



## WAR PLANS OF THE SOUTHERN LUMBER BOSSES AGAINST THE I. W. W. EXPOSED

John H. Kirby "Coughs Up" a Commercial Traveler - Says Bosses and the Cigar Federation in Deal to Smash I. W. W. and Build up A. F. of L. (Special to Solidarity.) Chicago, Aug. 28.

The Southern Lumbermen's Association is up against it. Their workers cowed down since the great strike of timberworkers, under the Knights of Labor, over twenty years ago, got the idea into their heads that twenty years of marvelous progress left the lumber workers of Southern camps in a worse condition, than before that great strike in the days of the Knights of Labor. Restless and discontented, they take the only way of getting redress. They organized. And they did not ask their paternal employers for their consent, isn't that awful. Then the bosses decided to show them who owned the meal ticket. They closed the mills, ordered them up again, only to find the disease of discontent had been so contagious that the men came back more courageous, more determined to "strike jobs" on the job. Of course, the bosses went wild with fury. Mr. John H. Kirby, whom they selected to conduct the war against the workers, like a modern Don Quixote, issued pronouncements after pronouncements, but the timber workers continued to do their "direct action" work in the mills rather than to be smashed on the outside by the force of the mill wangs.

The Brotherhood of Timber Workers, growing in numbers as well as in efficiency, fighting the bosses with the right tactics; learned from the literature of the Industrial Workers of the World, would be invisible, this is the conclusion that Mr. John H. Kirby finally came to. "Persecution would only augment their forces and increase their strength. Denunciations in the press only call the attention of lumber workers in other districts that the gauge of battle for more rights had been opened in the South. So something had to be done to get the bosses out of the bog that the great leadership of Kirby had led them into. They prayed, and this god of the captain of industry sent them a saviour, a Saint, Samuel the Great, President of the American Federation of Labor. Here goes the story.

They had to meet far away from the scene of battle. They feared that someone not in the bosses employ might get

## K. C. AND THE COPS

Police Maneuvers to Stop I. W. W. Agitation (Special to Solidarity.)

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 12. Prepare to move on Kansas City, Mo. After continuous interference with our street meetings on the part of stool pigeons and the police, Local 61 has been forced to prepare a dose of direct action for the "law and order" gang. The meeting of our members began in the Spring, when two of our members (a committee to meet with the hood carriers) on their way to Hod Carriers' Hall, were ejected from a street car for singing revolutionary songs. The car stopped long enough for the boys to address the workers in the car and also a crowd which had collected.

A ball came along and told them to shut up or he would arrest them. They persisted, and were arrested on a whim. When the patrol wagon came up the other fellow worker was told that he might as well order along, too. One of the boys put up \$22 bond for their appearance in police court Monday morning.

The judge said he never heard of a labor

knowledge of the war plans of the employers. "So they came as far as Chicago, and on August 16th, a convention of the Southern Lumbermen's Association was called to order by President John H. Kirby in the Congress Hotel. Every precaution was taken to safeguard the secrecy of the meeting. No news was to be given out to any of the papers. "You ran off at the head too much after that St. Louis meeting" on the part of the delegates told John H. "Yes it was a mistake" said John; "But we won't repeat it."

### Kirby Can't Keep Mouth Shut.

All would have been well, had Kirby been able to keep a close mouth. From Kirby's point of view, the meeting was highly successful, John H. Kirby, therefore, was highly elated. While in this blissful state of mind, John met with a commercial traveler. The traveler was well dressed, smoked good cigars, therefore John H. concluded he must be one of Kirby's kind. He could not hold his pent-up enthusiasm any longer. Someone of the outside world must know of the great achievements of John H. and his band of commercial cut-throats. So John H. un-bosomed himself of the following information, and even went so far as to show the traveler the minutes and letters to substantiate his claims for greatness in smashing labor unions.

Solemnly, Mr. Kirby outlined the causes for calling the convention at Chicago. He said that the successful invasion of their undisputed territory had been consummated by an organization that contests the right of the employers to use the employes as chattel slaves. He said that the Brotherhood of Timber Workers was only Industrial Workers of the World in disguise. Reading the preamble of the I. W. W. he said if these ideas were allowed to take root in the minds of the men they employed, their control of the mills would soon be a thing of the past. He admitted that the organization could not be stamped out of existence. They had tried it by firing a few active men, but that had served as a stimulus to hundreds others to take the place of the men fired.

"Organization of our workers cannot be prevented, it has gone too far" said Mr. Kirby, "and we may as well put up with it. But we are not going to stand for the tactics outlined by the Industrial Workers of the World - We will deal with organizations and leaders who will guarantee the

(Continued On Page Four.)

organization that sang songs, and fined one of our fellow workers \$5.00, discharging the other. This fellow worker refused to pay the fine and was taken to the hold over. About 15 minutes later the captain came in to interview him, and among other things told him he would have to pay the fine any way as they would take it out of the bond money. The fellow worker thereupon paid the fine and was released.

That night at Missouri Ave. and Main one of our boys was arrested for telling the crowd that the police had simply robbed the fellow worker.

Next morning at the trial he was fined \$50 for, among other things, "insulting the flag." The minute he was pulled off the box another fellow worker took the box and bawled out the police, the flag, and every other capitalist institution, but was not molested. The fellow worker who was fined \$50, is married; and his wife was in a pregnant; so he was paroled on condition that he would not speak on the street for a period of 6 months; if he broke his parole he was to serve out the fine at 16 9-5 cents a day.

Nothing was done until the Local met

(Continued On Page Four)

## R. R. CONSTRUCTION WORKERS JOIN I. W. W.

(Special to Solidarity.)

Lytton, B. C. Aug. 24. On the Canadian Northern R. R. in British Columbia where construction was expected to begin long ago, nothing has yet been done. Over a thousand men are living along the line between Hope and Kamloops waiting for work to open up, but from appearances it will be some time yet. All construction work between Hope and Kamloops has been let and sub let by contractors who offer such a low scale that the old timers cannot think of taking a job at all. "The rate for day work was first forced down to \$2.25, which is from \$0.75 a day less than the surrounding cities. So very few men would consider such a proposition."

Some few station men tried their hand at the offered prices and are beginning to jump out; the experienced men know better than to even begin. The men lay at the offer of the contractors of \$33 a foot for tunnel work and \$45 a cubic yard for solid rock.

Some contractors are offering a little more, but none are offering enough to make a living. While waiting for the work to open up the men all along the line began to talk about organizing so as to get better conditions when work starts. A call was sent for an I. W. W. organizer to Vancouver. I was sent up to help out in organizing the construction work. From the very start the organization took on a successful shape. Over 200 joined at Lytton, from there we went to Spences Bridge, Ashcroft and all the camps to Kamloops. Practically all the men signed a charter application. So on this trip we got over 600 men and are going the other way to do likewise. Money is being raised, agitation carried on at an astonishing rate. The men show great solidarity, and are hanging together in camps and jungles holding out for better prices and wages. Local headquarters have been established at Lytton where the men take hold of the organization work and business with admirable enthusiasm. By the time the other half of the district is covered we ought to have a thousand men as charter members. As soon as work starts later on we will have several times that many. By getting control of the job now, the workers will be in position to force every job into the union.

The contractors who figured on easily squeezing the men down to below starvation level, are covered as they ought to be taking place. In an effort to stop organization, they have come up a few cents here and there and offer some inducements for men to tie themselves up with contracts. As they only laugh, as they know that the contractors will have to come through as soon as the workers are organized.

From the way the men are boosting for the one big union we can expect to see something big before spring. If we keep growing at the present rate, we will be able to start a National Industrial Union of Rail Road Construction workers before spring.

