



VOLUME I. NUMBER 21.

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## SEDITIONOUS LIBEL

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Versus

C. H. McCarty, F. M. Hartman, Charles McKeever, Evan Evans,  
William J. White.

The above case which is on the docket of the grand jury for the June term of court in Lawrence county, Pennsylvania, is one of the most important in the history of jurisprudence connected with the labor movement in America. Upon the outcome of this case depends to a large measure the rights of free speech and a free press as far as they concern the revolutionary labor movement.

The above named defendants are charged in a deposition of 5,000 words by Chief-of-Police Joseph Gilmore, of New Castle, with having published at divers times from July 1, 1909, to January 29, 1910, certain "seditious and libelous" articles in a paper known as 'The Free Press,' with which they are alleged to have been connected as a publishing committee. That said articles were "in contempt of the constitution and laws of the United States and the commonwealth, and of its institutions, agents, officers and courts constituted, employed or appointed for the administration of said government, to the evil example of all others and against the peace and dignity of this commonwealth."

Space forbids an extended review of the articles in question, which compose the larger part of Gilmore's deposition. However, the deposition in full has been published in pamphlet form and may be obtained from 'The Free Press Publishing Company, Box 644, New Castle, Pa.' Price 10 cents. It should be read by every active worker in the labor movement.

Gilmore's "information" begins with allegations of violence and disorderly conduct on the part of striking tin mill workers in New Castle. It declares that much disorder had prevailed in the strike zone since July 21st, and that the civil authorities had been endeavoring in every way to prevent same and to subdue the passions of the strikers.

It fails, however, to lay stress upon the fact of company "bulls," Cosacks and other armed and insolent "patrons" from the slums of Pittsburgh and elsewhere, whose presence and actions under the direction of the American Sheet and Tin Plate company doubtless tended to defeat the efforts of the local authorities toward "preserving order."

The deposition then goes on to state that while the authorities were thus trying by all means at their command to "bring order" to the defendants through "The Free Press," they were egging on the strikers and seeking to discredit the officials and their actions and to destroy respect for the constituted authorities. As proof of this contention, the articles in question, to the number of 10, are reproduced whole or in part as they appeared in The Free Press.

The significance of these articles together with the charge of "seditious libel" against the defendants, lies in the fact that they all hinge up to the proposition of ONE BIG UNION of the workers and the power such an organization will be able to exercise not only over the employers directly in the shops, but also indirectly against the capitalists' government.

The proposition is clearly stated that WHEN the workers are industrially organized they will be able if necessary "to paralyze the industry of the country."

to "defy all laws" of the enemy that are directed against them; to prevent Cosacks from clubbing and the "egg on" from starving them to death. The "egging on" of the strikers consists in urging them to join the "one big union" to achieve that power for the working class. The rights of free speech and freedom of assemblage are vigorously upheld against the unwarranted interference of company "bulls" and the arrest of strikers for merely "walking on the streets." There is nothing in the articles which has not formed subject matter for street corner speeches from Maine to California.

While Mr. Gilmore's "information" alleges a general connection between "The Free Press" articles and the acts of violence in the strike district, it contains no specific instance or allegation to that effect, nor does it show wherein any particular official or officials have been "libeled" or interfered with in the exercises of their duties thereby. The sweeping nature of the "information" against these defendants, without any concrete evidence back of it, makes the charge against them all the more ridiculous.

But in the war between capital and labor, the employers and their lackeys are concerned only with the question, "Can we make good?" Acting on the principle that "everything is fair in war," they will leave no stone unturned to send these men to the penitentiary on the absurd charge of "seditious libel."

The working class of the country must come to their rescue. The same working class that rescued Meyer, Haywood and Pettibone from the murderous clutches of the Western Mine Owners is again asked to raise its mighty voice in protest against this latest outrage against free speech and a free press.

These five men are members of the working class. Their only crime consists in having urged the workers to stand up for their rights and to acquire power over their capitalist enemy by joining the union of their class. Let your protest be heard. Money is needed to fight this case to the bitter end. Able counsel has been obtained for the five defendants, should the grand jury return a true bill against them in June.

Get busy, hold protest meetings everywhere; forward resolutions of protest to the mayor of New Castle, the judge and district attorney of Lawrence county and send all money for the defense fund to Joseph Booth, Box 644, New Castle, Pa.

### It is True.

Judge Shafer, of Allegheny county, Pa., declared last week in an address at Pittsburgh, that there is too much freedom in this country, that there should be a law enacted whereby it would be unlawful to compel a man to work more than a certain number of hours in a day.

### SPECIAL NOTICE!

The address of the Pittsburgh district organizer of the I. W. W. is Joseph J. Ettor, 100 Chartiers Avenue, McKees Rocks, Pa. Those wishing information regarding the organization, or speakers in English or Foreign languages, will please communicate with the organizer at the above address.

## Wall Street Correspondence

By John D.

Wall street says Swift & Co. has an unbroken dividend record of 24 years, and since 1890 has paid 7 per cent regularly. Last year the earnings of the company were the largest since organization, and the percentage earned for the stock was almost twice dividend requirements. According to the last published financial statement there were assets of over \$95,000,000 in excess of liabilities, or the equivalent of 40 per cent on the stock. The proportion of accounts payable to the total assets was only half as large as it was ten years ago, while the proportion of cash and accounts received was doubled in the same period. Swift & Co. is better able at the present time to maintain the 7 per cent dividend than ever before in its history.

### Wall Street "Wonders."

Harold Mainwaring, a prominent member of the London Stock Exchange, was in Wall street last week and in an interview said: "I visited a number of the best mines in California, Nevada and Utah in company with a Wall street financier who spends almost \$75,000 a year for the collection and dissemination of mining matters in order that the investing public might be kept informed as to ventures in that field. I am told that the news collecting and disseminating agencies of Wall street expend more money in serving their patrons in a year than all Europe spends in the same way six ten years.

"I also understand that at present one of the larger manufacturing concerns employs not less than 5,000 high class technical engineers to make reports upon all propositions placed before these financiers."

