black color. I am an old man, have lived in this so-called republic for 58 years, have seen it as low as a corrupt and unprincipled people could make it go; but I have noted at all times a number of higher and finer souls who have striven to lift it out of the mire. Today I look despairingly for the beacon lights upon whom the nation might look in its hour of distress. I remember many a barb, inhuman, aye, brutal expression regarding those of our fellow beings whom the 'superior' race exploited in a manner that called forth the condemnation of the best men and women in this and other countries. But I remember nothing more brutal, more heartless, more arrogant, more foolish than the proposal of this autocrat, this 'philosopher of right,' this firm believer in the brotherhood of man, whose every word betrays his fine phrases that fill cover up the real objects, purposes and tendencies of this important program. I hope the members of the labor unions are not as unjust, inhuman, impudent, cruel, what you please to call it, as their star leader. If they are, the condemnation of conscientious, just, decent mankind will apply to them also. I beg of you to take note of his utterances and give them the setting they deserve. I have no faith in the socialists doing it, as they ought to. Berger is getting to be a diplomat already."

JACOB EGBERTH.

The above allusion is to an alleged statement by Gompers at a reception on November 18 in St. Louis, given by the local A. F. of L. to the delegates to the national convention of that body. In a speech on the occasion Gompers is reported to have touched upon the race question, in which he is declared to have said that "the negro is not far enough removed from slavery to understand human rights," and may, therefore, be legitimate subjects for discrimination by the trades union movement.

Gompers denies the statement thus imputed to him, and declares that he made a special appeal for the organization of negroes into the trades unions, and only incidentally remarked in his speech that "in our efforts to win negroes for the unions, the fact should not be lost sight of that American negroes are only half a century removed from slavery and consequently are deprived of advantages that white men have enjoyed for centuries."

This denial will not save Gompers or the A. F. of L. from the charge of race discrimination. On the contrary, the very

form of the denial but shows a desire to justify such discrimination on the part of the craft union movement. The whole history of the American Federation of Labor adds emphasis to the point, not only as regards the negro, but also with reference to every foreign white worker as well. Race and nationality discrimination is a patent fact all along the line. The A. F. of L. is an "American" organization in the narrow "Yankee" sense of that term. And it is so because the A. F. of L. is primarily based upon the "aristocracy of skill." The skilled workers, being originally native white Americans, found thereby a lasting and perfectly justifiable (to them) reason for their "patriotism" and their aversion to foreigners and native blacks who were just emerging from chattel slavery.

As a consequence of this situation and environment, each nationality of foreign workmen in turn had to fight for its place in the craft union ranks in America. And these "favored" (one from foreign lands) who finally fought their way into the "organized aristocracy of skill" also became "patriots" and in many cases have outdone the natives in their opposition to the "pauper labor of Europe," the "yellow peril" and the "backward negro."

Meanwhile industrial and social development has gone far beyond this narrow viewpoint of the trades union. The development of machinery, the expansion of industry, the removal of skilled processes, have enabled and compelled the employing class to scour the earth in search of all nations of unskilled labor. Every nationality and color of wage slave have mingled on the industrial field, in mill, mine, factory, store, and farm in America. Race prejudice has been fanned into flame and kept alive by capitalist agents, in order to keep the workers divided and at each others' throats.

The A. F. of L., far from trying to remove this race prejudice, has accentuated it, by its form of organization, and by its attitude towards the unskilled workers, who make up the overwhelming mass of wage slaves and who remain almost totally unorganized. The A. F. of L. only makes a bluff at organizing the unskilled when some other organization seriously undertakes that work, and thereby invades the field of the American labor movement. But it is ONLY A BLUFF on the part of the A. F. of L., because the organization of the unskilled should destroy the craft union and the official machinery that now holds it together. The negro for the most part still belongs in the category of "unskilled," and therefore, apart from his color, is an object of discrimination by the craft union.

This state of affairs cannot be wiped out by appeals to sentiment, however justifiable they may be. It can only be removed by education and organization along the lines of revolutionary industrial unionism as proposed by the I. W. W. The latter calls upon all wage workers, regardless of color, nationality, religion, politics, or any other consideration except that they are WAGE WORKERS—skilled and unskilled—to unite in one CLASS union on the industrial field. This appeal is not based on "sentiment" or "philanthropy," but on economic (bread and butter) interests. Leaving the negro or the Jap or the "Hunky" out of your union, makes him a potential if not an actual scab, dangerous to the organized workers, to say nothing of his own interests as a worker. In spite of any supposedly inborn prejudice any of us may have for any race or nationality, we cannot escape from this point of view. Present industrial and social conditions in America force it upon us irresistibly. Hidebound craft union "aristocrats" and their blind leaders like Gompers may not see it; so much the worse for them. "Diplomatic" socialists like Berger may not see it; so much the worse for them. The WORKING CLASS—thanks to industrial and social development and I. W. W. propaganda—will ere long see the necessity of uniting AS A CLASS and sweeping all the reactionary rubbish of craft unionism into the Sea of Oblivion.

So we say to our correspondent: Be of good cheer. The strong arm of the working class will save the republic, and build a new and better society—Industrial Democracy—in its place.

NEW EDITOR ON INDUSTRIAL WORKER. Last week's number of the Spokane "Industrial Worker" announces a change of editorial management. "Big" Fred Hesledwood takes the place of Hartwell S. Shipley as editor.