As new camps will be established the men will be taken in all along, so as to control the job from end to end. Then other locals will be formed at points along the line. At present only one local is started until work opens up and all the men up and down will belong to the one local temporarily.

As this work has never been organized before, the bosses do not know what to make of it. At first they laughed at the idea of the construction workers forming an organization, but now the laugh is beginning to look like a cry. To make it still more encouraging the workers want to be in the I. W. W.

No craft union will go here. In this work every worker must advertise the fact that there is no work here and over a thousand waiting for it to open up. No use to come here to starve. Better help men away from the line if we are organized, then we will let every one know when work starts the I. W. W. boys can get here on the job. Every man that comes here will have to get into the union or get out.

The men are all in favor of giving the I. W. W. men preference after the job is under control. So help to keep outsiders away from there is nothing doing yet.

Keep your eyes on the I. W. W. and watch it grow. J. S. BISCAY, Organizer.

## I. W. W. DEFIES POLICE

Attempt to Regulate Length of Meetings Successfully Resisted in Philadelphia.

(Special to Solidarity.)

Philadelphia, Aug. 28. The opening shot in another fierce speech fight in Philadelphia occurred last night, Sunday, the 27th, in the arrest of Fellow Workers Howard, Osborne and Brown at City Hall Plaza.

We received the first intimation of trouble brewing on Thursday evening at Frankfort and Unity streets, when we were ordered to stop at 10 o'clock, by an officer. His explanation was simply, "Orders from Headquarters." Only the commencing of a heavy downfall of rain and the fact that the meeting was practically over, postponed fighting the issue that evening.

As soon as the committee arrived with the platform on the Plaza, they were approached by an officer who said orders were to quit at 10 o'clock.

The Socialist Party and Socialist Labor Party were holding meetings on adjoining plazas, and all three meetings proceeded regularly till a few minutes before ten.

The S. L. P. as usual strong on "law and order" had virtually said they intended to quit at 10 on prearranged plans of their campaign committee; but it was put up to them pretty strong by the fellow workers that they were quitters if they did. The Socialist Party decided to go ahead and if the speaker's subject lasted after ten he was to continue as usual.

Meanwhile, while E. G. Flynn was talking as the principal speaker, the I. W. W. propaganda committee decided that she was to quit at ten, after an hour and half talk, and some of the men members were to make the fight. This course of action was pursued that the scheduled meetings might not be interfered with for the rest of the week, unless confronted with some more sweeping "orders" from the police, also the difficulty of securing bondsmen at a late hour Sunday night made it undesirable our fellow worker should go to jail unless necessary.

At ten o'clock the police started on the S. P., pulling the speaker from the box and driving the crowd away, preventing the speaker from remounting the stand, but not arresting him. Next, two speakers were pulled off the S. L. P. platform, but were not arrested. However, by the time the cops arrived at the I. W. W.

## DEPRESSION IN CHICAGO

Experiences of a Slave in His Hunt For a Master.

(Special to Solidarity.)

Chicago, August 13. I am sending you a short report of conditions in this section of the country, that may be interesting to Solidarity readers. I was laid off in Pullman along with a few thousand others, July 1. In our department, the brass furnishing department, there remained at work about 150, as against 600 to 700 one year ago. In the whole works there remained about 4,000 against about 18,000 one year ago.

Since I did not succeed in finding another job in the city, I left for Milwaukee and intermediate towns, but found conditions the same all over. Factories which had never been known to run slack, as for instance the Badger Brass Co. in Kenosha, Wis., which worked 14 hours a day all through the last year, were laying off a large part of their help, and you could not buy a job anywhere.

I returned to Chicago at the end of a week and was lucky enough to strike a job, but it only lasted four days and my labor power was again in the market. After chasing after a new job for a couple

meeting the crowd had assumed gigantic proportions and was in an ugly mood. The police were hooted and jeered, and Fellow Worker Howard cheered to the echo as he was yanked roughly from the stand.

As Fellow Worker Osborne jumped for the stand the crowd closed in, the stand toppled over and police and prisoners were in an inextricable mass. The stand righted itself in the movements of the crowd and another fellow worker, Brown, jumped up. While pulling him down the cops drew their clubs and there was a mighty roar of indignation from the crowd, who rushed the cops shouting, "Don't you dare hit him," etc. The police hesitating before the menacing attitude of the crowd hastily withdrew with their prisoners and Barnes, a socialist comrade, spoke without interruption.

Whether the police sent in a riot call or thought "discretion the better part of valor," they stayed away till the chairman triumphantly declared the meeting adjourned and the stand was removed in orderly style. Two or three officers then appeared, ordering the crowd to move on.

The crowds were certainly with us to a man. Indignation ran high at the attempted brutality on the part of the police and the unprecedented order of stopping at so early an hour. We propose to take no dictation on the length of our meeting, and consider this just as much a free speech issue as to be denied the right of speaking at all. Now it's 10 o'clock, later it will be 9, then ten minute talks will be the limit. We're in to win and to carry messages of anarchist sentiment to the folks in this benighted Quaker town, where it is already being too well appreciated to suit the powers higher up.

The arrested fellow workers were let out at about 3 a. m. on their own recognizance. Osborne and Howard appeared at 10 o'clock hearing and were discharged. Brown was late in showing up and was held with a demand being made on the magistrate who had released them to produce him. The powers that be are after this particular magistrate's political head, so this case may become a political issue in the pending election.

The I. W. W. has vindicated its fighting reputation again. We expect an enormous turnout on the Plaza next Sunday. A FELLOW WORKER.

of days without success, I resolved to try the manufacturing towns on the other side of the lake, and went through Holland, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo and Battle Creek, but found similar conditions everywhere. The great majority of the factories are idle and thousands of workers walking the streets.

It is a good thing that the present lull in business struck the country in the spring and summer. Otherwise the suffering must have been terrible. As it is, the parks in the cities are full of idle and penniless men, while thousands have found temporary jobs on the farms, and great numbers beat it for the harvest fields of the West.

I stayed in Grand Rapids a week and had a good chance to look into the furniture workers' strike there. The strikers were putting up a determined fight, and nothing but the antiquated fighting methods of the A. F. of L. could have defeated them. The bosses were under a terrific expense. Not only did they ship carloads of scales from so far as Philadelphia and pay transportation both ways, \$3 per day in wages and board inside the factories, but 95 cent of this help was absolutely useless. What goods they did turn out came back to the factories in car-

(Continued On Page Four.)

# SOLIDARITY

EASTERN ORGAN OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

P. O. Drawer 622 New Castle, Pa.

Owned and Published Weekly by  
**C. H. McCARTY and B. H. WILLIAMS**  
 C. H. McCARTY, L. U. 298  
 B. H. WILLIAMS, L. U. 297.

Place of Publication—year No. 416, Creston Ave.  
 B. H. Williams, Managing Editor  
 C. H. McCarty, Business Manager

**SUBSCRIPTION:**  
 Yearly, \$1.00  
 Six Months, .50  
 Canada and Foreign, 1.50  
 Single Copies, per copy.  
**ONE & ONE-HALF CENTS.**  
 Advertising Rates on Application.  
**Cash MUST Accompany All Orders.**

All communications intended for publication in *Solidarity* should be addressed to the Managing Editor; all others, pertaining to financial matters, to the Business Manager.

Entered as second-class matter December 18, 1909, at the post office at New Castle, Pa., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

**INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD**  
 General Headquarters—618 Cambridge Building, Chicago, Illinois.

**GENERAL OFFICERS**  
 Vincent St. John, General Sec'y-Treas  
 W. E. Trautman, General Organizer

**GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
 J. J. Ector, Chas. Scurlock, C. H. Axelson,  
 Francis Miller, George Speed.