"It is because of the accuracy, in my opinion, that is availed of by the operators of the world in Wall street that has given it the power of having, been for ten years the center of the greatest money-making powers the world has ever known. Just think of it, American commerce of all kinds is moving at the volume of \$60,000,000,000 a year, which is two and three-fourths times the total volume of the international commerce of all nations."

### Wanted: Trade Union Journal.

Solidarity is anxious to exchange with every labor union journal in the United States. Publishers of same seeing this notice are invited to put up on the exchange list and receive Solidarity in return. Our subscribers can help us greatly in enlarging our list of labor exchanges by sending us the names and addresses or, better, sample copies of any labor papers they know of. These should be sent, for the present, direct to A. M. Stirtion, County Jail, New Castle, Pa.

### Stay Away From the Boundary.

Grand Forks, B. C., April 28.  
Ed. Solidarity:  
I am instructed to communicate with you, by this local union, No. 180, W. F. M., regarding the labor conditions up in the "Boundary" country, and to warn all men to keep away, as there is now a strike on at the Greenwood Smelter and at the mines of Mother Lode, and further, that there may shortly be trouble elsewhere in this mining country.

The conditions that are imposed on these workers throughout this part of the country are next to unbearable; and with a minimum wage scale of \$2.50 in force, where the cost of living is certainly 25 per cent higher than in Spokane, and the chance of employment limited to one company, who are exercising an absolute control of things throughout the entire district. So warn all men to stay away from the Boundary Country of British Columbia.  
Signed:  
WALTER E. HADDEN,  
Secretary of No. 180, W. F. M.

## PERSECUTION OF SOLIDARITY

### Shall the Master Class Destroy the Labor Press of Pennsylvania?

Below is given a short statement of the facts in connection with the present persecution of Solidarity. To a class-conscious working man, the real reason for this persecution will be plain and clear. The masters are determined to crush all all forms of labor unionism. They realize that Solidarity stands in their way. They realize the importance of the strategic position that we occupy in the very heart of the steel industry. They feel that Solidarity must be throttled. For the same reason the workers everywhere should rally to its support. Since our arrest and imprisonment we have altered our editorial heading so as to make further persecution on that score impossible. We have also engaged an acting manager-editor while our fellow workers are in jail. This, of course, involves additional expense, and our whole source of income is derived from subscription and voluntary contributions from the working class. But Solidarity must be maintained, and the message of industrial unionism must be disseminated as it may. In this hour of battle and of trial, when the masters have determined to strangle even the voice of protest, may we not also look to you to do your share both in contributing to our present unlooked-for expenses, and in sending in subscriptions?

Send all contributions to Solidarity Defense Fund, Box 622, New Castle, Pa.  
P. S.—Make all remittances payable to G. H. Peiry, Box 622, New Castle, Pa.

### FACTS IN THE CASE.

The facts in the case are, briefly, as follows: On December 18, 1909, after several months of preliminary work, the first issue of Solidarity appeared, announcing in its editorial heading the fact that it was "published weekly by the local unions of the I. W. W. in New Castle." The name of its editor, A. M. Stirtion, was also given, and that of its business manager, C. H. McCarty. A joint press committee elected by the two I. W. W. locals, but whose names were not published, supervised the work of issuing the paper, in conjunction with the editor and manager. The paper was the property of the two local unions.

Solidarity met a ready response from the workers in the Pittsburgh district and elsewhere throughout the country. The paper was dealing telling blows to capitalism right at its very heart. The corporations and their tools, the city and county officials, evidently feared its influence. The latter set about to suppress or destroy it.

Getting their cue from a statute passed by the 1907 Assembly, which provides that papers published by corporations, partners or individual owners, shall publish names of owners in their editorial headings, but which says nothing at all about an incorporated or voluntary organization, although there are hundreds of papers published by such organizations in this State—getting their cue from this piece of special legislation, the prosecuting attorney of Lawrence county and his subordinates proceeded to collect "information" against Solidarity. After two months of vain "effort," a Pinkerton detective named Fernandez was brought from Pittsburgh to work on the "case." Under the guise of a "wholesale and retail piano dealer," Fernandez secured an advertising contract with Solidarity, to which were attached the certified signatures of the five members of the Press Committee.

With this information as to the "ownership" of Solidarity, the prosecuting attorney proceeded to business, and on March 1 arrests were made as follows: A. M. Stirtion, editor; C. H. McCarty, Valentine Jacobs, Earl F. Moore and George Fix. Indictment was also drawn against B. H. Williams, but, being in the hospital at the time, he was not arrested.

These six men were tried March 17 in Judge Porter's court, and, although the evidence failed to show wherein they had violated the law, the jury returned a verdict of "guilty." On March 23 sentence was passed by Judge Porter, and each of the six defendants was fined \$100, with additional costs of \$80 altogether. Refusing to pay the fines, all six were turned over to the sheriff and locked up in the county jail, where they must remain for 90 days according to the pronouncement of the court.

The day after Solidarity's trial, the owner of a capitalist paper, the New Castle Daily Herald, was tried for the same offense. Although the evidence was conclusive in his case, the jury declared Mr. Dickinson "not guilty." Six members of the committee in charge of "The Free Press," the local organ of the Socialist party, were also tried on the same charge and found "guilty."

To block this attempt to destroy the labor press of Pennsylvania, which, if successful, will be repeated elsewhere, we call upon the working class everywhere to rally to our support. Come on with the subs and money for the Defense Fund. Slap the conspirators in the face!

### Signed:

- A. M. STIRTION,
- C. H. MCCARTY,
- GEO. FIX,
- EARL F. MOORE,
- VALENTINE JACOBS,
- B. H. WILLIAMS.

When a poor devil has a charge against him he is locked up, but when a wealthy toter is charged with any crime he is allowed to go to another State, where he can live in ease and comfort to await his trial, which perhaps never comes. Pittsburgh grafters live on New York.

