



VOLUME I. NUMBER 8.

NEW CASTLE, PENNSYLVANIA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1910.

TWO CENTS PER COPY. \$1.00 PER YEAR

# THE SPOKANE FIGHT

(By Our Special Spokane Correspondent.)

**Suppression of the Industrial Worker.**  
The Industrial Worker has been suppressed in Spokane, not by legal action on "the civilized plane," but by forcible confiscation. Detectives were stationed in the inland printing office and the iron arm of the law destroyed the 7,000 copies which came from the press. About a dozen copies were saved from destruction and conveyed to the vaults of the city of Spokane, and of these a few were surreptitiously circulated. For the public, the announcement of Chief Sullivan that the paper is incendiary must suffice. The fact is, the paper is about the mildest ever issued by the I. W. W. Dozens of Socialist papers are far more radical, and, as for rabid and incendiary, it cannot be compared to the Spokesman-Review. The writer speaks from knowledge gained by reading a copy of the suppressed edition. The police notified various printers in town, who evinced a willingness to print the paper, not to print any further copies or they would be held liable. And yet no action has been taken to prove their claims against the paper.

**Ball Meetings Censored.**  
The I. W. W. Ball has been the scene of some splendidly enthusiastic meetings lately and the result is illustrated by the following notice in the Spokesman-Review of December 12:

"In order to place a curb on 'firebrand' orators of the I. W. W. circles and to prevent temporary leaders from sowing seeds of discontent among foreigners and Americans who attend the meetings, four policemen, beginning tonight, will be detailed to attend all meetings with instructions to arrest all speakers giving voice to revolutionary, incendiary or rabid articles."

Four censors on what constitutes safe and conservative doctrines fit for Spokane, with full power to act, to arrest or to close down the meeting, if they see fit, this is free (?) America. On Sunday night Fellow Worker Frank Reed was arrested while speaking, because he did not show a proper respect for the American flag, according to the educated, blue coated censors. Not yet tried, he has been subjected to a course of very insulting remarks and brutal treatment in the city jail.

We certainly have arrived at a very critical and dangerous stage of American history when police officers are the sole judges as to what is fit and proper for Americans to read and hear, and are empowered to suppress newspapers and meetings with impunity.

**The Criminal Conspiracy Cases.**  
The criminal conspiracy cases have been increased to over twenty and include Fellow Workers Thompson, Foote, Wilson, Filigno, Cousins, Pannell, Roe, Whitehead, Shipley, Grant, Douglas, Connors, Speed, Bailey, Fischer, Gatewood, Iarsh, Reece, Foss and E. G. Flynn. The following disposition has been made of the cases: Wilson, Foote, Thompson and Pannell, six months to the county jail; Filigno bound over to the Superior court; Cousins, four months; E. G. Flynn, three months. Some of these men have already been held nearly three weeks without trial and no sign of one in the near future. Those sentenced, with the exception of Miss Flynn, are serving their time, although all the cases have been appealed to the Superior court; Curley Flynn was tried by a jury of six prominent business men. This was the first jury trial in connection with the free speech fight. The

tired men.  
A mass meeting was held in the I. W. W. hall one day this week, including about 200 men who had been in jail, and after a thorough discussion it was decided to call off the bread and water diet and let all I. W. W. men on the rock pile from now on. The reasons are evident, human endurance has its limits, and it is a more sensible way of getting the boys in fighting condition and jelling up the city's expenses, to work little as possible and get three square meals a day.

**The Case of Lawyer Crane.**  
Lawyer Crane, who appealed his disorderly conduct case to the Superior court, was found "guilty" after the jury of 12 were out for four hours. He has been sentenced to ten days and \$150 fine, but has appealed the case and declares his intention of fighting it out. He is suing Chief of Police Sullivan for \$10,000 for calling him an "anarchist," and is suing Officer Logan for ill-treating him, so probably keep them busy for some time. They left him without sentence for several days to see if he would be on good behavior, but he went to the I. W. W. hall as usual.

**Echoes From the Battlefield.**  
A committee from the I. W. W. membership was sent out to interview the boys at the Franklin school who have not yet returned, and they were refused admittance by the authorities, who feared some "noise." Now the police refuse to allow I. W. W. men on the rock pile, but as soon as they are sentenced put them on bread and water diet.  
A photographer in Coeur d'Alene city is reported to have returned to a Spokane house his entire holiday order, besides cancelling his Spokesman-Review daily order, and he desires to be considered as one who stands against Spokane's oppressive policies and lying newspapers.

Figures count in a fight of this character. The city government admits an expense account of over \$10,000. If they ADMIT that much, how much more it probably is in reality. Also suits are pending against the city for \$50,000. So the I. W. W. fight has not been all bluff.  
The petition for an initiation of a new ordinance seems to succeed very well, according to reports from A. E. of L. circles and Socialist party members. It's putting the citizens on record as to where they stand.

A splendid educational meeting with the subject, "Industrial Unionism," discussed by Gurley Flynn, was held under the auspices of the Economic club last Sunday in Odd Fellows' hall, with over 800 people in attendance. Efforts to hire other halls for similar meetings have thus far failed absolutely, in spite of the assertion of prosecutors and judges, "Let them hire halls." The Auditorium was tried, Odd Fellows' hall was tried and the management of both made polite excuses and declining. Let the working class remember these people who bar us from the use of public halls.