**WATCH FOR YOUR NUMBER.**  
 Each subscriber will find a number opposite his name on the wrapper enclosing *SOLIDARITY*. For instance 89. That means that your sub expired last week, and you should renew. **90**  
 This is NUMBER

## SNAGS FOR RAILROAD SHOPMEN

General interest the past two weeks has centered around the "railroad situation" in the West. A possible general strike of shopmen on the Harriman lines is the occasion for so much excitement. Despatches from various sections along those lines state that the men are ready for revolt; but their union officials are as usual straining every nerve to bring about an "amicable adjustment." The shopmen are demanding wage increases ranging from 15 to 70 per cent and a reduction of the workday. Of course the railroad companies insist that these demands are "unreasonable and impossible," as they would result in adding to the yearly payroll the magnificent sum of a half million dollars.

But the interesting part of the performance, as usual, is found in the fighting tactics of the companies, as compared with those of the men. The shopmen are afflicted through their various crafts with the railroad "department" of the A. F. of L. Some time ago it was given out that this craft union "department" had made a great discovery in what they called "system federations," in which all crafts on a railroad system were to be federated, with contracts all expiring on the same date. In this way, a general strike, it was said, would be possible to back up any demands of the men.

This "system federation" scheme, however, applied only to the shopmen. It took no account of the numerous "brotherhoods" of R. R. workers who are effectually separated from their fellow workers in the shops, and from one another, by numerous craft contracts expiring on numerous dates in different years.

But, for all that, the idea of the "system federation," with contracts running out at one time, was undoubtedly based on the unrest among the rank and file of shopmen and their desire to get clear together. This idea might develop, and in time penetrate the thick skulls of conductors, firemen, engineers and other aristocrats on the railroads. The companies at once announced that they would not stand for the proposition of having contracts expire on the same date, feinting a general strike as a possibility in that event. They also refused to grant the present demands of the shopmen for wage increases and shorter hours.

Whereupon the men clamor for a general strike of all shopmen to back up their demands. Their enthusiasm is increased

by the reported victory through the general strike in Great Britain.

But, apart from the outside divisions of "railroad brotherhoods," already mentioned, these shopmen run up against two more snags. One of these is the "traditional sense of fairness to the employer," by which the workers insist on giving the bosses long enough notice in advance, of their intentions, to enable the companies to prepare for a strike. Already, "retrenchment" is the talk, and actual reduction of forces is the order of the day all along the line of the affected systems. "Active unionists" are of course given the preference when it comes to laying off men. Stockades are being erected around the shops and the railroad companies will be thoroughly prepared for a siege when the strike breaks out.

The other snag encountered by the rank and file of shopmen is the inevitable craft union "leader," with his "amicable adjustment" dope. Governing a powerful machine, and operating on the "traditional sense of fairness" of the men toward their brutal exploiters, the craft officials are working overtime to "avert a conflict." "Conferences" between union men and company officials are suggested and arranged for, to delay the game and cool the ardor of the men. Some of the national officials are even quoted as saying that the men's demands are too high, and are coming at an inopportune time when "business is poor," all of which may be calculated to divide the men in sentiment and weaken their spirit in action.

Thus the "labor lieutenant" is again justifying his title as a tool of the boss; and another A. F. of L. fiasco appears to be in store for the railroad shopmen. But, whatever the outcome, the evidence at hand shows that industrial conditions are moving the masses in the right direction. Their instinct for united action cannot be forever thwarted. They have much to learn in dealing with a wily, resourceful and powerfully organized enemy supported by a bunch of meat ticket vampires masquerading as labor leaders. But they will learn the lesson—painfully, yet thoroughly in the end.

Let us aid them to the best of our ability, until the railroad workers' "sense of fairness" has resolved itself into the ultimatum of their masters: "Go to work or starve! Henceforth we shall run the railroads for ourselves!"

## APATHY

In every workers' organization, political as well as economic, there are only a few of the members who do the work. The efforts of the few are often paralyzed by the inactivity of the many. For some, summer is too hot, winter too cold, or they lack perseverance. If their ideas are not accepted, if they disagree with the working of the organization, instead of persevering knowing that "a falling drop at last will cave a stone," they withdraw their moral, sometimes also their financial support.

Those who get that way do not fully understand their duty. Let us see. As wage slaves, our brains have been taken when we were young, they have been corrupted with ideas that your youth could not analyze and segregate these fallacies. Our education has been imposed upon us independently of our will; and later on, the struggle for bread takes all our personality; it does not allow us to see, to feel, to understand anything that is not pertaining to it. In general, the energy we spend at work is to the detriment of our intelligence. The servile education we have received, subjects us to the respect for law, privilege, property; to the respect for an unfounded justice; to the respect for them who oppress us.

And this ought to lead us to a certain indulgence toward those who never have asked themselves what the origin of their respect is, never inquired the reason for their ideas; toward those who dislike to discuss what they have been taught, not understanding that they do not possess their own brains. Let us agitate, let us unite our efforts and go at it with steadfastness though we may come across some deceptions. By so doing we shall work for our own interest, our own well-being and happiness.

That is not an easy task, I agree; for in spite of the efforts made, in spite of the enormous quantity of intellectual work spent year after year among the masses, there exists in the depths of the ocean, wrote Prof. Louis Buchner, a complete calm that is never troubled by the storms of the surface. The organisms that live in these depths have not changed in centuries.

ies, since the conditions of their existence have remained the same. This applies to human societies. The political storms, the great intellectual movements overthrow the surface and continually bring some modifications; but contrary to this the masses remain in an almost complete immobility, struggling with the difficulties of existence. They have neither the spare time nor the desire to take part in the movement of their epoch.

Still, a few workers are shaking off their apathy. The most efficacious organizations are those that awaken among their members the desire for knowledge; that give the idea of curiosity; those that possess a good library.

The meetings of such organizations are more attended than those where debates on business or communications, where unending reports of committees kill all intellectual agitation. All that is shown is not lost, and quoting Longfellow: "Fantastic idols may be worshipped for awhile, but at length they are overturned by the continual and silent progress of truth."

JULES SCARCEAUX.

Trenton, N. J.

## WHAT WE HAD BETTER DO

We cannot get away from the fact that the less owners our jobs, nor can we deny that a few own the land and the machinery of production.

Can we work without permission? No! Can we sell our labor power unless there is a market for it? No!—Is there work for all; are all working? No! What does competition between workers on the labor market mean to the boss? Cheap labor. What does it mean to us? Low wages.

It will be very hard, yet impossible, to change these conditions unless we organize ourselves into one big union. It would be easy to get anything we want if we were organized. United action on the part of the workers in all workshops can be made possible only through class organization. Of course we understand that we cannot escape the conditions which bring about this organization.

The abolition of slavery and the triumph of the organization are both inevitable. And the beauty of it all is that the masters cannot offset the rapidly approaching time when they will be forced to go to work.

We should not sit down, fold our arms and wait. We are factors in that great evolutionary process which tends to destroy the capitalist system. We have got to work hard, the harder the better, because the sooner this will realize our emancipation.

Every I. W. W. leaflet and pamphlet read by those who don't know why, how, where and when, is a nail in the coffin of the capitalist regime.

E. S. NELSON.

Portland, Oregon.

## LOS ANGELES INSTRUCTS DELEGATE

Los Angeles, Calif., Aug. 24. Here are some instructions to our delegate to the coming convention:

1. That he vote for a continuance of the office of General Organizer.
2. That the G. E. B. be done away with, and falling in that, that the G. E. B. be nominated and elected by the rank and file of the organization.
3. That we work for more systematic action for the eight hour day.
4. That part of the money yielded to the organization be used to pay debts owing Fellow Worker Trautman.
5. That salaries of the officers be the same as at present.
6. That the G. E. B. be not permitted at the convention as G. E. B. members under pay.
7. That we have a universal per capita tax of 10 cents for each member.
8. That certain part of the per capita tax be set aside for our press, and that papers be sent to the members.