## STRIKES! STRIKES!

The employees of the cold rolling department of the West Leechburg Sheet Steel Company's plant walked out on Thursday, April 28. They want a 10 per cent increase.

Presumably with the intention of evading an injunction strikers at Latrobe on Wednesday, April 27, marched in squads of 10 or 30 men with about 60 feet between squares, to the plant of the Latrobe Co. Co. at Lloydsville and caused it to be shut down.

Pennsylvania Cosacks have been ordered to the Peanut mine, near Derry, to safeguard strikebreakers.

### Four Sub-Cards for Three Dollars.

Four yearly sub-cards for Solidarity can be had for three dollars. This gives 25¢ commission to the agent on each card sold, besides getting the message of Industrial Solidarity to the workers. Order a bunch of four and pay for them when sold.

# SOLIDARITY

OFFICIAL ORGAN PITTSBURGH DISTRICT UNION OF THE I. W. W.

P. O. Drawer 622 New Castle, Pa.



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Cash MUST Accompany All Orders.

All communications intended for Solidarity should be addressed to G. H. Perry, Box 622, New Castle, Pa.

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**INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD** General Headquarters—518 Cambridge Building, Chicago, Illinois.

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

**GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD:** T. J. Cole, J. J. Eitor, E. G. Flynn, Francis Miller, George Speed.

### A CHANCE TO MAKE GOOD.

Evidently some, at least, of the workers in Milwaukee are taking up the line of action that we suggested in our issue of April 15th. It is, of course, not claimed that they are taking such action because they saw it recommended in the Solidarity, but we took occasion to point out that since the Socialist Party had captured the municipal offices at the last election it would be an appropriate time for the workers to organize and demand higher wages and better working conditions. Incidentally this would put the new administration to the test and show, to some extent, what the workers could or could not expect from the Socialist Party. It seems that that very thing.

Appropriately enough—for Milwaukee—the ball is started-rolling in the breweries where the girls are organizing and demanding better pay and treatment.

The separate organization of the girls apart from other brewery workers is, in itself considered, an out-of-date and reactionary move, but the insignificant thing is that the girls are demanding better pay and working conditions. Now is the time for the Brewery Workers, whose product has long made Milwaukee famous, to move together in mass action for higher wages and shorter hours all along the line. If they do this, Milwaukee will soon be more famous than ever and it is a safe guess that the lessons thus learned on the actual field of battle in mass action will not leave them long affiliated with the A. F. of L., or having even a cobweb connection with craft unionism in any form.

Ho for a general demand for higher wages in every brewery in Milwaukee! It is not for us to say in advance to what extent the Socialist Party administration can or will help the brewery workers or other wage-earners to secure higher wages. The workers can decide that for themselves after they have made the test. By all means and from every point of view the test should be made.

There is one thing, however, that can be expected in all fairness from the present mayor and Socialist councilmen of Milwaukee and that is, that they will encourage the workers everywhere to organize, demand and, if necessary, strike for higher wages. They have steadily insisted for many years that municipal power would benefit the workers inconceivably. A general demand, and above all else a general strike, for higher wages would give them a chance to make good.

**Lowell, Mass., Attention!**  
The English speaking branch of L. U. No. 436, Branch 1, has headquarters at 92 Tilden street, 6 rear. Business meeting every Thursday night. Every slave interested in Industrial Unionism invited. Solidarity and a full line of Industrial Union literature for sale. Address of Secretary, C. Vandevelde, 95 Worthen St., Lowell, Mass.

### STRIKE ON THE LAKES.

With the opening of the season the strike of the International Seaman's Union composed of sailors, firemen and cooks, which lasted all summer, is resumed in full force. This strike affects all boats of the Lake Carriers' Association, in other words the Steel Trust, and life Steel Trust is prosecuting the war with its usual relentless vigor against all forms of labor unionism.

According to the testimony of the Coast Seaman's Journal, "the country is being raked for scabs," and it is said "every captain, engineer, and often the mates and assistant engineers, constitute themselves scab shipping masters." For the captains and mates do not belong to the International Seaman's Union and the engineers are not taking part in the strike for fear of having their licenses revoked, forgetful of the fact that union action of the lake seamen could easily force the restoration or issuance of those licenses.

Neither have the Longshoremen thus far signified their intention of joining hands with their striking brethren. It is being said in partial excuse for them that in some places where they offered to do so last summer their assistance was refused, the Seamen's Union; true to the principles of craft autonomy, declaring that they could win the strike alone. The result is too well known; a season's wages lost and the prospect facing them, of a repetition of the same experience this coming summer.

Undoubtedly the strike of the Seamen's Union, unsupported as it was by the engineers, longshoremen, and other classes of marine workers, proved a ponderable annoyance to the Steel Trust. This is evident from the fact that lake marine insurance has been considerably advanced this season already, and probably will be still further advanced as the season progresses, owing to the unprecedented loss of life and property on the lakes in 1909, due to the poor seamanship of scabs who were raked up from every where to take the strikers' places. But the Steel Trust is out to make good, and is prepared to take as well as receive hardships in order to crush the labor unions. Beside, in the matter of insurance, it is quite prepared to handle its own and underwrite insurance for others if necessary, and as for the lives of passengers the Steel Trust has no more tears to shed on that score than it has for its yearly quota of killed and maimed in its mills on land. The Steel Trust is out to crush union labor everywhere throughout its jurisdiction on land and afloat. Incidentally it doesn't mind at all the fact that it is actually costing more to round up scabs and man its fleet than it would to recognize the Seamen's Union and sign the scale.

That isn't the point. The Steel Trust is out to break the union. It realizes that if it can do that it can attend to the matter of the wage scale later on.

So long as the Steel Trust has only to do with craft unions built on conditions which existed forty years ago, and which permit some of the workers to keep on working while others are at work in the same industry, it will make good and the process of union smashing will continue. Other trusts will not be slow to take up the work in which the Steel Trust is proving such an able pioneer and the unions will soon be reduced to the status of day-paying and dead end beneficiaries or wiped out of existence.