"WAGES" AND "PRICES"

A correspondent inquires again, if "a rise in wages would really benefit the workers; and whether the rise in prices of life's necessities wouldn't immediately offset any increase in the pay envelope?"

Let us suppose the employer of this man to come to him some morning and say: "Well, Jim, the prices of meat, clothing, coal and other things are rising. The only way I can see to possibly help you out of this difficulty is to reduce your wages. You know that every time I give you an increase, your grocer and coal dealer show up the cost of living a notch. By the same logic, if I lower your pay, prices ought to go down at once in proportion. Of course you may take your choice of either a raise or a reduction; it makes no difference to me."

And suppose the slave agrees to take a 10 per cent reduction in food, clothing, and other prices be likely to fall to the same level or a lower level, at once? We are assuming, of course, that "Jim" is very numerous, embracing a large body of workers.

"But," you answer, "this thing works one way immediately; and the other way, only in the long run. A fall in wages will bring prices down eventually; but a rise in wages will shoot up prices instantly without any compensating features."

"That," you say, "is because competition prevails in the labor market; while monopoly is supreme in the market for commodities."

Granting for the moment the contention as to monopoly, let us get at the LAW behind "wages" and "prices." Wages is the price of labor power in the labor market. Within certain limits, hereafter defined, that price is determined by the "supply" of labor power available, in proportion to the "demand" of the employer for the same. If the supply is short of the demand wages will go up; and they will fall when the reverse is true. This process will be practically automatic, on the assumption that we have unrestricted competition for jobs in the labor market.

But suppose we do not have that unrestricted competition? Suppose, for example, that a body of skilled workers (bricklayers) have formed a union and obtained thereby a "monopoly" of that supply of labor power, so that the boss has no choice but to pay the price demanded by the "job trust." Then the price of labor power CAN be raised through a "workers' monopoly." To be sure it can. But how far?

Does any one contend that the bricklayers receive the full product of their toil? No, they produce far more than they get. They produce (1) the value of their wages; they reproduce (2) the value of the "raw materials" which they use in constructing buildings; they reproduce (3) the value consumed by the wear and tear of the bosses' tools and machinery; they reproduce (4) the value of the "interest on money" borrowed by their employer, as well as that of taxes, etc. All of these "reproduced values" are figured out of the new value created by the bricklayers' toil. They all must be deducted from his product. His wages, then, cannot be raised to the point of touching any of these "reproduced values" at any time. Otherwise the industry would decline or stop altogether.

But wait a minute! This is not all the bricklayer has produced. Over and above his present wages and the aforementioned "reproduced values," he has produced a SURPLUS VALUE, which the boss has also appropriated, and by which the latter can enjoy the luxuries of palaces, automobiles, well dressed for his wife and idle daughters, vacations in Europe, and other good things of life, even though he toils not, neither does he spin.

This "surplus value" constitutes the spoils of war in the class struggle between the employing class and the working class. "Surplus value" is the bottom of all contentions over wages, hours of labor, and shop conditions.

Our employer wants low wages, a long or intense work day, an "open shop" or unrestricted labor market—because he wants big surplus value. The reverse of those conditions means "higher wages" for the working class.

It is possible, therefore, through organization to raise wages to the point of absorbing all the surplus value now spent in the hands of the boss.

Let that point, however, be reached, as we shall soon see, and the workers will then receive the "full product of their toil" in the true meaning of that term. On the other hand, without industrial organization; and in an unrestricted

labor market, it is possible to lower wages to the point of a bare subsistence only for the working class. These are the up and down limits fixed by the "law of wages."

Who, then, will deny that the workers will be benefited by a rise in wages? Who will deny that the heart of the class struggle lies at the point where the conflict over the division of labor's product takes place? That is, in the workshop? Who will contend that anywhere else lies the road to power and organization by which the working class will ameliorate its condition and finally overthrow the parasite master class and inaugurate the industrial democracy of future society?

No one will make those contentions, except muddledheaded "reformers," politicians and bogus "economists" with reactionary middle class ideas and aspirations. Away with all such false teachers!

The road of PERPETUAL struggle for increased wages is the road to freedom for the working class.

Now let us return to the question of "monopoly prices" in the market for commodities. Here again, prices of food, clothing, luxuries and necessities of life, follow the same law as in the case of the commodity "labor power." In an unrestricted commodity market with free and unlimited competition for trade, "demand" and "supply" will operate within certain limits to raise and to lower prices. But only within limits fixed by the "law of value."

If, for example, it costs a contractor, in wages and reproduced values, more to produce a building than he gets for the same when completed, he will soon be out of business, provided he continues to figure at a loss. His surplus value will save him a time, but if the contractor figures below that, he is a dead one. The limits "law prices" is therefore fixed by the "cost of production plus the surplus value"—that is, by the total value of the commodity itself. Below that point is the Sea of Oblivion into which many an aspiring capitalist has tumbled.

That is what happens under "free competition." On the other hand, with "monopoly" in the saddle, having a "corner" on wheat, steel, beef or other commodities, the monopolist may raise prices, just as the organized workers may raise wages. But here again there is a limit.