H. WEINSTEIN, Sec'y.

## NEW PAMPHLET OUT

"Why Strikes Are Lost," is just off the press and will be ready for delivery by the time this notice reaches our readers. Send your orders at once, with the cash. Price 5 cents per copy; in quantities to Local Unions, 3 cents per copy.

SALT LAKE, UTAH.

Local 69, I. W. W., of Salt Lake City, Utah maintains headquarters and a free reading room at 69 1/2 West 2nd St. So. All workers welcome.

E. CERNY, Fin. Sec'y

## GERMAN SOCIALIST UNIONS

### Hold Tame Conventions Without a Breath of Revolutionary Spirit.

(Special Correspondence.)

Dresden, Germany, July 2 1911. The German Socialist Unions have held their congress in this historic old town during the past week. It was the tamest affair I ever attended and almost a perfect model of what a union congress should not be. Not alone was it destitute of even the suggestion of revolutionary spirit, but was also run on a machine plan that Sammy and Co. could learn much from.

Legien opened the congress by citing a lot of statistics showing the growth of the organization, which now has 3,276,000 members, their financial resources, etc. After this the congress speedily settled down to its "work," which consisted in doing whatever the Gen. Com. (G. E. B.) told it to do. During the whole congress not a single motion against which the Gen. Com. expressed its enmity was passed and not a single one of its recommendations was refused or even contested. The few motions on the order of business which were unwelcome to the Gen. Com. were cold bloodedly slaughtered by either a word from the dictator Legien, parliament-juggling or by being "settled" behind the curtain. The "business" that the congress was allowed to discuss from a revolutionary standpoint, was trivial in the extreme. It consisted chiefly in windy kicks against the cruel government, and regulations of the industrial institutions of the unions. Only a couple are worth spilling ink over.

One proposition was for all the unions to form a central strike fund and another was that in great strikes or lockouts all the affiliated unions should be assessed per capita tax. These motions were aimed to checkmate the employers who at present keep a close track of the funds of the organizations by means of the Gen. Com.'s elaborate statistics and who thus knock the fighting strength of the unions.

The Gen. Com. didn't commit itself on these propositions, but advised that they be referred to a conference between the Gen. Com. and the National Committees of the various unions. Why this conference should be considered more capable than the congress is only to be explained on the grounds that one of the cardinal principles of the German Socialist Union is that the rank and file (or even the congress) is incapable of deciding important questions.

Our American Socialists who are demanding the referendum for the whole American people might do good work to propagate the idea in the German Socialist unions where it is practically unknown. Of course Legien's recommendation was unquestioningly acceded to. Then came a proposition from the Gen. Com. for the Soc. Co-operatives and unions to form a partnership and get into the insurance business on a business basis. It was pointed out that the private insurance companies are fleecing the workers out of hundreds of millions of marks yearly and that this could be stopped by the formation of a general working class insurance company. The proposition coming from the Gen. Com. was of course unanimously adopted.

This forming of a central insurance company is a logical development of union insurance in Germany. The present 53 unions, each with their separate insurance institutions are distinctly unbusinesslike and can't seriously compete with the better organized private companies. Their merging their insurance features into one organization is inevitable and may react favorably on them by forcing them to develop into fighting organizations if they want to make any appeal to the workers, hitherto it has been their functions as "sick and death benefit societies" which have been their strongest drawing cards.

However, it is not intended that the new company supplant the unions entirely as insurance societies, as it will limit its activities to death, old age and a few other benefits. The dear Socialist guardians of the unions will never intentionally let them out of the insurance fog. However, such a central insurance company might easily have the effect I have suggested.

The balance of the business of the congress was a series of long, dry discussions and protests over the attitude of the government towards the employment officers, sweat shops, workers insurance, right of workers to organize, etc., etc. Needless to say the congress has left the prosecution of these kicks and threats to the "powerful" Soc. Dem. Party. The idea that the unions should undertake by their own efforts to force the government

to recognize their protests, is also partially now doing with the French case very in the old age pension matter, even hinted at in the congress.

On the other hand, a vigorous propaganda to support the Soc. Dem. Party was openly prosecuted, and not a single objection to it was raised. Not a word was said in regard to the necessity for the development of better direct action tactics. The German Socialist unionist considers the old fashioned strikes as the alpha and omega of the working class. Sabotage and passive resistance were unmentioned, the general strike idea (the discussion of which the unions have officially forbidden) remained unmentioned, anti-militarism—a burning question with all revolutionary organizations—was not even mentioned at the congress, this being also a matter for the powerful Soc. Dem. Party to handle. Not a single speaker said anything which by any means could be interpreted as even a suggestion of the revolutionary conception of unionism. And this is perfectly natural as the unions entirely delegate the task of freeing the working class to the Soc. Dem. Party via the ballot. They consider their own function to simply be to mitigate the devastating effects of capitalism until the party has won the great battle.

The German capitalist class has but contempt for this immense organization of 3,276,000 members, which is so timid that it decorates its congress hall with bunting of red and white. (I asked what the red and white stood for and was assured it had no great significance, that the bunting was the color of some local prince or other "and that it had been used just as the decorations on wedding cakes and know.") I was also hastily informed that they were not the German national color—this assurance because some of the German unrevolutionary unions decorated their congress halls with the national color. Of this contempt Legien in his opening address gave a striking proof. He said: "We must not forget that the employers have also changed their tactics. While until within a few ago they directed their attention chiefly to defending themselves against the demands of the unions; to the pursuing of defensive tactics, they have now adopted offensive tactics and seek to do away the contracts in the greatest possible number of trades (gewerks) expire at the same time. They do this in order to make "unconditional" terms to the workers in regard to the rearrangement of wage and working conditions, and if these are not unconditionally accepted they lock out great masses of workers in the hope that by these mass lockouts the financial strength of the workers must be crippled."

In other words, the German employers have so much contempt for the tactics of the socialist unions that they have adopted the same attitude as American revolutionary unions, though with a difference. They want to fight labor wars on as large a scale as possible.

The industrial unionists with their modern tactics want the labor wars on a large scale, because then they can apply their tactics to good advantage. The German capitalists, opposed by organizations whose only fighting resources are their funds, and knowing their financial superiority, want to involve as many as possible of these organizations in battle at one time so they can't financially stand up to them. Therefore, they are encouraged to this aggressive stand by the timid holding of the socialists, who fear (and justly) all mass movements of workers as most dangerous to the Social Democratic party and who go to the extreme length to prevent them.

What the capitalist class thinks of the power of the S. D. P. straw that this great labor organization is clutching at has been recently well illustrated. "Vorwärts" of June 29, speaking of the recent vote in the Prussian Landtag when the socialist motion for an equal franchise in the Landtag was defeated by the combined Clericals, Liberals and Conservatives, says to the working class: "To the robbery of your rights, which has been committed upon you, the rulers of the three class parliament have added ridicule and contempt." The two socialist representatives at the close of the session wanted to quit the legislative hall before the customary cheers for the Kaiser were called for, but were so heartily jeered and laughed at that they got sore and went back to their seats and remained seated during the cheering, the daring criminals. The only protest the Soc. Dem. Party—which is by far the largest in Germany—can make to this "outrage" is to draw up a few hot air resolutions. It is absolutely without power to retaliate.