### Is Socialism Inevitable?

We are told that the trend of industrial evolution is such as to make Socialism inevitable. But it will not do to trust to the automatic development; the tactics of the capitalist class may bludge "the inevitable" and give us instead "a benevolent-feudal and give us instead "like McKees Rocks"; or a reaction back to barbarism. To offset these bad prospects, men and women are needed, who, understanding all the modern tendencies, will throw the weight of their ability and power in favor of those that make for social progress. Such men and women are already organized in the Industrial Workers of the World. They aim to make industry democratic instead of plutocratic; socialism instead of savage. To "benevolent-feudalism" they oppose collective ownership and the freedom which it conveys. Reader, are you with oppression of the I. W. W.

### By Way of Comment

#### A Socialist Kindergarten Exposed.

The Philadelphia Tageblatt, a German Socialist and labor newspaper, in commenting on the end of the car strike in that city, draws the following conclusion: "This is the lesson of the great Philadelphia event: You cannot make a successful sympathetic strike with people of the Gompers' school; they lack the energy for it."

"The Gompers' school" is believed by many to be "the kindergarten of Socialism." It will pain them to have the Tageblatt thus expose its true character as a fossilized, reactionary institution.

#### What is Gompers' Function?

The Appeal to Reason calls attention to the fact that Gompers was conspicuous by his absence in the Philadelphia car strike. It says: "Gompers, the old man, or old woman, cut not only a sorry but a contemptible figure in the Philadelphia street car strike; or rather out of it, because as a matter of fact he was not in it and did not dare to be." Gompers acts the same way in all big strikes; though conspicuous at Civic Federation banquets and petitionings to Governors and Presidents. Why if not for the purpose of distracting attention from the real issue? Gompers, instead of accentuating the conflict of interests between employers and employes, seeks to blur the same. His function is not to lead, but to mislead the workers.

#### "Back to the Farm."

Every once in a while the unemployed working man is urged to turn farmer, and thus save himself from "misery." But the farm offers no escape from capitalism, for capitalism is fast concentrating agriculture, and turning the farmers into a tenant, when it does not dispossess him. Dr. Branson, president of the State Normal school at Athens, Ga., in a recent address before the Farmers' Union at Little Rock, Ark., made the following statements, which illustrate the correctness of this contention: "One out of every two farms in the south is occupied by a tenant, and three out of every five in eight southern states. The process of dispossession has gone farther here in 40 years than in England in 800 years."

#### Population and Production.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson declares that the high cost of living is due to the greater increase of population as compared with production. Dr. McGill, of the Conservative movement, declares that, properly conceived, the natural resources of this country will sustain two billions of persons. Now we constitute less than one-twentieth of that number. Evidently there is more than enough for all to eat, wear and use for shelter, despite the troubles of Wilson. What's the trouble, then? Why does population increase at a greater rate than production, especially when an increase of population means an increase of productive forces? The answer is not far to seek: it is the profit system, or the system of capitalism now in vogue. This system wastes, restricts and destroys natural resources and social productive power because "it pays" a few owners and control. Now of both to do so: the motto of this system is: "Profit for the few; society be damned!" The motto of the new era will be: "For the use of all, and the profit of none!"

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#### Old Doctrines in New Clothes.

In-by-gone days individuals were taught the philosophy of self reliance. They were taught to look to their own thought and strength for power and success. The philosophy of self-reliance is not without a suggestion of value to the members of the working class. They, too,

must look to their own mind and muscle if they would be something more than wage slaves.

They must recognize the fact that individuals nowadays only become strong by assisting with the members of their class. The most powerful members of the capitalist class are those united in the gigantic trust. Self-reliance has given away to class reliance.

Accordingly, the working class should rely on its own unity.

The working class should work out its own salvation.

It should build up its own press, organize its own labor power in its own interests, and otherwise build the framework of the new industrial democracy within the shell of plutocratic capitalism.

The emancipation of the working class can only be achieved by the workers themselves.

Several months ago the number of women employed at the U. S. mint in Denver was cut in half by the introduction of machinery. Now it is announced that adjusting machines are to be installed on June 30, the end of the fiscal year. These machines are at present used in the Philadelphia mint and are said to be wonderfully accurate. This machinery will again cut the force of female employes in two. Somehow or other, these workers who have lost, or are about to lose, their jobs do not feel cheated because their (?) government is going to save money. To a man up a tree it looks like a few more jobs would be sufficient to wake up the government employes and cause them to follow in the footsteps of the French syndicalists. Certainly the postal employees have enough reasons for uniting with the rest of the workers against the employing class. The workers have nothing in common with their masters, whether these masters be of private or governmental industries. Government ownership is not a step toward Socialism and in no wise does it tend toward our goal, "the abolition of the wage system." Machinery, coupled with the greed of the masters, is teaching lessons to those who have heretofore turned a deaf ear to the call of their class.

#### THE COMMENTATOR.

#### SPLINTERS.

If I. W. W. means "I Won't Work," then A. F. of L. must mean "All Fools Labor."

I am beginning to believe that "Uncle Sam" that the capitalists think so much of is "Sam" Gompers.

The Anti-Deiluvian Fellowship of Lobsters is a prehistoric disorganization "which learns not, neither does it progress."

A Con. man is an individual who cons. the workers into signing a Con. tract.

The Bible says you cannot serve two masters at once! If that is true you can't serve your boss and yourself at the same time. Get wise to the game, Cull!!!

A ballet dancer isn't always what her 'make up' makes her appear to be. And neither is a ballot box, by gosh.

If you refuse to accept Christ, you're going plumb to Hell, according to the Preachers.

But the fact is, you're there already, and if you refuse to accept Industrial Unionism you will never get out. So get hip! Get hip! Get hip!

Life is a dream to the poet's mind, It's a game of chance to the gambling kind; To the plutocrats it's something swell, To the wage slave life is simply HELL. Boss and the world bosses with you; Slave, and you slave alone; Will YOU ever get WISE to the scheming guys Who reap what you have sown.