The case of Fellow Worker Filigno is now up for trial. To properly defend all the so-called "criminal conspirators," as well as to feed the men who come out of jail and put them in physical condition to care for themselves, MONEY IS NEEDED.  
Funds, defense funds, must be raised. It's up to you, readers, to do the supporting for men who are doing the fighting.  
Fellow Worker Fred W. Holewood, whose address is Box 895, Coeur d'Alene City, Idaho, has charge of the defense fund.  
Communicate with him at once. Do your share towards bearing the financial burden of the great conflict.  
DIG UP FOR FREE SPEECH, FREE PRESS AND FREE ASSEMBLY.

Notes from the field  
(Industrial Press Bureau.)  
There is considerable talk among the coal miners that a strike is quite probable in that industry the first of April. Delegates recently elected to attend the annual convention, it is learned, in a large number of places have been instructed to stand out for an increase in wages. The basis for the demand for higher wages is the increased cost of living. It is shown that the coal miners are not doing as well as they were ten years ago and that slack work in the summer makes it impossible to have anything at the end of the year. Revolutionary unionists may watch the actions of the United Mine Workers with increased interest from now on. There is a revolting spirit stirring among the rank and file. The spirit of discontent is manifesting itself in the form of a squabble between the leaders. The next convention will bring to light several new developments.

We learn, also, that the Catholic leaders of France are attempting to gain favor with the working class. Besides the "red" unions, which are revolutionary and represented nationally by the General Confederation of Labor, there are also the "white" unions, which are favored in most instances by little bosses and "straw" bosses, and in a large number of cases they have been organized by the employers themselves. The "yellow" unions are similar to the conservative craft unions of the American Federation of Labor. Then there are the newly organized Catholic unions, called the "green" unions, forming the industrial wing of the Christian Democratic clubs. All ways and means are being used to sidetrack the revolutionary unions of France, but they continue to grow in number and spirit.

A Swedish professor in commenting on the recent general strike in that country says that the real danger of a general strike is not its physical effect upon industry and the state. He says that the real danger is the psychological effect upon the minds of the toiling masses. He says it creates within them a feeling of antagonism for the present order of things, and cannot help but grow until the masses will take it into their own hands to overthrow the state machinery and take everything into their own hands. His analysis is keen. Above all means he advises that the government should step in and prevent strikes.

For more than a month the employees of the Homestake Mining Company, Black Hills, South Dakota, have been locked out, for refusing to sign a statement that they would not join the Western Federation of Miners. This doesn't seem to be very good tactics on the part of the men. Workmen, acting as individuals, ought not to hesitate for one moment to sign any kind of a statement or make any kind of promises to hold their jobs. Nor should they consider themselves in any way morally bound or obligated by any such promises or statements wrung from them, as they are, tyrannically and unjustly by superior force and not entered into of their own free will and accord. The thing to do is to agree to anything as individuals, build up the union just the same and when you struggle enough give battle. This isn't, of course, conceding that any organization of miners alone, or anything short of the full revolutionary program of the I. W. W., is competent to deal with the tremendous power of the modern trust.

Wages always tend toward the level of the poorest paid.

Men are coming out of jail daily, their sentences served, and in such pitiable physical condition, but with undaunted courage. No more impressive testimony to the brutality of the Spokane police could ever be found than the gaunt, hungry, often bruised faces of these weak,

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# SOLIDARITY

P. O. Drawer 622 New Castle, Pa.

**PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE  
New Castle Local Union of the Industrial  
Workers of the World  
AT 56 SOUTH JEFFERSON ST.**

A. M. STURTON, Editor  
C. H. McCARTY, Manager

**SUBSCRIPTION:**  
Yearly, \$1.00  
Six Months, .50  
Climate and Foreign, .75  
Single Copies, per copy, .01  
Advertising Rates on Application.

**Cash Mailed Accompany All Orders.**  
Address all communications for publication in Solidarity to the Editor; all remittances for subscriptions and others pertaining to financial matters to the Manager.

Applications has been made for entry as second class mail matter, at the Post Office in New Castle, Pa.

### GOING TO GARY.

Not only the steel mill workers but the whole working class of the United States are vitally interested in the latest move of the steel trust to concentrate a great amount of the industry under their control at Gary, Indiana. The Bridgeport, Ohio, mills are already in process of dismantling and much of their machinery is already on the way. More will follow. It is probable also that other mills and factories will be moved to Gary. In addition, the steel trust makes public the announcement that it will spend a hundred millions in enlarging its already tremendous equipment at Gary, and how much more it actually will spend no one, of course, knows.

This does not mean that Western Pennsylvania will be abandoned as a steel producing center. The trust will be compelled to hold this field also, in order to keep down all possible competition. But it does mean that the death knell of all independent companies, if they really are such, has been sounded, and it also means the destruction of craft unionism as a fact.

Industries. From now on, it is either industrial unionism or no union at all. That is, so far as any efficiency is concerned. Craft unions may continue to drag out an existence but it will only be to provide salaries for officials.