First of all, let us say that a "perfect monopoly" of all commodities under one control does not exist and never has existed. The beef trust, for example, has to have machinery for its packing plants; it must have "raw materials" in the form of cattle, hogs, sheep, etc.; it needs wood and tin for sheds, boxes, etc.; it must use the railroads to transport its products. Most of these are only to be obtained from sources outside of the trust's control. It has no monopoly of these necessities for manufacture and exchange. In the place of free competition, we have "competition among monopolists." Each "monopolist" buys from every other one, and each tries to make the best possible bargain.

All "monopolists" are sellers of commodities for "profit." They cannot, therefore, raise the prices of their goods to such a point that the "consumer" will not or cannot buy. The steel trust, for example, cannot raise the price of steel rails to such a figure that the railroad companies will refuse to build new roads or repair old ones. Neither can the beef trust raise prices of meat so that the workers are unable to buy meat. If either the steel trust, the meat trust or any other monopolist attempts to do that, they will fail to realize the very profits without which they cannot exist. The value and surplus value created by their slaves will be useless in their hands.

The average limit to "high prices" is fixed by wages, by the "law of value." Prices of commodities on an average cannot rise above the "surplus value added to the cost of production." They may, under the influence of partial monopoly, rise above that point at times; but on an average they will coincide with the "value of the commodity."

For that reason a rise in wages means a reduction of the surplus value of the employers, which in turn reflects itself in a loss of "profits" in the sale of goods.

Such a rise in wages will benefit the workers immediately; and the continual struggle for higher wages, and all that goes with it, is the only road to emancipation.

Get busy on the campaign for subs Solidarity. It means education and organization which in turn lead to emancipation. Join the I. W. W.

THANKSGIVING TURKEYS

For the Slaves.

BY OBSERVER.

The 5 per cent mortgage bonds that Andrew Carnegie holds against the steel trust brings him \$31,000,000 per year, besides some other nice little pickings and perquisites. Recently he has given an additional \$1,500,000 to the Carnegie Technical Schools. These schools are located in one of the public parks of Pittsburgh. Their principal business is to educate skilled slaves for use of the U. S. Steel Trust. O. Carnegie is a smooth old labor sweater, all right! Knows how to bestow his "benefactions" where they will pay the best.

The orders now on the books of the U. S. Steel Co. are the lightest since the formation of the company. Many of the employees get in scarcely one-third of their time, but Andrew Carnegie gets his bit just the same.

Up in British Columbia, a correspondent of the London Times writes of the scare that the Japanese immigrants are throwing into native workers. This writer states that the "whole white population of British Columbia is favorable to the rigid limitation or the absolute expulsion of these Oriental immigrants." Indeed! But I noticed the Canadians raised no objection to the English workers going over to Sweden to scab during the last great strike there. Funny; but it makes all the difference whose ox is gored.

Capitalist conditions makes immigration just as certain as that steamships travel, and then the "people" roar over the results.

Just the same, the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Co. has asked the Provincial and Federal governments for permission to bring in 10,000 or 20,000 Asians to build the mountain section of their road. The company sets up the pretext that it can not get white workers. Funny! They could get white workers to scab in Sweden, but they can not get white workers to work in a British province. Same old capitalist lie that need receive nobody.

During the year ending June 30, 1910 the railroad accidents of the United States killed 3,800 persons; the injured were 82,174; total, 86,178. The increase over the preceding year was 1,013 killed and 18,454 injured. Increase over previous 12 months of about 18 per cent.

It goes without saying, that a great majority of these "victims of industry" were workers. And though we have heard a great deal of bombastic claims about safety appliances, etc., yet these facts from the report of the Interstate Commerce Commission do not look very cheerful. And just because the great majority of these victims are workers the slaughter goes on largely unheeded with.

During the war of 1861-65 the killed and wounded on both sides were about 410,000. The war lasted four years and three months—51 months. Here, then, is the horrible showing, that this single industry is rapidly approaching civil war as a means of slaughter.

War Victims. R. R. Victims. Per month - 8,039 Per month 7,181 Per year - 96,468 Per year 86,175 51 months 310,000 51 months 366,241

Within small fractions, these figures are approximately correct. Should the present fiscal show a gain of accidents at that ratio, then the railroads will soon equal, and then exceed the war record.

Taking the entire combined industries of the United States, all the deaths and injuries of one year are but a little short of the killed and injured of the entire war. Were a majority of these killed and injured of the capitalist class it would be stopped in 48 hours, or there would again be civil war. The logic is plain. What fools the workers are to stand for these murders, when ONE BIG UNION, based on industrial lines, would pay a very "railroad" in the United States unless hellhells was stopped, or reduced to a minimum.

Notice to I. W. W. Locals. At a joint meeting of locals No. 95 and No. 179 of New York City, held Nov. 11, it was brought to our knowledge that certain individuals known as "The Industrial Literature Bureau of New York" is erroneously supposed to be part of I. W. W. of this State. It was therefore stated that organization and the members thereof are not to be considered as membership that its literature is not to be for the benefit of the I. W. W. Per order Local's No. 95 and 179, N. Y. City. JANE A. ROULSTON, Sec'y.

TRAUTMANN'S REPORT

As General Organizer, in Fifth Convention of the I. W. W.

(Continued From Last Week)

The Tin Workers' Strike.

Hundreds of thousands of people—some to gain courage in their hard fight for correct principles, others to find new food for hostility against the organization—have watched and are watching the attitude of the Industrial Workers of the World in all industrial conflicts with the employers. Their anxiety was strained to the highest point when it became known that the I. W. W. was partially involved in the struggle of the workers against the American Sheet and Tin Plate Company, a subsidiary of the steel trust.