Every little Sub. added to what we've got, Makes just another Sub. more; That's a lesson we all must learn While fighting the great class war.

Second in your Sub., And send them in quick, And make SOLIDARITY The workers BIG STRICK. And we'll club the bosses 'Till they feel mighty sick.

Every little Sub. added to what we've got, Makes just another Sub. more. —B. L. WEBER.

### THE WORLD OF LABOR

#### Increases Continue.

The railroads continue to increase wages voluntarily. The Southern Railway shops at Princeton, Ind., posted notices of a raise of three and one-half cents an hour in all the mechanical departments throughout the Southern Railway system, except in the case of machinists, who receive an increase of four and one-half cents an hour. With the railroads making such increases voluntarily, the railroad workers could gain much more if united in one big union of transportation workers. Disorganization is costing them many a dollar, despite the claims that it makes for "practicability." And the same holds good for the increases in the steel mills and the steel workers.

#### Six Thousand Bakers Strike.

Six thousand bakers struck against the open shop, for a 9-hour day, \$1 a week more and a union agreement, in New York City on May 1. Some of the largest bakeries in the city are affected.

#### Paper Strike Effective.

The strike of the employes of the International Paper Co. (the paper trust) is still on. It is effective, in spite of Tim Healy's first aid to the trust. Three thousand men are out in New York State, and the State Board of Arbitration is being appealed to by the business interests of the communities involved to settle the trouble, which, they allege, is ruining them.

#### General Strike Threatened.

A general strike of the iron molders and core makers of New York, Newark, Jersey City and several other neighboring cities was threatened on May 1. A minimum rate of wages of \$3.50 a day is demanded from the New York and New Jersey Metal Trades Association by the Iron Molders conference board, representing eleven local unions.

The Atlantic Seaman's Union struck two boats belonging to the Clyde Line of coastwise steamships. Three hundred deck hands were involved. An increase of \$3 a month was demanded. The Clyde Line is part of the Ship Trust, which is hostile to union labor. The men won out.

#### The Usual Trolley Strike.

The trolley system of Columbus, O., is tied up by a strike of motormen and conductors for a wage increase and improved conditions. There is the usual scabbery by the power house employes, who make the modern trolley strike so futile.

#### Big Coal Strike Imminent.

A big coal strike was reported imminent in Indiana on May 1. The miners want fines for striking and the discharge of miners alleged to load dirty coal abolished, which the operators refuse to grant.

#### Newport Tie Up Likely.

The villa of the capitalists of Newport, R. I., are threatened with incompleteness. The carpenters want a raise of \$4.28 to \$4 a day, and refuse to accept a compromise of \$3.50. The Teamsters' Union are also interested in getting more wages.

#### Shoe Factories Tied Up.

The demands of less than 100 stock-fitters for an increase of wages ranging \$1 to \$3.50 per week, resulted in a strike that tied up four of the largest shoe factories in Lynn, Mass. Twelve hundred men, women and children are rendered idle.

#### Increase Demand Resented.

The American Manufacturing Co. locked out 1,200 men and women employed at its South Brooklyn plant. The company has a strike on in its Green Point plant where 4,000 employes want an increase 40 per cent for men and 20 per cent for women. It was to forestall an extension of this demand that the South Brooklyn plant was shut down by the company.

#### The Brotherhood of Machinists.

In New York City there exists a progressive organization known as the Brotherhood of Machinists. It is composed of nine lodges formerly in the International Association of Machinists. Its organizer is George Harrison. He has just returned from a tour of the Middle West, where he reports prospects of organization to be very bright. This information should prove spur to I. W. W. men. McConnell's ganization is on the decline.

#### THE REVIEW.

**Nothing in Common.**

"The working class and the employing class have nothing in common." There are those who think this statement is too broad. They think that there are certain social institutions in which the slaves are on an equal and common footing with their masters. Particularly do these well meaning but misguided individuals point to the postoffice and public school as "socialistic," or, in other words, as "steps toward Socialism." These persons are upon that Utopian road which, with proper information, may lead them into the realm of Science. Instead of discouraging them we should endeavor to point out the fallacies of their belief.

The goal of every class-conscious organization of the working class is "the abolition of the wage system" and the formation of an Industrial Republic. Everything, then, should be tested by these two questions: Does it tend toward the abolition of the wage system? Does it aid in the formation of the structure of the new society?

Let us now take the postoffice and measure it by this standard. Does the governmentally-owned postoffice in any way weaken the foundation of the wage system? Most decidedly not. The wage system of exploitation continues as in privately owned enterprises, and in some cases is even worse than the latter. The railway mail clerks are forbidden to ask for a raise in wages through those puppets of the industrial lords known as Congressmen and Representatives. One of their number had to leave the service in order to publish a paper in the interests of postal employees. These men are forced to withhold evidence in cases of avoidable railway accidents and are expected to "doctor" their reports as to show that mail trains run on schedule time. The railway postal employes have no interest in common with the government. Like the privately employed person, they are interested in selling their labor power for the highest possible price. Arrayed against them is the Government—the mailed fist of the capitalist class—headed by plutocracy's fat office boy—Injunction Bill. It is plainly evident that the postoffice does not interfere in any manner with the workings of the wage system?

The next question: Does the postoffice aid in the formation of the structure of the new society? can also be answered by a decided negative. At the first glance it appears that the present postoffice, with but few changes, would fit into the framework of an industrially organized society. Yet this is not the case. The postoffice is a Governmental institution, not because of demand made by the workers, nor for the purpose of heading off Socialism, but because the various capitalists realized that the control of this form of communication was too great a power to be left in the hands of an individual or small group of capitalists. Knowing, also, the lengths which their class would go in their desire for profits, they had grave doubts of obtaining secrecy of communication through the medium of a private corporation. Some reforms have been named for themselves the title "Post Office Socialists" by advocating governmental ownership and by telling the workers that they should acquire the powers of government in order to reverse things in such a manner as to allow the postal clerks to elect their chief, these chiefs within a state to elect a state postmaster, and these state postmasters to elect the Postmaster General. This implies an utter lack of realization of the approaching change in society. An industrial republic cannot be based on political and territorial lines, but rather must be formed on the basis of industrial representation. Nor can the change be handed down to the postal employes. It must come from within their ranks, for the emancipation of the working class depends upon the actions of workers themselves. The only postoffice step toward Socialism exists in an industrial organization of all workers engaged in work of communication. The French postal employes are taking that step.