This will be evident to anyone who considers conditions at Gary. The steel trust is in possession of some 25 miles on the Lake front, mostly donated by the legislatures of Illinois and Indiana. Within a hundred miles it is in possession of inexhaustible coal fields. Between these and its works at Gary are three trunk lines, by means of its own train crews, through special arrangement with the Frisco road. Its docks are on Lake Michigan where it can unload from its own boats, the first on the lakes, the ores taken from its own workings in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota and reloaded with its finished products, with scarcely the intervention of a human hand. Gary itself, being only 25 miles from South Chicago, is also a magnificent shipping point by rail and when the deep water canal connecting the Ohio and Mississippi, now under consideration by congress and the president, is completed, will command the distribution of steel products throughout the south and west. As for the market in the southeast that is already secured to the steel trust by their equipment in Birmingham, Alabama.

The machinery at Gary is of the newest and the best. A notable feature is the utilization of the hitherto waste gas from the blast furnaces in gas engines to generate electricity for motor power to drive their machinery. There are now motors in operation which ordinarily run at 6,000 horse power that when power can be increased to 22,000 of required. The main purpose for which the steel trust at Gary uses coal is to bring their raw material to the required temperature. And of coal they possess an inexhaustible supply at their very doors.

To install this new machinery would require, on the part of the independent mills, the discarding of their steam engines now in use and vast outlay of capital in installing the gas engines and electric generators. The process is not at all practical in their old mills and they are building but few new ones. Indeed they should they when the steel trust has so thoroughly procured the ground.

Because of modern developments in the use of electricity, its application in the Gary work will probably not even require

more electricians but fewer than formerly. Space is too limited to go into this phase of the matter fully in this article, but all electricians will understand the immense saving in labor power that is secured through the use of alternating rather than direct currents. An example may be found here in New Castle where the cement works operate with eight electricians, compared with the steel mill which employs twenty with only half the capacity. Every modern device is, and will be, installed in Gary.

It needs no argument to show the displacement of labor that must follow the concentration of large industries like that of the steel trust. Such displacement always has followed as a matter of course and Gary can prove no exception. Not only will ash shovellers, firemen, engineers, trainmen, freight handlers and others, be displaced by the utilization of the waste gas from the blast furnaces, but all unskilled will be displaced in all departments by concentration of industry and improved machinery. For the same reasons cheap unskilled labor can increasingly take the place of the more skilled and highly paid. All of which adds emphasis to the fact that the backbone of the unionism is broken so far as the steel mills are concerned.

The principal output in Gary just now is steel rails. Its steel rail mills there are the largest in the world. Its blast furnaces for converting ore into crude iron are also enormous. The structural iron in it also allow for extensive tin and rod mills, if, indeed, they are not already in operation.

Some 5,000 workers are now on the pay rolls in Gary and more are being added from day to day. It is expected that fifteen or twenty thousand will be on the pay roll before a year has passed. No serious attempt has ever been made to organize these mills, and with the A. A. in its present battered condition and its hands more than full in the east there is no craft union capable of undertaking the task, even if there were hitherof and benefit to the workers in craft unionism. And until Gary is subordinated from top to bottom, from its finished product to its base of supplies, all talk of whipping the steel trust by hitting them somewhere else is the

The situation that we are now up against is this: The steel trust in complete control of the whole industry of producing steel, iron and tin, from the mining of the ores to the delivery of the finished product, having two powerful centers of production, one in Pennsylvania controlling the east and one in Gary controlling the west, while a third center in Birmingham controls the market in the old south. Competition is not only dead, but the natural resources and locations of advantage in the hands of the trust, it is dead beyond all possibility of resurrection.

The lesson for labor is writ so large that he who runs may read. Against this all-dominating steel trust the attacks of individual craft unions, hamstringing by a theory of identity of interests, and its effects manifested as a volley of spit balls against the Chinese wall.

It isn't enough that the workers in the steel mills must be organized in one steel workers' union. So must the miners. They must be organized not as separate and independent units but as departments, one industrial union revolutionary to the core.

In other words the I. W. W. It's either that from now on for the workers in the steel mills or it's the nailed coffin of the steel trust with their throats strangling out their power of resistance and crushing them lower and lower in the mire of poverty and degradation.

There is no getting away from it. It isn't a question of sentiment, or even of loyalty, "sticking" or any other virtues, however estimable, but of the facts in the case. It's either get together in one big party of the workers or be pounded to pieces by the sledge hammer blows of the steel trust.

Which shall it be?  
"Join the union of your craft" is an obsolete slogan. It has been supplanted by the modern cry: "In the union of your class, the I. W. W."

"What are we here for?" asked a corrupt legislator once when reproved by the reformers. But the question is nevertheless a good one. What are we, the workers, here for? To support capitalism indirectly through A. F. of C. Federation connections, or to overthrow it directly through our own industrial organization? That's the question!

### POOR STUFF TO WIN STRIKES ON.

Little as we expect from such unionism as anything, we must also to a feeling of disappointment on seeing the Christmas cards circulated in New Castle by the A. A., now on strike, with 24 of their members in jail for walking on the streets. With the religious epistles expressed we have nothing to do, such matters being merely beyond the scope of our work. But listen to this:

"Our enemies this day we accept as one of us into the Common Brotherhood of Man, believing that their endeavors to accomplish certain ends in part of a scheme of Providence, the completion of which will tend toward the glad day when right will prevail."