The president of the union congress in his closing address after congratulating the movement on its great development, unity, and power, also raised a "protest" against the shameful treatment of the working class by the Landtag and the congress then adjourned, its "work" being all accomplished.

W. Z. FOSTER.

P. S. No Clara we didn't strike the "International" at the fair, it's a little too raw don't you know.

# THE TRADE OF A SOLDIER

The trade of a soldier is a beautiful one. Just think of wearing a natty uniform that fits "just lovely", with bright buttons and nothing to do but stand around and look pleasant, take in the beautiful scenery on your trip around the world and flirt with the pretty girls of different climes.

Nothing is said of pushing bayonets into the soft white quivering flesh of them they don't know, nor do they dwell on the little matter of sending a steel ball crashing through the brain of some mother's son, whom the soldier has no cause to hate. He does it only because some officer said "Fire".

That word recalls to my mind another "word" that has more terrors for him than any simple order of "Fire" or "Charge". It is the word "discipline". This word is the key note of a soldier's life. From the moment he enters the service, a rookery, till he leaves as a buck, his buddy is discipline. He sleeps with it, drinks with it, sees with it, hears with it, thinks with it, runs with it, walks with it, dreams of it, and tells his friends about it. That is one of the ways we come to know of it. Some of 'em are bound to slop over occasionally. To obey orders without asking questions is the first thing a rookery learns. The longer he stays in the service, the better he learns the lesson and bigger the penalties for not obeying.

While newspaper advertising and flaring billboards tell of opportunities to see the world, to study, etc., the fact is, that all the "seeing" you do is through a 12 by 16 inch window of an emigrant car from the recruiting station to New York or Frisco. Loaded into a transport vessel, all the "seeing" you do then is through the eight inch port hole until you land in the jungles of some S x G island of "our possessions." There you "study." The first Regulation reads like this:

Art. 1. "All persons in the military service are required to obey strictly and to execute the lawful orders of their superiors."

After this has soaked in well and he begins to see the beauties of always obeying without even asking why, every move he makes is an order obeyed. About this time, he will probably have a dream of leaving and getting back among his friends; he wakes up discovering that he is not much of a patriot, that he is not so much interested in defending "our country," "our possessions," "our government." Unfortunately another lesson is learned before he makes his "get-a-way." Let me explain that all printed matter is carefully read; for that reason there is very little of it about the camp. Whether Art. XXXVI, Army Regulations explain that or not, I cannot say. The Art. reads: "Only such books for use of enlisted men will be used as are authorized by the Secretary of War." Anyway, our U. S. soldier soon gets abed of this:

Art. 22. Any officer or soldier, who begins, excites, causes or joins in any mutiny or sedition in any troop, battery, company, party, post, detachment or guard, shall suffer death or such punishment as Court Martial may direct." Art. 23 has some nice points also: "Any officer or soldier, who being present at the time of any mutiny or sedition and does not do his utmost to endeavor to suppress the same, or having knowledge of any mutiny or sedition and does not, without delay, give information thereof to his commanding officer, shall suffer death or such punishment as Court Martial may direct."

He also reads Art. 98: "No Court Martial shall sentence any soldier to be branded, marked or tattooed or flogged." But somehow, cunning little stories circulate around camp about soldiers like James, who was hung up by the thumbs until he became unconscious; he was then cut down, his uniform cut off from him and drummed out of camp. The case of Hammond was another example of avoiding the brand, mark, tattooed or flogged clause of Art. 98; he was only made to work thirty days without pay, bread and water, in chains, and, at the end of thirty days he was dragged through the company streets by the heels. This guy thought he could get an adjustment in the civil courts, but he was referred to Art. LXXVII, Sec. 1008: "Should a writ of habeas corpus issued by a State Court or Judge be served on an Army Officer, commanding him to produce an enlisted military convict and show cause for his detention; the officer will decline to produce in court, the body of the person named in the writ, but will make respectful returns in writing to the effect that the man is a duly enlisted soldier of the

United States or a military convict under sentence of court martial as the case may be, and that the Supreme Court of the United States has decided that a magistrate or court of a state has no jurisdiction in such a case."

Ernest Wilde was another horrible example. He was only sentenced to ninety-nine years imprisonment on Alcatraz Island, the Devil Island of America.

Our "hero" also learns of the great personal bravery of officers. How they risked getting a reprimand for having deserters flogged and branded with letter "D" because they were shot. But what makes 'em mad is when the order comes to dig a ditch around camp, then fill it up again. Then you cut down trees, etc. You think this a joke, eh? Well in the Army and Navy Life for October was a letter captioned "Soldier or Slave," claiming that enlisted men were forced to work all day in a swamp somewhere, where mosquitoes and remp were so thick that a dog could not stand it. It said: "Seven men deserted last payday and that fifteen were going next payday."

Our hero has now stood it as long as he can. He is quietly getting ready to leave. But the non-commissioned officers are "on." They know the symptoms. When our man quits making surly faces, stops talking with his crowd and goes mooning around by himself, they begin to get busy with some more of those cute little stories of promotions and he listens. Of course! For two and a half years he has had nothing but contemptuous looks and harsh commands and here is a chance to be their equal. Of course he listens! And listening, forgets about leaving and sticks to his grind. May be he snitches on some of his pals in order to get those corporal's stripes. By the time his term is up, his spirit is pretty well broken. He thought at the end of three years he would be done, but he learns another lesson. That he had to consider himself available for duty for five years longer under the provision of the Dick Military Act.

His three years are up, he comes home to Chicago, looks for his friends. They are all scattered. He hears and sees the hard times. He looks for a job. He can't get one. Every employer tells him that the men they have, soldier enough, without having professionals. It is easy to tell a soldier. The effect of three years drilling don't wear off in a few days. He goes broke; he feels the chilly winds; he gets hungry. Still he stays away. With all this privation, he still looks upon the idea of going back into the Army as a horrible nightmare!

Well! Ehem! Our hero has just made three unsuccessful attempts to panhandle "banner" money. He stops in surprise at the sight of a U. S. Recruiting Officer. Open in and running order at 1:30 A. M. But there it is and a nice fat Johnny standing on guard in front. He recognizes our man as an ex-soldier by his manner. So he waits for him to speak which he does. Then the decoy duck unfolds another one of those cute little stories which are so effective. He has three kinds. One for new men who never saw service; one for discharged men whose three months limit is not up; and one for old timers and deserters. Our man get a touch of No. two. They get to talking about the service and before he knows it, he is taking a drink in a neighboring saloon. Then another decoy makes things look brighter. The chilly winds no longer blow. The prospects for a banner are good. The decoy duck tells how if he will re-enlist before the expiration of three months, he will get increased wages; better treatment, etc.

A very nice picture is painted. Results: re-enlistment of our man. The newly enlisted man usually scorns the idea of shooting at strikers, because most recruits are working men and no man ever worked without getting into a fight with his boss. Remember, I had three years service, his brain has been sandpapered and all such foolish ideas removed. But then! Go ahead and join; see the world; study; be a hero; there is the flag; Our Country; there is the sign "MEN WANTED" for the Army, the Navy.

## I. W. W. CONVENTION

The Sixth I. W. W. convention will be held in Schweizer Turner Hall, formerly Ulich Hall, 348 North Clark St., Chicago. First day's session will convene Monday morning, Sept. 78, at 9 o'clock.

# A BIGGER ROCKPILE

City of Portland Preparing to Take Care of Unemployed by Enlarging That Municipal Institution.

(Special to Solidarity.)

Portland, Ore., Aug. 22. Conditions here in Portland, the so-called "city of roses" are about as bad as can be named. The Employers' Association is trying to break up the craft unions, which will be a good thing, as the workers will then probably see their weakness by being divided up into crafts.