But the workers send their children to the public schools," these reformers say, and then try to show that the workers have an interest in the schools in common with their masters. They also send their children into the factories where their class interests are violently opposed. That the public schools in no manner oppose the wage system is clearly shown by the fact that in the U. S. of A. the school system so poorly paid and overworked as in this branch of the public service.

The masters are forced to educate the workers to keep pace with the improvement in machinery and thus are digging their own graves. What interests the worker is the nature of the education and the reasons for giving it. As is the case with every institution of the day, the pub-

lic schools are absolutely dominated by industry. All teaching is tinged with the class interests of the masters. Here it is that we find patriotism, militarism and their kindred evils taught to the children of the working class. We have learned some of the reasons for the Revolutionary War but not through the public schools. It has lately come to light that Washington illegally surveyed land and appropriated it for his own use, that Samuel Adams was a smuggler, that the signers of the Declaration of Independence were owners of slaves and that Paul Revere was pinched before he had completed the famous ride attributed to him. In the interests of patriotism and private property all history has been colored to suit the ruling class. So it is with other branches of education.

The fact that the workers have no interest in common with the masters was shown still more clearly by the actions of the Convention of National Educational Association held in Denver in 1909. This gathering of noted "educators" of the day held lengthy sessions at which the following questions formed the main discussion:

Would it not be best to limit the general education of the child to the "three Rs", and devote the larger portion of school life to training them for factory and other work?

Should not the age limit for compulsory attendance be reduced by two years?

The many reasons advanced by the teachers who supported the affirmative of these propositions served only as a thin disguise for their real purpose. The first point discussed was advanced in the interests of the masters in order that the limitation of apprenticeship on the part of the A. F. & L. might be overcome and also to insure entrance into industry of workers who would not damage machinery through lack of skill. The second point was made so that there should be no danger of a failure in the crop of children who yearly serve as food for the factories. That the school book trust had packed the convention in order to obtain the endorsement of certain text books was plainly evident but as the workers are robbed only at the point of production this concerns them solely as it serves to show the personal character of these "educators."

Every institution of the present time could be submitted to the same test as the Post Office and the Public Schools and each in turn would make more evident the truth of our maxim "The working class and the employing class have nothing in common."

Realizing then, that there exists no identity of interests we must go forward with the work of building an industrial organization that will generate the power to abolish the wage system and which will form the structure of the new society. Haywood has aptly said, "Industrial Unionism is Socialism with its working clothes on," so if you want Socialism in your time get into the harness and join the Industrial Workers of the world and help to educate, to organize and to emancipate your class and to free yourself.

WALKER C. SMITH.

**What is Industrial Unionism?**

Industrial Unionism is unionism according to industry instead of craft, and of commodity instead of tool. For instance, Industrial Unionism aims to organize ALL the workers in the steel and iron industry into a metal industrial union because they are metal producers and erectors, and not as furnacemen, puddlers, heaters, and so on; nor as engineers, cranimen, etc., that is, as workmen using certain tools. No place of industrial disorganization, which is promoted by craft and tool using distinctions, industrial unionism promotes industrial unity among the workers.

**Is Industrial Unionism Practical?**

To ask this question is to ask is modern industry practical? Modern industry combines all kinds of skill at all kinds of wages. Why cannot the organizations in the interests of the working class do the same? They are doing the same, and doing it well wherever tried. Look at the European industrial unions, which protect and advance the interests of the laborer as well as the engineer; of the school teachers as well as the postal clerks, and all the other employees of a highly departmented division of labor. Look at our own Western Federation of Miners, its last days, when it took care of ALL THE MEN employed in and about the mines. Why, only recently, it defeated in Butte, Montana, an A. F. of L. attempt to take the engineers from its fold. If Industrial Unionism is not practical why should the A. F. of L. want to destroy it?

Send for sub cards to Solidarity and push its circulation.

**May Day Meetings.**

From all over the country reports are pouring in telling of monster meetings and demonstrations held on May 1st, the Workers' International Labor Day, which spells success for the workers and sounds the death knell of capitalism.

In New York a body of over 50,000 workers marched through the streets singing revolutionary songs and our active fellow-workers were on the job with SOLIDARITY. One fellow-worker in New York ordered a thousand copies of the May Day issue.

In McKees Rocks, despite the efforts of an organized attempt on the part of the tools of the Pressed Steel Car Works, a successful mass meeting was held. The meeting was advertised to take place on Indian Mound, but the Steel Trust forestalled that by placing trespass signs all over the mound and policing it with Cosacks.

A McKees Rocks paper that is acting as press agent for the Pressed Steel Car company published on the first page a notice that the Indian-Mound meeting was called off. Spies in the employ of the company circulated among the workers and informed them that the speakers were all arrested and, therefore, no meeting would be held. The burges of the town who evidently is a creature of the Steel Trust refused to issue a permit and caused this to be published in the company's newspaper. No trick was too low for them to stoop to. No means were too cowardly for them to pursue. But as we have said before, the I. W. W. thrives on persecution. The District Organizer based on the methods they pursued and at once got to dodger giving the workers to understand that there would be a meeting, no matter what the capitalist class and their hirelings would do. Sure enough. When the appointed time came an army of over 1,500 men marched from the hall to the foot of Indian Mound and under the very noses of the Cosacks the meeting was held. The army of 1,500 soon swelled to 2,000 and the cheers of the men echoed and re-echoed to the very slaughter house in which the men worked.

Five speakers spoke, three in English and two in Polish. Fellow-Workers Goff, Haywood and Euter were the English speakers. The company had been circulating a report that the treasurer of the union had absconded with the funds, but they were dumfounded when he appeared at the meeting and addressed the men. All in all, the May Day meeting at McKees Rocks was one of the notable victories that will go down in the history of the working class as a turning point in the class struggle.