That's a fine line of slash to peddle out for a labor organization on strike against the powerful, unscrupulous and merciless steel trust. Damn such stuff! If that's the way you are going to talk after being ridden down like sheep and your skulls cracked by Cosacks, how can you hope to retain the respect of your fellow workers anywhere? If you are going to "accept our enemies as one of us" and "turn the other cheek," why say so once and all of the strike. If you are going to fight—fight. No half way business. Do one thing or the other. But, hell, what's the use of urging vigorous action on a dying craft union like the A. A. in the last stages of quick consumption?

You have nothing to gain by such tactics. Not even the sympathy of the shoddy, middle class about town. The world loves a fighter. It has no time for those who get into a labor fight and then Sunday school verses, whining for a hand-out at the back doors of public sympathy.

You talked large and splendid about how you would "stick" and what you would do when your twenty-four brothers were in jail and how you would use the Spokane tactics and fill the jails and make the ruling class feel you while you were on strike. The Amalgamated Journal printed in full, with high approval, several columns of a local paper urging that very thing. What's gotten into you that you want to crawl now? Why in the name of all weeks before holding a protest meeting when your brothers were put in jail for walking on the streets? What in the name of all reason and common sense is the sense of waiting until their terms were nearly out before raising your voices against their imprisonment? Is that the way you intend to apply Spokane tactics and fill the jails? Such monkey business as that has made the A. A. the laughing stock of Pennsylvania.

There is one hope which we yet cling; that this sort of thing doesn't represent the real attitude of the rank and file, but the wooden Indians on the Advisory Board, and officials higher up.

This one and the feeling now that the men of the A. A. can do to save their credit and keep out of the comic papers, and that it is a vast mass meeting of all the strikers, take matters entirely out of the hands of the officials who have shown themselves utterly incompetent weaklings to move and vote when they are going to go back or stay on strike. Run your vote to go back, go back in a body, organize in the I. W. W. and get ready to put up a real fight later on. If you vote to stay out and fight, why fight as though you meant it.

This dilly dallying and fooling around and hitting the steel trust with one finger at a time and afterwards explaining on a Christmas card that you didn't really mean it and that you will be good during Christmas anyway, is only enabling the steel trust to train and vote which they are going to go back. The only danger to the capitalists in such tactics is that they will laugh themselves to death thinking about it.

### MORE LIGHT ON CHERRY DISASTER.

The International Socialist Review for January contains an article on the recent fatal mine horror in Cherry, Ill.

St. John brings in a terrible indictment, and what is more, he makes it stick, not only against the employers but against the present officials of the U. M. W. A. for negligence or worse in not seeing to it that the mine was in safe condition. The complicity of the Union officials in the criminal negligence of the mine owners is clearly shown to be due to the A. F. of L. doctrine as to the identity of interests between capital and labor, and in this instance, it's hard work to condemn but it does the work. Some of the editor's own articles in this issue are a trifle too long. But it doesn't.

also only aim at establishing an agreement with the operator and the U. M. W. A. where the check-off system is established, thus making the coal operator the dues collector for the organization that pays the salary of the officials. In order to get the check-off the union officials must give the companies something in return, and that something is given by rendering the U. M. W. A. harmless so far as endangering the profits of the operators are concerned."

The whole article needs to be read to be properly appreciated and this number of the Review ought to be in the hands of every wage earner, coal miners especially, in America. Ten cents. Charles H. Kerr & Co., 118 W. Kinzie St., Chicago, Ill.

### SPECIAL NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

Copy must be in hand by Tuesday night to insure its publication that week. This is imperative. We make 'up on Wednesday and go to press Thursday morning.

### THOSE CLIPPINGS.

Fellow workers who are anxious to help make Solidarity a success can help greatly by watching the papers, both labor and capitalist, and sending us clippings bearing on labor's interests. In every case mark plainly the name of the paper, place of publication and the date so it can be quoted if necessary. Come boys; you believe in direct action, here's one way of applying it.

### INDUSTRIAL PRESS BUREAU.

It has been decided to publish the Industrial Press Bureau news every week in Solidarity. Weekly letters to I. W. W. organizations will be discontinued and these organizations are urged to center their efforts on building up Solidarity. Correspondents are also urged to send in their notes in care of Solidarity.

L. Duchez.

### LATEST MOVE OF STEEL TRUST.

The United Press service gives out the following: Chicago, Dec. 24.—The second great movement of the U. S. Steel Corporation to invade territory adjacent to Chicago following the creation of Gary, Ind., began today with the announcement that \$20,000,000 in building new plants and enlarging its shops during the coming year.

The new movement, which will be participated in by various subsidiaries of the steel combine, affects the entire steel making territory between South Chicago and Gary, which are 25 miles apart.

The relocation of the submerged lands on the shore of Lake Michigan granted to the steel combine by the Illinois legislature last spring and the development of the land thus obtained, will enter largely into the plan according to E. J. Buffington, president of the Illinois Steel Co., who said today that the extensions on that concern's plant alone would mean the employment of some 5,000 additional men in 1910.