Although the strike was called by two national bodies affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, that is, the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, and the Tin Plate Workers' Protective Association of America, it became imperative for the I. W. W. in the course of developments during that strike, to become a participant in the conflict.

Anteceding this conflict were others, and their cause and end must be known before an intelligent body of men can judge what the future has in store. The Homestead strike of 1892 was silently repudiated by the A. F. of L. officials, because a widespread knowledge of the lessons of that conflict might have marred the friendly relations that the steel interests had to retain with the leaders of labor, and the political scavengers of the labor federation. However, this secret disclaimer of responsibility for the acts of the Homestead unskilled workers, who bore the brunt of the battle of Homestead, on the plea to the steel mill owners that the unskilled were not even eligible to membership in the organizations of labor aristocracy, disclosed to Pierpont Morgan and others the weakness of the organization embracing the skilled steel and tin workers.

In 1902, ten years after Homestead, Pierpont Morgan, over the heads of the heads of the A. A., disregarding that organization altogether, arranged with Samuel Gompers the plans by virtue of which the rights of the A. F. of L. to organize the workers in the employ of the steel trust were limited and curtailed. The number of mills in which the skilled mechanics, that is, the small proportion of workers in any plant eligible to membership in the Amalgamated, were allowed to retain their membership in the union, were reduced, and determined and specified by agreement. In other mills, according to that agreement, published in all the press of that period, no effort was to be made to organize the employees, or to keep an organization of workers who might have decided, in spite of that pact, to organize a union by their own volition.

This arrangement paved the way for the first successful onslaught of the trust to eliminate from its employ even that small portion of organized workers who, by the grace of the corporations, were allowed to work as union members in the mills from 1902 to 1906.

The refusal on the part of the steel corporation to continue the recognition of the union in the mills, allowed to run as so-called "closed shops" was the cause of the strike by members of the Amalgamated Association first, and two weeks later, of the members of the Protective Association.

This strike may have the effect, as anticipated, of breaking the co-operation of the thousands of workers employed in the other possessions of the steel trust, the strike in the tinplate mills appeared to be a failure from the start.

The A. A. of I. S. & T. W., though, is a part of the "Metal and Machinery Department" of the A. F. of L., in fact, that organization was mainly instrumental in having that department formed. It would reasonably be expected that the members of other national unions in the employ of the steel trust, many of them working in the hot mills, affected by the strike, would also be called out on strike in support of a principle that, on the declarations of all officials of the trade union movement, was at stake. But the "Metal and Machinery Department" of the A. F. of L. is not likely to make the mistake of being called out to work and strike with the local union.

It is for this reason that the superior qualities never in the solidarity. The new such as the I. W. W. pickers are

succeeded in calling out a good part of the other workers in the Greer and Shenango mills of New Castle, thereby delivering the most effective blow ever administered to the U. S. Steel Corporation.

This strike made it imperative for the organizers of the I. W. W. to co-operate in the conduct of the strike in the tin plate industry. Throughout the jurisdiction of the strike-affected districts appeals and calls for I. W. W. speakers and organizers poured in instantly, and it was not possible either in the means or the material for organizers available, to supply enough speakers who were posted sufficiently on the conditions of the steel and tinplate industry.

However, everything in our power was done to show and to impress upon thousands the defections and weaknesses of craft unionism, and the superior methods of industrial unionism as advocated by the I. W. W. There can be no disputing the prediction that whenever the slaves in the steel and iron mills of this country once more emerge from the state of despair and distrust that an inevitable defeat will throw them into, they will rally to an organization that embodies in its make-up all the features that during this strike were so forcibly portrayed before their eyes.

But it was not the lack of this kind of support that the striking workers had reasons to complain of. With the customary noise, blare and bluster the organizers of the A. F. of L. assured the strikers throughout the whole territory that millions of dollars were being collected for their support. Aware of the fact that this was not true, the steel trust had their agents out circulating the story that from these millions collected, and which the strikers believed had been received, benefits were paid only to the American, Welsh and Irish workers, while others, mostly unorganized or members of the Protective Association, mostly Sieben-burger and Austrian Germans, were to be completely left to their own resources. Thereby the corporation thought that a division of the workers would result and a quicker defeat of the strikers be inevitable.

Unable to offset the results of such tactics by the trust, members and even officers of the A. F. of L. unions asked and implored that foreign language speaking organizers of the I. W. W. be supplied, so as to assure these thousands forced into idleness by the strike of the skilled men, that neither of the strikers was receiving any strike benefits. And it was by special request of these parties that the workers in these districts, often amid turbulent scenes, had to be acquainted with the fact that the false statements made by general organizers of the A. F. of L., such as Thomas H. Flynn and Jefferson Davis Pierce about the collection of millions of dollars for strike support from A. F. of L. unions were false and fraudulent, and would tend in the long run to destroy for many years to come the confidence of the workers in the integrity of any labor organization.

During this propaganda, and as an intellectual awakening resulting from lectures and work among the strikers and before the various unions involved in the strike, a growing feeling for concentration developed. Finally, two unions of tinplate workers in South Sharon, Pa., after the tenets of industrial unionism had been made clear to them in joint meetings, decided, for the purpose of outlining more effective fighting methods against the trust, to prepare a manifesto, calling for a convention of all workers in the industry, irrespective of affiliation. This manifesto (a draft of which is herewith submitted to the convention) was ordered issued and published for circulation.