Reports of a like nature are coming from all over the country, but space prevents us from doing these reports justice. May Day, 1910, will go down in history.

G. H. PERRY.

**Brief Thoughts.**

[Political Socialism is peculiar. It labors for one big political party for the working class, but is "neutral" on one big industrial union for that same class. It believes political unity possible where industrial disunity prevails. Nevertheless, it talks "Marxian" and other important topics, which it practically does not understand.

"Political organization must precede economic organization," so we are told. The first American labor union was formed in 1795; the first labor political movement in 1827—thirty-two years after. The National Labor Union preceded the National Labor Party in 1865. The New York Central Labor Union preceded the Henry George movement in 1886. Debs' American Democracy and the Socialist Party in 1894. History agrees with Socialist theory, to-wit, that the political is based on and flows from the economic. Organize the working class first; all else will follow after.

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**NOTICE.**

"Eleven Blind Leaders" and "Union Scabs" may also be ordered from General Headquarters of the I. W. W. by addressing the General Secretary, VINCENT ST. JOHN, 518 Cambridge Building, Chicago, Ill. Prices same as if ordered directly from publishers.

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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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## Revolutionary Unionism in Germany

(Translated from the "Bulletin International du Mouvement Syndicaliste," by B. H. Williams.)

The ninth convention of the Free Union of German Syndicates (Freie Vereinigung deutscher Gewerkschaften), in session at Berlin during Easter, surpassed the expectations of the revolutionary German syndicalists, who lately have become somewhat receptive owing to the difficulties they have met with in Germany.

It will be remembered that at the last convention of the Freie Vereinigung (1908) one body of workers joined that organization because of the policy of the old unions and the Social Democrats. The Social Democratic convention had forbidden its supporters throughout the Empire to join the Freie Vereinigung. From that time on a real terrorism has been carried on against the revolutionary unionists, a terrorism showing itself not only in attacks upon them by the press of the Social Democracy and of the Centralist Unions (great craft unions of Germany), but also by the boycotting of revolutionary unionists—members of the Freie Vereinigung—wherever they worked in the minority side by large wild members of the Centralist unions.

Besides this, the industrial depression in Germany during the past few years, has made difficult the propaganda of revolutionary unionism. Hence there is all the more reason to rejoice at the outcome of the last convention, which has shown that, thanks to unity of purpose, the Free Union of German Syndicates has held its own and in the future will be able to accomplish considerable for the emancipation of the working class and against the centralism, and the orthodox officialism of the great German federated unions.

At the Berlin convention were present 64 delegates with 86 votes, representing the revolutionary union movement of all the great industrial centers of Germany and eight members of the executive committee and the Commission of Claims.

The convention occupied itself chiefly with questions of organization, such as how to strengthen the financial state of the Federation; the measures required to insure regular payment of per capita by affiliated unions; revision of the program of 1908 (seventh convention) and the Syndicalist program.

The convention declared itself opposed to an insurance against unemployment within the organization, but it did not wish to render a binding decision concerning the viaticum, or aid to unemployed workers in their travels, leaving the regulation of this matter to the unions themselves.

As to the press, the convention declared that the establishment of a central revolutionary daily was a necessity for the movement. Lack of finances, however, decided the convention to reject all propositions looking to the immediate founding of a new organ, while at the same time it charged the Commission of the Press to prepare, if possible, to issue a new periodical (together with the organ "Die Einigkeit").

In a discussion of "social reforms and the class struggle" (reported by Comrade Rieger) the re-actionary nature of these reforms, serving in their entirety to sustain the capitalist system, was exposed at length. It was shown, for example, that in spite of legislation against accidents the number of serious and fatal accidents increases constantly. Moreover, the agencies of the state and the ruling class are occupied more and more in forming new laws to paralyze union activity. The resolution upon this subject passed by the convention, emphasizing the use by the producers of their economic power alone, pronounced against politico-parliamentary action.

Concerning the question of the "wage scale," the convention stated that employers who were formerly its adversaries have become ardent supporters thereof. If the workers decline to sign such wage scales, the capitalists try to force them by means of the lockout. Their policy in this direction, supported by the system of employment "bonus-making" obligates the placing of men by employers, through a real capitalist dictatorship. The convention recommended to affiliated unions not to enter into contracts covering extensive regions (district contracts) and to leave to local organizations the right to make short time agreements with the date of expiration not fixed. However, an amendment to the resolution adopted adds that the opposition to wage contracts must never

lead the revolutionary unionists to fall in solidarity toward their fellow-workers of other organizations.

If, for instance, a general strike were declared in connection with the campaign for universal suffrage in Prussia, the unionists of the Freie Vereinigung, while in principle opposed to parliamentarism, would not only participate in the manifestation of the general strike, but would also propose energetically to combine material demands (for wages, hours, etc.) with the political demands; to aid also in the progress of the general strike idea.

The following comrades were named as members of the executive committee: Fritz Katorf, A. Kleinlehn, K. Thiemer, A. Yuppenlatz and K. Hafner.

It has been announced that the Lehigh Coal and Navigation company has granted a wage increase averaging 10 per cent to all its employes on the railroad running between Middleport and Mauch Chunk, Pa.

## CENTER SHOTS.

By a Western Rifleman.

Charles W. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard, who discovered that the scab is a "united hero," has again broken into print by declaring that joint agreements are largely responsible for the present high cost of living. Eliot is as badly mixed in his economics as he is in his ideas of morality, and both ideas smell very much as though they had been purchased by the masters from this intellectual prostitute. Eliot says: "Compulsory arbitration is a method which simply breeds strikes in the first place; both parties greatly overstate their claims, then effect a compromise that is satisfactory to nobody. Then they strike again."

Eliot hits the nail on the head there. There can be no lasting arbitration between the wage earners and the wage payers.