It is understood that the Colorado Fuel and Iron company is planning to begin the construction of a \$20,000,000 plant in the Gary territory.

### CORRESPONDENTS WANTED.

Fellow Workers: This is your paper. You want to make a success of it. You want to make it useful in building up the I. W. W.

We can no more do it without news that we can without subs. We want every local union of the I. W. W. at its very first meeting to elect someone as correspondent and the secretary to send in the name at once to us. This means you. Don't forget, but as Duchez says, "Do something."

Now what we want in correspondence: Short news articles telling what the organization is doing, and also short letters with comment showing the class struggle and the need for industrial unionism. Things that the capitalist press try to suppress. Short and to the point.

Newspaper clippings too. Things that beg on the labor movement and can be used to show the necessity of industrial unionism. Add your comments if you like. But in sending newspaper clippings always bear this point in mind: Mark plainly the name of the paper, place and date of publication, so that it can be quoted.

We want a few longer articles too occasionally on particular phases of the industrial union movement. But boil them down. Boil them down to 500 words if you can, not more than a thousand anyway. It's hard work to condense but it does the work. Some of the editor's own articles in this issue are a trifle too long. But it doesn't.

# STRAY BULLETS

Here about Gary next week. Special article. Watch for it.

More dinner and less work is what we want. Organize in the I. W. W. and fight for it.

Have you done anything yet to help the boys who are fighting your fight in Spokane? Send contributions to Fred W. Helewood, Box 895, Coeur d'Alene, Ida.

By the time that this issue has reached the most of our readers many a worn out store girl will have cause to thank wretched employers there that the "holiday season" has passed. A great holiday season for them and a great way to celebrate the alleged birth of a redeemer of mankind. It will be different when they are organized in the I. W. W.

They can disfranchise a great many of the working class by astute glibly words of various sorts but they can't prevent them from joining the I. W. W.

The working class have nothing to lose in the Revolution no matter what course it takes. They are as insecure in their jobs; in life and limb, now as they possibly can be. Constantly being mangled in railroad wrecks or blown up in mine explosions; always liable to be fired and certain to be when their hair begins to turn a bit gray. Might as well die fighting anyway.

One thing have I sworn by all the gods of my fathers and that you will I keep come what may. I will never die of cold or starvation in a land of plenty full of the good things which I and my class have created by our sweat and toil.

You have heard that it hath been said unto you by them of old time: Aak and ye shall receive. But I say unto you: Take and ye shall have.

The ruling class are just getting over their annual blow out in which they pretend to celebrate the birth of a carpenter who was crucified by their class for telling them a few plain facts about social conditions to be found there. Meanwhile plenty of poor children in Chicago and in New York have been eating 'out of garbage cans.

Soft words butter no parsnips. Only when the workers have taken the bit in their teeth and have spoken in tones so threatening that the ruling class could not but listen has the voice of labor been heeded.

"Power's the greatest word in any language." It is the only word that capitalism understands. When the workers are industrially organized we will show them what power is.

So the A. F. of L. is going to lick the stuffing out of the steel trust. Ever see a Belgian hare claw up a bull dog?

Think of dignifying a movement that organizes less than ten per cent of the workers into warring, jealous craft unions as "the labor movement."

Organize in the I. W. W. and put up a fight. Better be a lion for a day than a sheep for a thousand years.

Wonder how the fat fellows whose houses are full of good things that they never earned would "solve the problem" of the stum proletariat if a strike of the electricians should leave the cities in darkness for a few nights?

Chattel slavery reduced the worker to the level of pigs and cattle. Wage slavery reduces him to the level of salt pork and dried beef.

What have you done to help the boys in their fight in Spokane. Remember it's your fight just as much as it is theirs.

It is to laugh—the way some socialists would achieve socialism by way of an anti-socialist unionism.

Capitalism cannot be overthrown by condemning the American prototype of the German Reichstag, the Civic Federation, and thus supporting its pet creature, the A. F. of L.

**WANTED**  
Lady Socialist to help socialist  
Author prepare copy. She can learn. Write any way.  
F. E. Sterry, New Albany, Pa.

## FROM ABROAD

Following is a complete translation of No. 110 of the "Bulletin International du Mouvement Syndicaliste," published at Clamart, near Paris, France. The article on the situation in Holland finds its parallel in many respects in recent history in connection with the I. W. W. before and since the McKees Rocks strike; while that on the proposed boycott of Spanish vessels and merchandise shows the possibilities for power of international industrial solidarity and the terror it inspires in the hearts of the capitalist class and its governments. The boycott has since failed to materialize in an effective form because of hesitation and delay on the part of some of the big unions of Germany, Italy and other European countries, while in this country the A. F. of L., of course, has paid no attention to the proposed movement.

B. H. WILLIAMS.

## Revolutionary Union Movement of Holland.

Comrade H. Kolthek of Amsterdam, secretary of the National Labor Bureau, writes:

"The excavators' (building laborers') strike in Amsterdam, beginning August 25 and ending after eight weeks of hard struggle in a great victory for labor, leads us to certain conclusions regarding the Holland union movement which, outside of the encouragement they may bring to the revolutionists of our country, have also some interest for the international movement.