Devoid of sufficient resources to get the manifesto before the workers on strike, or those who might have been organized on such plans as outlined, in mills not yet affected by the strike, in the five principal languages, it was impossible to frustrate the obscure designs of all the powers opposed to industrial unionism. Thus, we had to observe how, one month after the issuance of the Sharon manifesto, the officers of the Amalgamated Association, by plagiarizing the essential points of the Sharon I. W. W. manifesto, made a frantic appeal to the workers to organize on industrial lines of the A. F. of L. type. For the purpose of misleading 200,000 workers employed by the steel corporation, it was intimated that the A. F. of L. would allow the formation of rather extensive organizations on industrial lines.

Industrial unionism, that is to say, that all these workers were supposed to be organized into one union embracing all.

These appeals were sent out by the thousands in four languages, and were accompanied by copies of communications exchanged between President McEarle of the A. A. and President Charles H. Moyer of the Western Federation of Miners, in which the latter furnished material to the fakes which tended to impeach the integrity of the I. W. W. and its officers and advocates. This had the desired effect. Further propaganda among the striking tin mill workers was completely stopped. The underhanded work of the agents of the steel trust, supported by the nefarious work and opposition of the powerful allies in the A. F. of L., destroyed abruptly everything accomplished. The mills began to be filled with strikers returning to work in small, and later in larger numbers. The trust corporation was able to start up and run the mills. All the ardent supporters of the I. W. W. in Martin's Ferry, Ohio; Sharon and New Castle, Pa., were compelled to look for new abodes, blacklisted and hunted down so that it will be impossible for any of them to again get a position in any of the mills of the steel corporation.

All this while the strikers were making a gallant, an admirable fight. But their conditions were appalling to the extreme. Although the Industrial Workers of the World discourages long drawn out conflicts, yet in this case it was necessary to demonstrate that if the conflict against the employers differences of tactics must not stand in the way of supporting any struggle that may tend to infringe upon the absolute domain of the employing class. In order to bring needed relief and atenate the old unions to come to the support of its own members it was necessary to establish a commissary department in New Castle for the support of the strikers. Out of funds collected by the I. W. W. this relief was established and maintained. Support was given to men and their families, and the relief station was kept open for nearly six months.

All these facts must and should be known to all supporters of the I. W. W., and also the enemies of the organization, so that the policy of the I. W. W. towards the workers in their struggles against the oppressors may be clearly defined, and slanders and false accusations be refuted with the real facts in every case.

(To Be Concluded.)

THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY

An Anti-Climax.

BY OBSERVER.

Hardly will any other factor in life degrade and brutalize men, women and children as does an overplus of hard unrequited toil. Oh, yes! We have heard a great deal about the "nobility of work"; generally from those who do none of it themselves. But it all depends.

Thosold Rogers, in his work, "Six Hundred Years of Work and Wages in England," shows that when the work-day lasted 16 hours, the working population of England were sunken in an insupportable degradation. Drunkenness, vice, filth and disease were the sum of their existence, and these conditions reached their climax in the great plague that almost depopulated London.

No sooner was the working time reduced to 14 hours than it was immediately followed by a great moral, and material improvement in the condition of the workers. And the same results followed as the work-day was reduced to 12 and 10 hours. Now, largely as a matter of fiction, we are supposed to have inaugurated the 8-hour work-day.

I am aware that the craft unionist will claim that the trades unions have brought about the 8-hour day. But, after we grant something to the craft unionist in the matter, the fact still remains that the 8-hour day has been made possible by the arrival of power driven machinery. In fact, modern industrial processes have so enormously multiplied the productive capacity of the workers that even the 8-hour day is an anti-climax, and entirely unnecessary. This was clearly shown in an article in Solidarity published in April last.

There is a popular idea in the minds of the workers that their best interests are served by performing prodigious quantities of work. While the very reverse of this proposition is the truth. It is a historic fact, and a proverbial truth in political economy, that the less work men do the more they get for doing it. Usually the men who do the greatest and most laborious amount of work invariably receive the lowest wages.

All (have jobs) work too much; while some millions can get no work whatever, and some other millions get work but half or quarter time.

At this point the Marxian law of values

I. W. W. PREAMBLE

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 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 trades 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 wages 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.

Knowing, therefore, that such an organization is absolutely necessary for our emancipation we unite under the following constitution.

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and surplus values steps in, and a clear understanding of surplus values shows that at present the workers receive or realize but barely 13 per cent of the sum total of values that they create. In other words, in 13 per cent of his working time the worker creates values equal to his means of life. The other 87 per cent is lost to the worker and goes to the boss. Thus, whether it be an eight, ten or twelve hour day; on the average the worker gets pay for 13 per cent of his time, the 87 per cent of his time he works and is not paid for it.

And again, in the so-called closed shops the practice of overtime is almost universal. This is but a species of method of scabbing on the man who has no job. Extra pay for overtime-at least a half or double time only tends to cheapen the price of regular time, and extra pay also shows that the bosses can pay for labor, and what they ought to be compelled to pay for regular time on their own showing.