Eliot goes on to say that the thing to do is to avoid all this trouble is to make the workers afraid to strike.

We can at least admire this frank expression of the uppermost thoughts in the minds of the masters. But it won't work. Eliot. To make the workers afraid the employing class must force them down. When the wages fall below the point of subsistence the workers will strike, because instinct, reason, common sense, or whatever you may call it, will tell them that starvation without work is to be preferred to starvation with drudgery attached. The class war is on and the high brows who are the lackeys of the industrial lords cannot disguise the fact. On to the battle, for ours is the winning side.

"The working class and the employing class have nothing in common."

Don't think that you can meet your boss on an equality within the lodge room of the Amicable Association of Assodatees or the Ancient Order of Ipecac. You can have no lodge in common with the masters. Even if you attain the doubtful honor of wearing a tin helmet and are addressed by the title of Most Worshipful Grand Boim of the Universe, while your employer is only the Second Chin Wiper and carries but a wooden spear. You won't get any bigger wages on that account. When you ask for a raise, he foregoes that you are a loyal comrade in the Polluted Order of Pathheads and tells you to go home. The workers have got to get this lodge door out of their nostrils. The militia men sent out in case of strikes belong to the same lodges as those who are the targets. There have been cases where bullets have been stopped by bibles, whisky flasks and Ingersoll watch, but never by a lodge pin. "Brother," Masons engineer the plot to kidnap Haywood, Moyer and Pettibone and the fact that "big Bill" belonged to their order cut no figure. Elks scab on Elks during every strike, and the mitts in the Cripple Creek district during the miners' strike was composed of men of every lodge from the Red Men to the Knights of the Golden Eagle. The women inside a school room remind one of a recess in a lodge for mental defectives and all the brotherhood you get by whispering through the keyholes, you can put in your eye and then see across the street. You can't give the high sign to the muckers at the door and have the class struggle outside. When you are in the I. W. W. you are on the firing line, and you have no place to back up to.

When Colorado opens the proposed State coal mines to be run by convict labor it will be a sad day for the miner found within the State in a strained financial condition. He will be arrested on suspicion of being hungry, sentenced to a term and will be allowed to aid in the upbuilding of this "socialistic" enterprise.

A few of the coal mines in Colorado are endeavoring to resume operation. Some few men returned to work when confronted with scabs who were ready to take their places. A few of the so-called independent mines have been trying to get men from the Southern fields to operate their mines, and in order to check this move and in order to head off any organization the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company has raised the wages of the unorganized workers about 5 per cent. Coal diggers are to get an increase of 5 cents per ton and loaders are to be raised to 40 cents a ton, and all outside men on top will get a raise to \$2.50; these increases took effect May 1.

About 10,000 men are affected by this raise. With the thermometer hovering around 80 degrees and the Southern fields producing coal, the operators are not worrying much about the strike.

It is rumored that the Santa Fe system will soon advance the wages of all unorganized laborers by 5 or 6 per cent. About 11,000 employes would be benefited by such a raise. Similar reports regarding other large enterprises throughout the country are being made. The masters seem to fear the unorganized workers more than they do the men organized in the American Separation of Labor. Apparently the employers have their ear to the ground, and hearing the mutterings of discontent are bound to head off real organization at all hazards. But even a raise will not disguise the class struggle, and the idea of solidarity is taking possession of the wage workers. Take the raise, fellow workers, but organize in the I. W. W. to get all you produce.

## Notes.

NEW YORK—Open air street meetings under auspices of the I. W. W. every Tuesday evening, at 148th street and Willis avenue, and every Saturday night at 124th street and Seventh avenue.

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## Nuf Ced.

Charles Andrews of the Mars, Pa., Dispatch, was arrested last week for criminal libel by Rev. Claudius Freemen, who, under the advice of a physician, ordered a barrel of beer for his wife, who was afflicted with boils. Mr. Andrews printed the resolutions of the Ministers' Association.

## 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.

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"Why Strikes are Lost" by W. E. Trautman, in LITHUANIAN. Price 10 cents a copy; 25 per cent off on orders of 100 or more.

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Please give my regards to the boys in the Lawrence County Hall of Fame. Yours for the Social General Strike. J. A. STURGIS.

## Principles and Methods of the I. W. W.

The I. W. W. was organized in Chicago in 1905 by the union of several labor organizations which had become sufficiently imbued with the spirit of the age to realize the necessity of the working class coming together in one big Union. It aims to organize the whole wage-earning class and not simply those who happen to have some skill or trade. It organizes them for a twofold purpose, to secure higher wages, shorter hours and better conditions generally from day to day and also to acquire the necessary discipline and power finally to take possession of the machinery of production and run it in the interests of all the workers.

The I. W. W. is, therefore, not an undisciplined mob nor an arbitrary grouping of workers together without any regard to the industries in which they work. Each industry is organized as a subdivision, so to speak, of the one big Union. It is not the intention that butchers and weavers and tin mill men should be brought together in the same local union, but in the same general organization.

Where it is not yet possible to organize a local union in any one industry, 20 or more wage-earners may organize into a mixed local, which is practically a propaganda club. But when such a mixed local contains 20 or more workers in any one industry, they must organize into a local union of that particular industry. The Committee in which local unions are grouped together in National Industrial Unions and National Industrial Departments. But these are considered simply as component parts of the General Organization. Trade or craft lines are wholly obliterated. The I. W. W. proposition is very simple. Here are the machines in the hands of the employing class. Here we are, having but our labor power to sell and having nothing in common with the employing class. But their machinery is of no value to them without our labor power. Let us organize and get for it all we can. To do so we must organize not part of the workers, but all of them. We must organize in such a way that, in case of a strike, the whole industry is affected, and related industries if necessary, can be tied up and the employers promptly brought to time.

At the same time by organizing along industrial lines the workers are building the framework of administration which will enable them to take and run the industries themselves and get the full value of all that they produce.

## Attention, New York City!

Building Workers' Industrial Union, No. 95 meets the first and third Friday of each month at 44 West 96th Street until further notice. Secretary.

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