"In the revolutionary unions of Holland many events had taken place which could be used against us by our adversaries—that is, above all, by the social democrats. And they have not failed to make use of them. Going beyond their right to criticize the mistakes committed, they have invented stories of corruption alleged to exist in our ranks and which, according to these critics, were the inevitable consequences of revolutionary principles.

"We have therefore experienced those trying periods during which all the energy and all the confidence of our members in the soundness of our principles have been necessary to maintain our organization. But the excavators' strike has made it possible for us, in great part, to regain lost ground. Not that our unions have already got back their former numbers; for that, our movement is still to split up, too divided, notwithstanding the undeniable gain that can be pointed to as a result of the strike. But we have evidently regained in great measure our influence and the confidence of the sailing masses.

"The excavators' strike from the start extended throughout the whole trade, involving about 500 persons. It was so well prepared that, twenty-four hours after its proclamation, all excavations were deserted. From that moment the strike movement involved other groups of building workers; the situation became more aggravated from day to day, until the last weeks of the strike found some three thousand workers idle as a consequence, direct or indirect, of the strike.

"We did not suffer at all from the intervention of scabs (scabbing), which is explained above all by the solidarity prevailing among the different organizations of the building industry, whose mandate went forth: 'We shall not work where excavations have been made by scabs.' Several works were abandoned as a consequence.

"Following this practical procedure by the labor organizations, the organized employers of the building industry made public their intention to proclaim a general lockout if work in these places was not resumed.

"However the capitalists did not dare take up the fight all along the line. Replying to these employers' threats, the National Labor Bureau published a manifesto calling upon the workers to unite against the employers in support of the strikers. In the manifesto the principles and tactics of the revolutionary union movement were clearly set forth. This appeal had such good results that in two months the national secretary received 30,000 francs, a sum sufficient to meet the most urgent needs. This result bears witness to the influence of our organization and to the confidence it has regained among the workers. In fact, the reformist or 'modern' unions, directed by social democrats, have never been able, through their tendency, to raise such a sum in so short a time. Recently their Central organized national movements of all the strikers in the pottery industry, but in two months Central had received only 6,000 francs.

"The reformist unions claim that their numerical strength is ten times greater than ours. But their members are not militants. They consist of those who are disaffected, but passive—safety removed now from the revolutionary class struggle. On the other hand, in our ranks one encounters the spirit of combat, which explains the enthusiasm and the spirit of sacrifice we are able to awaken outside of our unions in the mass of workers.

"Let it be noted that the reformist unions were also invited to aid the Amsterdam excavators, but refused for the reason that the excavators' union is affiliated with the revolutionary Federation and the National Labor Bureau. We mention this fact to show how wide, in Holland, is the cleft between revolutionists and reformists. Our social democratic brothers much preferred to see the employers win the victory over the workers than to support the revolutionists also in their struggle.

"Let us also note here the act of treason committed by the Catholic organization, St. Leonardus, which in the midst of the struggle and without knowledge of the great majority of strikers with whom they had been working, consented to a conference with the employers' association. Fortunately the Catholic union only numbered one-twentieth of the excavators and their action was therefore condemned to impotence.

"For all the foregoing reasons we are glad to state that our organization is making excellent progress. The struggle having ended, the National Bureau of Labor has distributed free 100,000 copies of an eight-page pamphlet setting forth the origin and outcome of the conflict. "The excavators have obtained an immediate increase of two cents a day; to be followed by a further increase of two cents a day in four months and two cents more in seven months, extra pay for overtime, night and Sunday work. Their union has gained many members and so have those of the bod partners, masons, and others. In short, excellent outcome!"

## Proposed Spanish Boycott.

In France, as in all civilized countries, a great number of public meetings organized under auspices of the radical political parties and the labor unions, have been held in protest against the clerical and militarist reaction in Spain. On October 18th alone under auspices of the General Confederation of Labor, meetings were held in more than twenty cities. But the C. G. T. has not contented its action merely to protests in words and resolutions. It has addressed a circular to the secretary of the Federation des Ports et Docks (Longshoremen) and to the secretary of the Federation des Inséris Maritimes (sailors), urging them to take all necessary measures to employ all efficients means to bring about a boycott of Spanish merchandise destined for Spain. Furthermore, the C. G. T. has written to the international secretary, informing him of what it has done in favor of our Spanish fellow workers and inviting the co-operation of other national centers of union workers.

Such measures were first proposed by the General Labor Union (Union General de Trabajadores) of the Argentine Republic, which invited the Central unions of Europe to a common action against the Spanish reaction.

This is not the first time a boycott against the Spanish government has been proposed. After the Mano Negra scandals the revolutionary organizations of the Holland ports declared a boycott.

This time the move is more widespread, and the assassination of our comrade Ferrer having shown to the entire world that the primary notions of justice are wanting to the Spanish government, it seems to us that the proposed measure of punishment against the capitalist merchants and the Spanish world of affairs will have a sure effect.