As a matter of fact, as shown by statistics, an average of one hour and fifteen minutes per day would supply every reasonable need of the human race. In modern industrialism we have reached a degree of productiveness where even the eight-hour day is not a sign of

true intelligent progress, but is a positive reaction. As far as the 10 and 12 hour day are concerned they are relics of barbarism.

Now a future for I. W. W. workers. Unmistakably the future belongs to the industrial union. Class conscious, militant, aggressive and intelligent. To strike and win or lose, and strike again, is very important. But this is not all the work out for us. It is for us to speak the spirit of revolt. The more intelligent facts that are behind that revolt the more powerful it will be.

Teach the workers to work less and less. And if the workers would entirely cease to work, in 48 hours all society would be on bended knees before us praying as to gods. The bosses want us to work, work hard and all the time. No better proof is needed that we ought to cease work.

But, says some timid soul: "If we do not work we will starve!" Funny isn't it? Yet the facts are that nobody starves, but the workers or those willing to work. And the fellow who does no work has so much he knows not what to do with it. No wonder he wants us to work. Teach the workers that, besides doing a little music, sculpture, literature, science and a thousand other things to make life worth the living.

No; eight hours are too much. A man ought to have time enough to get acquainted with his wife and children.

INDUSTRIAL LOCKOUT

Threatened by St. Louis Building Contractors—How it Will Work.

The New York Times of Nov. 18 publishes the following dispatch from St. Louis, where the A. F. of L. is in session:

EMPLOYERS TO STRIKE FIRST

St. Louis Building Trades Plans Take Away Labor's Weapon.

St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 17.—No more strikes can take place in the various branches of the building industries in this city if the plans formulated today by an organization of the largest general contractors in the city are carried out. The general scheme is to settle all controversies by forcing the unions to arbitrate instead of allowing them to go on strike. This is to be done by putting each contractor under bond to obey a labor committee of the organization, to whom all controversies are to be referred. If union men in one branch refuse to arbitrate every contractor in the city is under bond to stop work on the job and discharge all men pending the settlement of the controversy.

The plan carries with it the sanction of the bonding companies, who agree to refuse to give bond to any contractor who forfeits an association's bond. The new organization is to be called "The Master Builders' Association." It is an offspring of the Building Industries Association, but at present only contemplates taking in members of the building trades. They approved the preliminary work and immediately signed the charter member roster. The bond proposed by the agreement will be \$5,000. All the labor troubles are to be referred to a board of governors composed of 15 men. When trouble arises the work on a particular job is to be declared closed. It remains closed until the questions at issue are finally settled.

WORLD OF LABOR

(Continued From Page One.)

bi-monthly iron scale between the Amalgamated Association and Western Bar Iron Association, puddlers will get 25c a ton less for the next six months, the price being \$5.87 1/2 a ton. The Sons of Vulcan will be governed by the same scale. Several thousand puddlers are affected by the reduction. The slump that has been experienced in the steel market for five months past is said to be responsible for the reduction in wages of puddlers and bar mill workers.

Orders have been received to rush repairs on No. 2 blast furnace of Carnegie Steel Co. at South Sharon, and another shift of men was put to work relining the stack. The furnace will be ready for the blast in four weeks. No. 1 furnace, which was damaged by an explosion, will not be repaired soon. The company is now operating about 50 per cent of its works.

Soon the 27 hot mills of the American Sheet & Plate will run full. Ten mills were stopped a week ago and then closed down for repairs. Some good orders have been booked.

Opposition is said to have developed among the miners of the Pittsburgh and Irwin districts against the re-election of Francis Feehan as president of Local District No. 5 of the United Mine Workers of America. Allegations of unfriendliness are heard, among them being the charge that he is a brother-in-law of John H. Jones, president of the Pittsburgh & Buffalo Coal Co., which condition, many say, is one to excite distrust in itself. Affidavits and signed statements, to show that Feehan has been too largely influenced by Mr. Jones, who is a big operator in that field, is likely to come out on Dec. 15, when he goes up for re-election.

Practically all shipments of Pittsburgh coal for the northwest ceased on Nov. 17, and what coal remains to be moved from the lower lake ports to Duluth and Superior will be shipped out on the last of the big ore vessels that go up from Cleveland and Ashtabula. Some of the coal companies are cleaning up delayed tonnage on rail and mill contracts, and it is thought that some of the winter trade with the consuming soon.

In addition to the Pittsburgh Coal Co., Carnegie Coal Co., and the Pittsburgh Fuel Co. have broken records in shipments this year. Officials of these companies say shipments to the northwest this year will show a gain of 3,000,000 over 1920.

and will pass the highest record ever made in the lake coal movement.

ON THE RAILROADS

Several hundred railroad engineers, with headquarters in Dennison, Tex., are taking a vote as to whether a strike shall be called on 61 western railroads to enforce their demand for a 7 per cent raise and a readjustment of working hours.

The general grievance committee of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy engineers has unanimously sustained its grand officers in suspending negotiations with the general managers of the western roads and a strike vote is now being taken on the system. The result will be announced Dec. 12. Indications are that a majority of the men will favor a strike.

The result of a strike vote taken by boilermakers in the Cleveland shops of the New York Central Lines showed 95 per cent of the men deciding in favor of going out. Officers of the Boilermakers' Union will meet officials of the railroads in New York. A strike vote is also being taken in the shops on every branch of the system. The immediate cause of the trouble is the employment of six non-union men.