The Mount Hood Light and Power Co. are the ones who are having scab electrical workers imported into the city to break up the union. The employment sharks are hiring scabs to take the strikers' places.

The city authorities are making good preparations for next winter. The rock pile has been made larger to accommodate more slaves. They are also building a 5 and 10 cent lodging house for the slaves who have no place to sleep—that is if they have the coin; if not, skidoo to the rock pile for them.

The Jesus screamers; namely the Starvation Army and the Holy Rollers, come out at night and preach to the slaves, telling them how they should be contented with their lot, and what a sin it is to go on strike for better living conditions. And the ignorant cattle stand and take it all in, also throw their last nickels and dimes on the drum. The next morning they will be looking for the price of a coffee and doughnuts. If an I. W. W. soapbox gets up and offers them free literature to read, they ignore it; but a lot of grafting, degenerate, thieving, sky pilots come out and offer their literature, they will be breaking their necks tumbling over one another to get some of it.

"Politics" is another attraction for the slaves. The quicker the working class forget about voting for a bunch of politicians, the better. Politicians did not win the strike for the workers over in England. It was won by a little direct action. This is the only way to get the goods; strike on the job where we are being exploited. Waiting for a politician to do something, is like sitting down and waiting for the second coming of Christ.

This is about the slowest town I was ever in, to get the workers to organize. Preaching industrial unionism to some of them is like talking to a lot of cattle without brains. The trouble with the "scissor-bill slave" is that he lets his master use his brains, instead of stopping to think for himself and to read good literature to see where he is being misled.

We need a few good hot heads here to jar some of the "cattle" loose a little. If agitation will not do it, well then, I say, starve them to it.

Still some ignorant fools will get up and say we are "free men" and living under a flag of "liberty and freedom," which would be better named "starvation and barbarism."

There is an employment bureau here, run by the city, with a specimen of humanity in charge who thinks he knows it all. He is a Y. M. C. A. man. All the good jobs he gives to his pets; while the dirty cheap jobs that pay nothing he gives to the others. But if you wear a paper collar and a good suit of clothes, you are all right in his eyes.

I would advise all class conscious men to keep away from Portland, as there is not much work and what there is of it; is of no account, mostly all scab jobs, with wages for common labor ranging from \$1.75 to \$2.50, 10 hours work, mostly railroading.

Wm. J. HOFFMAN.

(This last is poor advice. The class conscious men, on the contrary, should go to Portland, and if necessary, make the bourgeois feel them, while agitating this inert and apathetic mass of "scissorbills." Let us not advise revolutionists to run away or stay away from a fight.—Editor.)

## TO CANADIAN READERS

By arrangement with the management of the Industrial Worker, Solidarity is now pleased to announce a special COMBINATION RATE for the Worker and Solidarity of TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR.

In other words, the two papers are now offered to Canadian readers, in combination at the same rate as the regular subscription price in the United States. We pay the extra postage on combination sales sent to Canadian addresses.

Here is a chance to boost the Canadian sub list of both I. W. W. papers, that should not be missed by any active worker in that country. Roll up a big list for Canada. Do it now.

Get some sales!

# 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.

# INDUSTRIAL WORKER

Published Weekly by the Local Unions of the Industrial Workers of the World in Spokane, Washington.

A Red Hot, Fearless Working Class Paper Represents the Spirit of the West

Subscription: Yearly, \$1.00; Six Months, 50 Cents; Canada, \$1.50 Per Year. Address

## INDUSTRIAL WORKER,

P. O. BOX 2129, SPOKANE, WASH.

## I. W. W. PUBLISHING BUREAU

Complete list of Publications in Stock

"THE FARM LABORER AND THE CITY WORKER," By Edward McDonald 16 Page Pamphlet; 5 cents a Copy; to Local Unions, 2-1-2 cents.

"Why? How? When?" (Eight Hour Workday). Four page leaflet; 15 cents a hundred; \$1.25 per thousand.

"Political Parties and the I. W. W." By Vincent St. John. Four page leaflet; 15 cents a hundred; \$1.25 per thousand.

"Getting Recognition." By A. M. Stirtan. Four-page Leaflet, 15 cents a hundred; \$1.25 per thousand.

"Two Kinds of Unionism." By Edward Hammond. Four page Leaflet; 15 cents a hundred; \$1.25 per thousand.

"Appeal to Wage Workers, Men and Women." By E. S. Nelson. Four page Leaflet; 15 cents a hundred; \$1.25 per thousand.

"Union Scabs and Others." By Oscar Ameringer. Four page Leaflet; 15 cents a hundred; \$1.25 per thousand.

"War and the Workers." By Walker C. Smith. Four page leaflet; 20 cents a hundred; \$1.50 per thousand.

"Why the A. F. of L. Cannot Become an Industrial Union." By St. John. Four-Page Leaflet, 20 cents a hundred; \$1.50 per thousand.

ADDRESS

I. W. W. PUBLISHING BUREAU,

Box 692 NEW CASTLE, PA.

## The Industrialist

Official organ of the Industrial League, the British Section of the Industrial Workers of the World  
American Subscription Rates:  
Year, 50 cents; Six Months, 25c.  
Published Monthly

Address all communications to Leslie Boyce, 1 Union St., Union Square, Islington, London N., Eng.

## THE AGITATOR

A Worker's Semi-Monthly

Advocate of the Modern School, Industrial Unionism and Individual Freedom

Yearly, \$1; Quarterly 25c; Sample Free

JAY FOX, Editor  
Lake Bay, Washington

## La Union Industrial

Published by the Local Unions of the I. W. W. at

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

The only Spanish paper in the United States teaching Revolutionary Industrial Unionism.

Address  
LA UNION INDUSTRIAL,  
312 E. Buchanan St., Phoenix, Ariz.

Hustle in the sub!

Send in the sub.

## "La Vie Ouvriere"

Semi-Monthly Syndicalist Review Appearing 5th & 20th each month.

Foreign Subscription Rates:  
One Year, \$2.50; Six Months, \$1.25;  
Three Months, 75c.

Address all correspondence to Pierre Monatte, Editor, 96 Quai Jemmapes, Paris, France.

"LAW" OF THE SHOP

Class Workers Being Electric Trust to Terms By Mere Threat of General Strike.

(Special to Solidarity.)

Niles, Ohio, August 26. A law preventing blacklisting of employees in the manufacture of electric bulbs in America, was recently passed and enforced, without comment in the "public" press, by a group of men in the unknown little town of Niles, Ohio. This law was not passed in a bourgeois parliament or congress by doctors, lawyers, dentists and chiropractors, nor were there any special correspondents to write up the sensational features of the bill. The legislators in this case were unknown workmen who were members of a labor-union. And their parliament was their meeting hall. There was no lobbying, or so-called political representatives of the working class necessary, no technical or legal verbiage to overcome, nor any danger of its being declared "un-constitutional," unless the manufacturers at some future time attempt to resist it. Then its "constitutionality" will again be tested by the same original methods—organized class force.

This law was passed August 10, when 14 hoboes "blew" into Niles in side door Pullmans via the Royal Blue. The "boas" proved to be glass electric bulb blowers from Corning, N. Y., looking for jobs at their trade. They were discharged a few days prior to this by the Corning firm, which is one of the largest glass factories in the world, for being members of the American Flint Glass Workers' Union. The discharged men were taken to the manager of this notorious scam concern, that they were blacklisted forever in that shop and that they would see to it that these men would not get work in any other bulb factory in America. This the managers of the Corning plant thought was sufficient, as they are the largest concern connected with the National Electric trust which owns and controls every bulb factory and lamp house in America, both union and non-union.