But now, as always, certain labor unions are hesitating. The Confederation of Labor of Italy, while recognizing that the boycott would be "the only efficacious form of protest" talks about a referendum on the subject. We, on the contrary, believe that that measure should be executed promptly or not at all. And far from believing it is necessary to have a referendum—a means by which the Italian C. G. T. has already caused other movements to fail—we consider that the boycott of Spanish vessels and merchandise should be undertaken without delay. If the workers in some of the important ports of Europe take the initiative, we shall quickly see whether or not the movement will become general.

Opinion of a Capitalist Journal.

The special correspondent of the Petit

Journal writes from Madrid (Oct. 16): "The reported boycott of Spanish ships and merchandise at all European and American ports has caused a panic in the industrial and commercial world. There is also talk of a general strike in Spain. Whether or not the strike takes place, work will stop everywhere because operations are becoming impossible on account of the general fear of the future."

## The Difference

By C. F. Williams.

It can safely be said that the craft unions are responsible for all the bitterness that exists among all branches of workers. The reason is that the better paid workers organized themselves into unions that had for their object better conditions for themselves only, without regard for the interests of those workers less fortunate than themselves.

Even placing barriers in the way of thousands of workers who would have made good union men and would have fought with them to maintain or better their mutual conditions. Their main object has not been protection against the common enemy (viz. the capitalist class) but the sharpening of swords with which they could fight one another.

This in itself breeds quarrels and jealousies, which, while they last, will keep the working class so divided that it will be impossible for them to better their conditions in any way.

It can only result in bringing the high priced workman to the condition of the lowest paid. This process will be more rapid with the introduction of machinery which makes it easier for the unskilled worker to do the work of the skilled worker.

This ought to be plainly evident to those who are now on strike against the open shop order of the Tin Plate Co. Those men acted as typical craft unionists, who felt little concern for the interests of those poorer than themselves (through difference in jobs), despite the fact that they were employed by the same corporation and worked in the same mill. These ten workers could not understand this; hence their downfall.

Seeds of destruction are found in every living thing. These are the seeds sown thick and healthy in every craft union and which mean speedy dissolution. The American Federation of Labor never was a class organization. Consequently the class struggle has never been known as such by it. It was never intended that the workers as a class were to be massed as such, to give decisive battle to the class by whom they are robbed.

This being true, hundreds of workers were left to the mercy of the exploiters of labor, to shift for themselves with the inevitable result that has always been an army of non-union (unorganized) workers who could be induced for better wages to take the place of better paid men than themselves.

This proves to us that the only hope of the working class is in the organization of a great industrial union that instills into its membership a knowledge of the class struggle. A union which aims not to benefit an aristocratic few, but recognizes the rights of all workers. A union which has for its ultimate object the abolition of the wage system and the emancipation of the working class.

Such an organization is the Industrial Workers of the World, which needs you, and you need it. Which is recognized by the exploiting class as a relentless foe and which they fight with all the viciousness of a cornered wolf.

This is proof that it is your union. What is bad for the capitalist, it necessarily follows must be good for you.

THINK IT OVER AND JOIN.

## SPECIAL ARTICLES.

Solidarity intends to run a series of special articles and perhaps special issues dealing with particular industries and showing the necessity of industrial unionism in each particular industry. It's time now to get the staff together. Now what we want of every fellow worker who reads this notice is this: Sit down and write us all you know about the industry in which you work; wages, living conditions, unions and their history if any, inventions and how they have affected things—in fact everything you know. Write these articles as long as you like. We'll let them down. Never mind about your spelling and grammar. We'll tend that. What we want is the facts. Whether you are a lumber jack, miner, glass blower, metal worker, or whatever, tell us what you know and we'll do the rest. But do this.

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

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

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's 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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Aid Slaveholders in Passage Camps of Southern States.

The following translation of an article in "Rusky Golos" of Dec. 10th, a Russian paper published in New York...

"SLAVERY."

(Translated from "Rusky Golos.") New York, December 16, 1909.

Mr. Editor: We 40 Russian men urgently ask your help. If you cannot help, then at least advise us by a letter what to do.

In New York we came around to the employment office at 15 State St. There somebody by the name Birber offered us to go to work on a railroad...

The next day we went to work. We were brought to a deep hole where laborers were breaking stones. Every one of us was given a big hammer weighing 25 pounds. Some were sent to mix cement. The work was terribly hard.

Later we were driven by force again to work in the same hole. Once we were into the shanty. Some pretended; they were driven in the neck. We started to holler. Then we were handcuffed so that we were fed by others.

On Friday, Dec. 10th, the Industrial Worker (our official paper) was confiscated by the Spokane Police as it was leaving the press. There was not a word in the confiscated edition but what was the truth.

Moved to Seattle

"Suppress" by Spokane Police, Industrial Worker Reappears to Plaque its Enemies.

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Dec. 20, 1909.—To all Members of the I. W. W. and Supporters of Free Speech and Free Press.

On Friday, Dec. 10th, the Industrial Worker (our official paper) was confiscated by the Spokane Police as it was leaving the press. There was not a word in the confiscated edition but what was the truth.

It is absolutely impossible to ascertain why the Worker was confiscated. The Spokesman Review and Chronicle have told nothing but lies about the Industrial Worker since the fight for free speech began on Nov. 8d.

the line, as before, letting the chips fall where they may. This issue that was confiscated cost \$103. We are absolutely robbed out of that much money.