A BOSSES' UNION

Tobin's Boot and Shoe Workers' Union Shows How Its Chief "Organizes" the Slaves.

For many years the name of John Tobin, president of the "Boot and Shoe Workers' Union," has been a synonym for the rankest kind of fakirism in the craft union movement of America. Below we give our readers proof of that contention, above the signature of Tobin himself. Note how this "labor skate" offers to make "satisfactory" terms with the shoe manufacturers by "organizing" shoe workers without the latter's consent, and with perfect safety to the bosses. All Tobin wants of the employers is for them to collect the union dues and hand same over to him for his meat ticket. Otherwise, what possible excuse could there be for the existence of such a scab organization?

CIRCULAR LETTER

Issued by the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union To the Shoe Manufacturers.

To Shoe Manufacturers: The long continued and rapid development of the demand for Union Stamp Shoes having convinced the shoe trade generally that the Union-Stamp proposition is something more, than a passing fad, we venture to address this circular to you, suggesting that you immediately investigate the conditions under which the Union Stamp may be issued and then place yourself in line to take advantage of the best selling factor in the shoe trade.

In view of the fact that you can use the Stamp without in any way surrendering control of your business or placing yourself to the least disadvantage, EITHER AS TO WAGES OR OTHERWISE, there appears to be no good reason why you should not secure the use of the Union Stamp immediately, which you can do by addressing a letter to the undersigned, who will be pleased to furnish you with all necessary information.

We have made the splendid record of having gone through the last four years without the violation of a single contract, and without a strike in any department in any factory throughout the entire country where the Union Stamp is used and we are pursuing the policy that our future depends upon strict compliance with the letter and spirit of our contracts.

Our unbroken record of unbroken contracts is one that we are proud of, and it offers you the best guarantee possible, that it is perfectly safe to do business with the Union Stamp. There is no danger of any matter what may have been your disappointments in doing business with any past organizations in the shoe trade.

We stand ready to take your factory at its existing scale of wages, and issue our Union Stamp under an arbitration contract which absolutely protects you against be-

ing required to pay above the market rate of wages. We can organize any factory in any locality and without changing the personnel of the employes, or without loss of time.

Our rapidly increasing membership and revenue increases the advertising campaign for Stamped Shoes, which insures stability, and most significant of all, the shoe jobbers are now giving preference to Union Stamped Shoes, because they sell best, and are offered at the market price.

Kindly let us hear from you, with a view of getting your factory in operation, so that you can use the Union Stamp before the next run.

Respectfully yours,

JOHN F. TOBIN, General President.

The emphasis is Mr. Tobin's, B. & S. W. U.

P. S.—John F. Tobin, General President of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, acknowledged the authorship of this letter at the American Federation of Labor convention at Toronto, 1920.

SCANDINAVIANS ORGANIZE

I. W. W. Propaganda League in Portland, Oregon—Active Work Promised.

(Special to Solidarity)

Portland, Ore., Nov. 14. A Scandinavian I. W. W. mass meeting was held Sunday, Nov. 13. The meeting was well attended, about 300 being present.

E. S. Nelson, of Chicago, and H. Alford, of Stockholm, Sweden, explained the principles and structure, the tactics and goal of the 20th century-revolutionary labor movement—the I. W. W. and C. G. T. The speeches on industrial unionism and syndicalism were attentively received by the enthusiastic audience.

The S. P. and the S. L. P. were each represented, and both did what they could to prevent the inauguration of the new organization, but they failed. A Scandinavian I. W. W. Propaganda League was started with 25 charter members.

The immediate object of the organization will be to carry on an enthusiastic propaganda for industrial unionism. That is, take in members and transfer them in to the localities where they are needed. All means to raise funds for propaganda will be employed. To raise money we will arrange dances, necktie parties, basket parties, masquerade dances, smokers, etc. The money will not only be used for hall rents and propaganda meetings, but also to establish permanent headquarters with a free employment office and reading room. We will also bend our efforts to get out some Scandinavian leaflets and hand books and a paper.

Yours for working class solidarity, E. S. NELSON.

REVOLT SPREADING

(Continued From Page One.)

receive \$21 a week salary and expenses; rain or shine; "good times" and "bad times." They also receive a welcome reception from the bosses. Wichert & Gardner's shoe slaves often go home with only \$7.50 as a week's wages in their pay envelopes. In addition, the bosses give them scant courtesy.

In the present strike, representatives of the Tobin bosses union insist that the men wait until April 15 before demanding more wages. On that day the "union" label contract expires. They say, "Our contracts are inviolable; our constitution must be upheld; it binds us to keep our contracts." In answer, it is claimed that the bosses are violating both the contract and the constitution daily. It is further contended that in the settlement of the question of contracts and constitutions versus more wages and better conditions, the contracts and constitutions must not be permitted to stand in the way of securing the latter. The workers' interests are more important than those of the employers.

Big I. W. W. Meeting.

All the above facts and points were brought out and made at the big meeting of the Shoeworkers' Industrial Union No. 168, T. W. W., of Greater New York, held last night at the Assembly Cafe, 310 Fulton St., Brooklyn. The meeting resolved to support all the strikes and to prosecute them with vigor, especially that of the shoe slaves. Many of the shops now involved turned in money collected. They affected shops are holding meetings daily. Favorable developments are expected.