These discharged and blacklisted men asked the manager of the Niles plant for employment. Upon inquiry as to where they were from, he promptly replied that there was "nothing stirring," yet there were 14 open places.

The factory committee of the local A. F. G. W. U. was consulted and they in turn demanded the jobs for the blacklisted men. This was refused, and on Thursday about noon on Aug. 11, the entire force at the Niles plant walked out and closed it as tight as a drum.

This was done in violation of the sacred "Star Isle" agreement, which rigidly forbids any such strikes until the matter in dispute is submitted to a joint conference of the manufacturers and men for possible adjustment. But the men have learned by bitter experience that to submit a grievance to this "conference" which is a small edition of the Civic Federation, and remain at work, is equivalent to losing their case.

And it was about this time that something else happened. For the first time in the history of the A. F. G. W. U. the great truth of industrial solidarity flashed from the minds of these men like an electrical spark, and in opposition to time-honored agreements and conservative traditions, and in open antagonism with their reactionary officials who threatened them with expulsion—they brushed their conservative officials and petty constitutional laws aside, and clamored for a general strike of the entire bulb trade of America.

In this as usual, their greatest opponents were their own national officers. Their fat jobs and salaries had to be secure; none of this general strike for them. The men also knew that this action on their part would deprive them of all material benefits (\$6.00 per week), yet they were willing to sacrifice this, to beat the blacklist of the National Electric trust.

Delegates were sent from the Niles union which was on strike to all other union factories where electric bulbs were produced, and the rank and file received the general strike idea with great enthusiasm. The past and dormant agitation of the I. W. W. now flamed forth as it never did before. Theory and practice were about to meet and converge. A small group of men, unknown workmen, possessed great power. With the possible exception of a few men in the Corning plant, they possessed the power to stop the din and the roar of a great industry on this side of the Atlantic. It was a power which no politician ever possessed. It was the power of organized class force. It was a technique as well as a class and a social power,

which flows from an autonomous control of production by the organized working class.

The general strike now hung on a thread, that is, on the forced acknowledgment and recognition of the anti-blacklist law. Both the National Officers of the A. F. G. W. U. and the National Electric trust knew this; and as soon as the "lawless committee" of the men got on the job a joint conference was immediately called between the manufacturers and the officials of the union.

The demands of the men were granted, the blacklist abolished and the "hoboes" put to work. THE VERY THREAT OF THE GENERAL STRIKE had done its work. The National Electric Trust was brought to its knees and promised to never discriminate in the future and the "Flints" have learned a great lesson. They passed a law in twelve days which organized crafts have been lobbying and begging for, years. The "Flints" are on the road to industrial unionism, and it will come (per saltum). The bourgeois theorizer and ideologist can not understand laws passed in this manner, but sooner or later experience of the working class will show him that the trend of industrial and social control is from parliaments to labor unions.

A FLINT.

WAR PLANS EXPOSED

(Continued From Page One)

owners a fair and just return as profits for legitimate investments, be it in capital or our ability to develop the vast lumber resources of the South. With the view of getting the opinions of trusted officials of labor organizations, I communicated with Mr. Ralph Easley, Secretary of the National Civic Federation and he gave me the assurance that the American Federation of Labor is the organization that will serve our purposes and he referred me to Mr. Samuel Gompers, who would be more than willing to give us advice and suggestions to meet the situation we are confronting. Mr. Samuel Gompers, in his reply that such matters could not be discussed through correspondence nor in a meeting of many, and therefore, I suggested to meet the gentleman here in Chicago, while he will be stopping over a few hours on his way to the West. As the date appointed in this afternoon, I thought it was to call this conference so that the Mill owners could have a chance to discuss the propositions made by Mr. Samuel Gompers.

Kirby Consults Gompers.

I found in Brother Gompers, an excellent man who is just as much concerned in the industrial progress of this country and the conservation of its tried and tested institutions as we are. When I went over the situation with him and showed him the circulars that these Timber Workers had issued, also their reports in "Solidarity" and that sheet "The Industrial Worker," he trembled with indignation, several times he interrupted me and asked whether the Timber Workers were also taking in the negroes, and upon me affirming this he said, "You read my remarks on the negro question made at the convention of the American Federation of Labor at St. Louis and in interviews, and although I had to modify these expressions on account of the storm that broke out among the friends of the black race, I believe still that you gentlemen should not be imposed upon by organizations that allow the black man the same right to fight the employers as the white men. But it looks like the Industrial Workers of the World want the black, the yellow and the brown all to be mixed together. The American people will not stand for it, never!"

"Enough to say, I fully indorse the conclusions of Mr. Easley of the National Civic Federation. We can place implicit trust in Mr. Gompers' loyalty to the cause of the law abiding people of this country. From this interview, I drew the following conclusions, on Mr. Gompers' suggestions, how to meet best the embarrassing situation which we are in.

Kirby's Next Plan!

First, We have to convince the Timber Workers that we have their welfare at heart, and intend to develop their efficiency and loyalty by showing them that we are in favor of them organizing, forming unions and dealing with us as partners in the business. But these unions must be a part of the American Federation of Labor and only skilled, efficient and trustworthy men should be eligible to membership. These unions we will control through some few men whom we will pay good wages or have elected as secretaries of the organizations.

Secondly, We will close contracts with

the various trades unions, and tell them to play that they must join these unions.

The radicals who insist on staying in the Brotherhood of Timber Workers, or in the Industrial Workers of the World, will be kept out of the mills and the A. F. of L. union papers will publish their names as "scabs" (ha, ha, ha) so that they can no longer get employment in this part of the country. Their places will be filled by loyal members of the American Federation of Labor.

Third, We will insist that the contracts contain clauses that no strike can be called before six months notice is served and that the union expels every man, or men, who suspend work without the permission of the union and the employers. Mr. Gompers gave us a copy of the United Mine Workers contracts, containing such clauses, and this would be satisfactory to us also.

Fourth, In order to force all workers, especially those that have as yet not been taken by the Brotherhood of Timber Workers, to do as we dictate, declare a general lockout in all Louisiana and Texas mills for a week or two, not longer, and then by addressing the workers through our agents and organizers of the A. F. of L. and by getting leaflets out, we should get the great majority of unorganized workers to contract with the members of the Brotherhood of Timber Workers, the industrial Workers of the World. Then they will be ready to return to work at our terms and under the provision that they must be members of the national union of woodmen, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. Those who will balk against these terms will be driven out of the camps by the loyal, conservative men. We need not fear that the workers of other parts of the country will know that we are behind these schemes as the journals controlled by the A. F. of L. will help defend our position and they have a wider circulation than the anarchist sheets of the Industrial Workers of the World.

For hours, Kirby talked of the great war-plan concocted by Samuel Gompers, behind the scenes, and John H. Kirby, the general of the army, that is going to smash the I. W. W. and build up the A. F. of L. in the Southern Lumber district. So, the command was to be issued that the lumber mills be closed until Kirby thinks the slaves of the camps are ready to come back "organized in a seal-producing outfit—the American Federation of Labor."

DRUMMER.

K. C. AND THE COPS

(Continued From Page One)

Friday night, when it was decided to bail out one of our speakers and get out an appeal bond. We spoke the next evening at 6th and Main. After a couple of speakers had finished, a scissorbill came along and told us we would have to stop, as the speaker on the box was not a workman but was using the streets for private profit. The only ordinance here against speaking on the streets is that they must not be used for private gain.

The agitation committee were all craft union men who had their cards with them and showed them to the sciss. He then went to the agitation committee then headquarters. After a few minutes conversation he came back and told us he would arrest the speaker if he did not get out of the box, as the business men were kicking.