It may take several months to secure second class mailing rates, and in the meantime full first class postage must be advanced to the postoffice. The expenses incidental with the moving of the men and effects of the Worker to Seattle are heavy ones.

Let us show our contempt for the marauding thugs who are trying to squelch our organization by doubling the circulation of the Worker. Action speaks louder than words just now.

The chief of police in Spokane says he will make the I. W. W. eat out of his hand. What is your answer to this? The price of the Worker is as it always was, \$1 per year, or 50c for six months.

Address all communications to F. R. Schles, Box 1443, Seattle, Wash., and be sure that the little blue postoffice order can be found in the letter.

American-Railways

By John D. The railway systems of America are now moving about 987,000,000 gross tons yearly.

The railway systems of America are now moving about 987,000,000 gross tons yearly. The number of freight cars employed is 2,318,000 and about 48,000 locomotives are engaged in handling the country's immense traffic.

Hard to Tell the Difference.

Wall Street says: "Eminent lawyers in the Administration who are in sympathy with the demands of the 'trust' lawyers for a modification of the Sherman Act admit the difficulty which would confront them in trying to establish a line of demarcation between reasonable combinations of capital and industry and combinations which might degenerate into monopolies."

SPECIAL NOTICE TO READERS!

Those wishing to contribute to the Spokane Free Speech fight may send money care of SOLIDARITY and they will each receive five of the first hundred copies printed of our first issue. These papers are specially numbered for that purpose.

From Far Australia.

There comes to our desk the International Socialist Review for Australia. It comes out square bold for Industrial Unionism and openly champions the I. W. W. in the coming year.

Workers are only commencing to show human intelligence when they join an industrial organization which denies identity of interest between the robber and his victim.

The integrally organized Industrial Union is the weapon that social evolution places within the grasp of the workers as the means for their emancipation.

"He who believes that socialism can be realized by the ballot alone is indulging in a moon calf's vision."

"Industrial Unionism! Yes! one class, one union. The emancipation of the working class must be the work of the workers themselves."

These are a few specimen utterances. The same spirit pervades its editorial columns. Vincent St. John's Economics of Industrial Unionism is extensively developed. The revolutionary movement of Australia is to be congratulated that the Review is in the field.

Australian Socialists are having a little free speech fight of their own, only in their case it is for the privilege of holding propaganda meetings on Sunday. Australia, being under the influence of British traditions, according to which there is one day in the week too good to be happy in or to do good in.

Finances of the Steel Trust.

The Pittsburgh Dispatch for Dec. 27 gives out the following: "In trading circles, the impression prevails that the net earnings of the Steel Corporation for next year will reach \$200,000,000. It is generally known that the steel mills have sufficient business on their works to keep their works in operation well into 1910. High prices will prevail in the first half and record-breaking earnings are assured."

Preparations were in progress last week to meet the heavy obligations incident to the January disbursements, which in New York are estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$225,000,000.

This is the monster combine that is now preparing to crush out all power of resistance out of its employers. Do the men need a compact industrial organization to face the Steel Trust or don't they?

Irish Socialists to Resuscitate. Editor Solidarity: Last Friday night, Dec. 17th, the Harlem Liberal Alliance gave the evening to the Irish Socialist Federation for a Spokane free speech fight.

The hall at 118th street and Lenox avenue was packed, the audience very enthusiastic. The speakers were Thomas Flynn, P. L. Quinlan, M.-W. Bredlin, Mr. Alice Cassidy, Jack Walsh, Edward Cassidy and others.

Those wishing to contribute to the Spokane Free Speech fight may send money care of SOLIDARITY and they will each receive five of the first hundred copies printed of our first issue. These papers are specially numbered for that purpose.

Fraternally yours, KATHERINE FLYNN, New York, Dec. 21, 1909.

FOR THE 10,000!

"Everyone says SOLIDARITY is great." That is the greeting we get from a fellow worker in Michigan, and he had read the first number and talked to his friends about it.

Bundle orders are also starting to come along in good shape. We can't get too many such, provided they come in advance of publication, accompanied by the cash. Here is a chance for local unions all over the country to do some good propaganda work.

Order bundles of SOLIDARITY and of the "Industrial Worker" and sell the two for a nickel at your meetings. That will help you, the papers, and the cause of industrial unionism. Our bundle rate is ONE CENT A COPY.

NEW YORK CITY.—"Please find enclosed money order for one dollar for one year's subs. Enclosed find a sub card mailed to you two or three days ago. I may say that the last of the four cards sent to me with the circular is in my pocket and I will dispose of them without comment, as I consider it my duty to do so."

Enclosed find \$1.00 for 100 copies of next issue of Solidarity, to be sent to enclosed address.—G. D. I. We are all rejoiced to see "Solidarity." It looked well. I hope we can keep it up.

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For a Dollar we will mail ten copies each of these six books. For TEN DOLLARS we will send by express prepaid A THOUSAND of these or any of our other "POCKET LIBRARY" booklets, assorted as desired. This offer applies to all the books we have advertised at five cents except Richardson's "Introduction to Socialism," our best price on which is \$3.00 per hundred.

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