The meeting last night was addressed by the union's organizer, Joe Marcha; and by Organizer Joseph J. Etor, and

Fellow Workers S. Stenzel and Elizabeth Gurley Flynn. All were well received. During the meeting, Etor was called away to attend a meeting of the Jewish Shoe Workers' union, for the purposes of co-operation and consolidation.

Miss Flynn's speech was a clear cut gem. She advocated special meetings for the women employed in the shoe industry; told how necessary it was that the women organized with the men; showed how they must underbid the men in order to get jobs; and pointed out the tendency to introduce machinery that would increase this competition. She promised to bend every effort to aid the men to organize the women.

In addition, Miss Flynn brought out the salient points of industrial unionism, showing how the big combinations of capital create an industrial tyranny in this country more terrible than the monarchial tyranny of the old countries; and how these big tyrannical industrial combinations can only be met and overthrown by big combinations of labor organized on parallel lines for fraternal and progressive purposes.

The meeting was a big success in every way. The war against the boss and his "union" allies is on in earnest.

BROOKLYNIAN.

NEW YORK CITY NOTES.

Organizer Edwin Hoag has just come to New York to assist in the organizing work here. He has been in New England for the past eight weeks, and succeeded in organizing one new local of textile workers, besides adding new members to the old locals. He reports that things are getting along fine in New England.

On Saturday, Dec. 5, at 112 East 119th St., a very important meeting will be held at 7:30 p. m. All former members, friends and sympathizers, and present members should not miss this meeting. Organizers Etor, Hoag and Miss E. Flynn and others will be present to address the meeting. Don't forget the date, Saturday night, Dec. 5, at 112 E. 119th St. Up one flight (front).

COMMITTEE.

DETROIT MEMBERSHIP GROWING.

The Metal and Machinery Workers' local of the I. W. W. in Detroit, Mich., is increasing its membership right along. A. M. Stirtion is now acting as local organizer, and at a special meeting of that local union last week ten new members were obligated. A collection was also taken up for the Polish paper, "Solidarnosc." Things are reported booming in Detroit.

A VOICE FROM MEXICO.

—Mexico, Nov. 1910. Fellow Workers: Having been reminded by post card that my subscription to Solidarity is about to expire, I hasten to renew it. Paid enclosed money order for \$2.00 (Mexican) to pay for another year. Send it to the same address as usual.

You have done fine in your first year with the paper. Just hang on "like a pup to a root." Slowly, but surely, the working class is moving towards industrial utopianism. I belonged to the K. of L. 25 years ago, at which time I learned to defeat Congress and all those labor fakirs. Old men of that time foresaw the present deplorable condition of the American workers, which was bound to take place after the dissolution of the K. of L. The great error of the K. of L. was organization without education. The I. W. W. has the thing lined up logically—education, organization, and emancipation.

It is imperative that the liberty of the press and the right of free speech be maintained in the United States, and all will be well. We are progressing most awfully slow but most damnably sure. With best wishes for all those "up in front," both in and out of jail, I am, yours for the abolition of capitalism. M. J.

Police Stop Meeting in San Diego.

A telegram from San Diego to the "Industrial Worker," under date of Nov. 15, reads:

"San Diego police prevent meeting Sunday; arrest two members and detain them hours without warrant. No evidence against them. Were photographed and put through Bertillon system. Man arrested for street speaking hires hall. Police close up hall. Business element trying to suppress free speech."

Workers, Fresno first: then San Diego!

Local 13, I. W. W.

The I. W. W. at Missoula, Mont., is located in a first class hall at 211 Stevens St. The members invite all wage workers to call and get acquainted. Jan. B. Shea is the secretary.

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By B. H. WILLIAMS

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F. VELARDE, 944 E. Van Buren St. PHOENIX, ARIZ.

HOW TO JOIN THE I. W. W.

Any wage worker, wishing to become member of the Industrial Workers of the World, may proceed in the following manner:

1. If you live in a locality where there is a union of your industry or a mixed (recruiting) union already in existence, apply to the secretary of that local union. He will furnish you with an application blank containing the Preamble to the I. W. W. Constitution and the two questions which each candidate for admission must answer in the affirmative. The questions are as follows:

"Do you agree to abide by the constitution and regulations of this organization?" "Will you diligently study its principles and make yourself acquainted with its purposes?"

The initiation fee is fixed by the Local Union, but cannot be more than \$5.00 in any instance, and is usually \$1.00 or less. The monthly dues cannot exceed \$1.00 and are in most locals from 35 to 50 cents.

2. If there is no Local Union of the I. W. W. in your vicinity, you may become a Member-at-Large by making application to the General Secretary, whose address is given below. You will be required to answer affirmatively the above questions, and pay an initiation fee of \$2.00. The monthly dues are \$1.00 for Members-at-Large.

3. Better still, write to the General Secretary for a Charter Application Blank. Get no less than TWENTY signatures thereon, of bonafide wage workers in one industry (for a Local Industrial Union) or in several industries (for a Mixed Union). Be sure that each signature is accompanied with the name and address of the signatory, with the names (properly spelled), constitutions and the names of the signatories, and that you are not already a member of any other organization.

Join the I. W. W. 95 and 179 N. The address of L. U. No. 1 is ULSTON, Sec'y, 518 Cambridge Blk. JOHN