We told him to go ahead and arrest him. By that time quite a crowd had collected around the bull and he began to look like a frightened calf. He finally burst out with, "Maybe I can't arrest all of you, but I can get enough policemen here in a few minutes." He was told to go ahead.

Then he said we were blacklisting the sciss. He said to the agitation committee then said, "If that is all, we will police the crowd." They chose 7 or 8 members to get the sidewalk clear. The bull then moved on and we were not again molested that evening.

In the meantime a meeting had been stopped at 12th and Baltimore, across the street from the Baltimore hotel, the leading hotel in the town, on complaint of the manager, who said we were disturbing the guests in their (bourgeois) slumber. We tried to get a permit to show the bulls who had been molesting our meetings, but were told that permits were issued only to the Salvation Army and other religious organizations, this despite the fact that a score or more of street fakirs were using the streets every day for private gain.

About a month ago we were speaking at Mo. Ave. and Main, and were told that we could not speak there. We moved one block up the street to 6th & Main, and

were not molested until two weeks ago on a Sunday night, when a sergeant and 4 men broke up our meeting, saying we had talked long enough, and dispersed the crowd. We adjourned to our headquarters and held a special meeting at which a secret committee was elected, the secretary alone to know the members elected. They have been given power to perpetuate themselves by always having members in view to take their places in the event of their arrest. Also a committee was elected to interview the chief of police next day and report back to another special meeting. The committee went to police headquarters at 11 o'clock, and were told that no report of the affair had been given in, and for the committee to come back at 5 o'clock roll call. At that time, the lieutenant in charge told us that several complaints had been made that we were inflaming the masses, selling recipes for making bombs, etc.

After a lengthy discussion on what constituted freedom of speech, we were told that we could speak as long as the business men did not complain. It was pointed out to him that it was on Sunday night and no business house was open within a radius of half a block. He finally told us that if we would moderate our language and appeal to the better part of the workers we would have more success. The committee reported to the meeting that the police authorities seemed inclined to be fair, and recommended that if any of our meetings were interrupted again, we adjourn the meeting to headquarters, and that the matter be reported to the authorities. The recommendation was adopted.

Last Sunday night one of our Italian speakers at our regular weekly Italian meeting was told to stop by an Italian detective. The speaker was advised by some of the English speaking members, to adjourn to our headquarters. The detective then got into an argument with one of our members. Said member used direct action, and the cop beat it up the street. When a committee went over to police headquarters nothing could be learned. The cop's name was not even known.

We spoke every night last week at 6th and Main and were not molested except by a few individuals, who were soon hustled out of the crowd by the aid of a little direct action. Last night (Saturday) a supposed stool-pigeon took exception to something the speaker was saying. He was told if he wanted the box he could have it and we would debate the question with him. After another speaker was through speaking, he was invited to the box to present his argument, but immediately started to push his way through the crowd to beat it. The crowd hissed and laughed at him, when a couple of bulls grabbed him and said as they pushed their way to the stand that they would see that he got fair play. But seeing our willingness to give him the stand, they hedged, and finally told us we would have to go down to see the captain and get a permit.

The agitation committee went down to police headquarters and saw the night chief. He asked us if we were "socialistic?" We said no. He then said, "You are too socialistic; have been causing too much trouble at 6th & Main, and the police can stop your meetings any time they want to." He walked off into his private office.

We then went to our hall where a special meeting was held of all the members that could be gathered, with others added from the meeting. We decided that until we had notified the entire membership to attend a special meeting no definite action could be taken further than to cut out our English meeting Sunday night and concentrate on the Italian meeting and speak until our speakers were either told to desist or arrested.

Now, fellow workers, we have done everything possible to avoid a free speech fight, but it seems inevitable.

We will not make a call for volunteers till we have several fellows arrested and tried. So don't come here unless you intend coming anyway, till we force the authorities to take a stand one way or the other. Any further developments will be wired Solidarity and the Worker.

Yours for free speech, K. C.  
TOM HALCHO,  
H. SCOTT,  
GEO. W. REEDER.

By order of Local 61  
Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 20.  
The local has decided to demand free speech from the box in case of molestation by the police, and have ordered the speakers to continue to speak until arrested. We have held seven meetings since the foregoing was written, and have had no trouble. Keep your eyes on our papers.  
COMMITTEE.

PICNIC IN LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles, Calif., Aug. 23. Our I. W. W. picnic on Aug. 13 was the best ever held. Everyone who attended it went home rejoicing at the good time they had. A Dutch auction on a box of cigars netted about \$30 for the defense of Mosby, Laflin and Reed.

E. J. Lewis was the speaker at the picnic. Lewis by the way is also agitating in the interest of the I. W. W. in towns surrounding the city of saints and angels.

Yes, we will have a delegate at the convention.  
Yours for more pork chops while we have teeth left to chew them.  
H. WEINSTEIN, Sec'y.

DEPRESSION IN CHICAGO

(Continued From Page One)

loads and were burned under the boilers. The spirit of the strikers, although they had been out already 15 weeks, when I was there, was excellent. After 15 weeks out on meager strike pay, there had been only about 200 desertions from that great body of strikers.

I returned to Chicago August 10, and found no sign of improvement. It is true that the steel works in Gary have put on about 1000 men between July 15 and August 15 and the Pullman works have put back about 200, but in general the condition of the labor market remains about the same at present, and promises to get fiercer with the coming of the winter, unless things pick up greatly and speedily. At this writing there is no sign of improvement, although there is some talk of the big corporations resuming production, beginning Sept. 1.

BRUNO HEIDKE,  
Sec'y Local 500.

NEW SONG BOOKS

The Spokane locals are now having printed a New Song Book, with the following new songs: Long Haired Freshers, The Eight Hour Day, One Big Union, The Little Red Button, and many other new songs.

I. W. W. locals should get busy and send in their order at once. Price of Song Book is \$5.00 a hundred, and \$35.00 a thousand. We pay express charges on all orders. Send money with your order to Max Drezetel, Sec'y, I. W. W. Hall, 518 Main Ave., Spokane, Wash.

CONVENTION NOTICE

Delegates to the convention should get a receipt for all mileage and fare paid and bring the same to the convention for the mileage committee.

VINCENT ST. JOHN, Gen Sec'y.

STOCKTON, CALIF.

Local 75, I. W. W., of Stockton, Calif., is in a flourishing condition, and wants to become more so. Our hall is at 229 1/2 Webber avenue. All members and others are cordially invited to visit us.

NEW HEADQUARTERS IN MINNEAPOLIS.

Until further notice the address of the Minneapolis locals will be at Room 3, Webb Block, 10 Third St. S. All communications should be directed to the above address.

JEAN E. SPIELMAN, Sec'y.

ST. LOUIS 1. W. W.

Local 84, I. W. W. St. Louis, Mo., meets every Friday, 8 P. M., at 309 Market St. 2nd floor. All wage workers invited. Wm. YOUNG, Fin. Sec'y.

CHANGE IN DULUTH.

Local 68, I. W. W., of Duluth, Minn., has again changed headquarters, having moved to 111 Second avenue, West. Free reading room; all slaves welcome.

FRANK WATSON, Fin. Sec'y.

CLEVELAND, OHIO.

Local 33, I. W. W., has changed its meeting place. We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 1919 W. 25th St., at 8 o'clock.  
Sec'y.

There is indeed a reason for building up the I. W. W. press. Send in your bunch of subs today.

"Emancipation"  
Official Organ of the  
Francia-Bolshev Federation I. W. W.  
3 months 15¢, 6 months 30¢,  
1 year 60¢.  
Make remittances payable to  
AUG. DETOLLENAERE, Secretary,  
9 Mason St.,  
LAWRENCE, MASS.