

# THE CONFLICT IN THE GRAND RAPIDS FURNITURE INDUSTRY

(Special to Solidarity.)  
Grand Rapids, Mich., April 1.  
This is the day on or about which the furniture workers' strike at this time in the city. Of course, I'm not the pope and may be mistaken. But, judging by the various moves made by the labor leaders in the forefront of the "battle," I've reached the conclusion that they are afraid to call out the men.

**Manufacturers Stand Pat.**  
The manufacturers have stood pat and, despite the great "pressure" brought to bear upon them by the representatives of the so-called general public, they refuse to recede from their original declaration that they would not treat with the unions.

**Labor Leaders Seek Peace.**  
On the other hand, the labor leaders are leaving no stone unturned in their efforts to bring about a peaceable settlement of the labor war that is said to be imminent between these two partners, capital and labor; labor being the silent partner. The representatives of the union willingly accepted the arbitration idea of the "best" politician Grand Rapids, or any other burg, ever produced—Mayor Ellis, who offered the services of members of the city government and the use of the city hall as a meeting place for the arbitrators. But the employers could not see it that way and told the mayor they needed no assistance in conducting their business—jittery told the mayor to go to hell, as it were, seemingly, so to speak plain Christian English.

**Workers Show Spirit of Solidarity.**  
The workers, those who pay the dues and the salaries of the leaders, have evinced a spirit of enthusiastic solidarity, that had been called out at once, would, I believe, have tied up any furniture factory in Grand Rapids. All divisions of the workers voted almost unanimously to strike; and on the days when the various divisions of the furniture workers were voting on the strike proposition, many workers who had heretofore held back, becoming infected with the enthusiasm of their fellows, wished to join the unions.

But oh, ye craft tactics! The delay, I think, will cool the ardor of many workers and, if the strike order does come, it will not be responded to with the enthusiastic alacrity which would have developed a spirit of solidarity that would have brought out ALL the workers—skilled and unskilled, organized and unorganized.  
But the iron grows cold, the opportunity to strike passes. The leaders are chewing on their bellies and loudly bawling that they want "only justice," that they wish to be "fair to the employer," to stand upon a "common ground" and "discuss our differences in an amicable and conciliatory manner." Please give us a chance; do, mister, we don't hurt you. All we want is conciliation.

**Typical Middle Class Attitude.**  
Owing to the fact that this is what is termed a one-industry city, the threatening strike of the furniture workers is the sole topic of discussion among all divisions of the capitalist class, and all sections of the working class, and the lineup for or against the workers is of course according

## BIG LOCALS HELP LITTLE ONES

### Seattle I. W. W. Proposes Good Plan For Agitation and Organization.

Seattle, Wash., April 1.  
The Organization Committee of the Seattle locals think it is time for the I. W. W. locals to do something more than talk "circuits," and realizing that the small locals may fear going to the "bad financially," they are arranging to hold a meeting on the date set in the following schedule—Everett, April 5; Stanwood, April 6; Sedro-Woolley, April 7; Anacortes, April 8; Bellingham, April 9; Blaine, April 10; Vancouver, B. C., April 11; If desired, Victoria, B. C., April 16; Seattle, will reply to start over again—the Organization Committee, with the sanction of the local representatives, has decided to shoulder the deficit, if any, for the small locals,

to the material interests involved. The capitalist press which, owing to the fact that it is between the deep sea of industrial capitalists and the devil of the trader sections of the capitalist class and the workers, has broken the silence maintained for some time regarding the situation and for the time being, has thrown the weight of its influence, with the traders and workers as against the manufacturers. The traders and their retainers want neither a strike or lockout. That would be bad business for them, as with the factories closed down in either event, the consuming power of the workers would be greatly curtailed and the traders would be unable to circulate their commodities, thus stopping the realizing of surplus value, and when the traders are in such sore straits advertising shrinks and that hits the pocketbooks of the newspaper owners and here you are.

And so, the traders, the newspapers, the labor leaders, spy pilots, lawyers and politicians loudly cry for arbitration, justice, conciliation, peace, harmony, etc., all in the interests of the "great third party," the dear "general public." The newspapers in a left handed manner present the "justness and reasonableness of the request of the workers for an increase in wages owing to the increased cost of living, and incidentally the consumers of high grade furniture (the kind that is made here) take a rap at the manufacturers for the increased cost of furniture.

While the capitalist press presents the workers' side in a "fair" manner and tells some truths (because it is forced to), it does not miss the opportunity to throw a scare into the workers and buffalo them into accepting any old thing by reminding them that the interests of the manufacturers must be considered and the workers should remember that conditions in the furniture industry have been bad for some time and the market is somewhat sluggish. The time for the furniture workers to have gone on strike would have been last December, just prior to the winter furniture sale.

**Citizens Ignored by Manufacturers.**  
After Mayor Ellis' offer of arbitration was turned down, the matter was taken up by the board of trade and referred to the committee of 100. Organizer McFarlane was present at the board meeting as a guest of the mayor. The committee of 100 decided to invite representatives of both sides to the controversy to be present and state their case. McFarlane accepted, but the manufacturers declined, stating in substance that the board had better mind its business, that the manufacturers could handle their end of it all right. McFarlane also "declined" to be present. Then what is termed a self-appointed committee of citizens, with Father Schrembs at its head, got into the game, in the interests of the general public, you know. McFarlane is now acting with this outfit in the effort to secure a conference that will bring about a "harmonious" settlement of the "matters in dispute." And while the labor leaders dilly dally in this jolly fish manner, the manufacturers reiterate their declaration that they have nothing to arbitrate; that they will not treat with the unions.

**"Only Skilled Workers Organized."**  
When the manufacturers stated in their

(Continued on Page Four)  
thus helping ourselves by helping these small locals to grow and thus become self reliant. The plan is to have Fellow Worker P. Thompson make the route once every two weeks, and if this proves successful, add another speaker at a change, who would alternate with Thompson. It is proposed to change the date for each local every trip, in order that each in its turn would have Sunday meetings. Every local named in the schedule will receive a copy of this letter, and is invited to discuss this matter, and reply to the Seattle committee, no matter what your decision may be. The dates are set with the view of giving the locals time to discuss and reply. The cost to each local, if all these locals will take a hand, will be for news and transportation \$10, plus halls and advertising, but as most locals have their own halls, this expense would be eliminated. THOS. WHITEHEAD, Sec'y Seattle Org. Com.

## BUCCAFFORI CONVICTED

Workman Gets Ten Years in Sing Sing for Defending His Life From a Brute of a Foreman.

(Telegram to Solidarity.)  
New York, April 8.  
Buccaffori was tried last week; capitalists on jury found him guilty of manslaughter in the first degree. Prejudiced judge sentenced him to ten years in Sing Sing. Case of class justice. The testimony was in our favor. Case will be appealed; confident of freedom in higher court. MONEY NEEDED. Elizabeth Flynn sends story of the case for the Solidarity.

JOS. J. ETTOR.  
Up to the time of closing our forms, the special writer of the Buccaffori trial, had not arrived, and will be held over for the next issue. Meanwhile, we urge all our readers to come to the aid of this fellow worker with money for the defense fund. Send all contributions to Chas. Linfante, 10 Troy Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. The Shoemakers' Industrial Union, of which Buccaffori is a member, has just published in pamphlet form an address delivered in behalf of the Buccaffori defense by Wm. D. Haywood. The title is "The General Strike" and the proceeds from its sale will also go to the defense fund. We have many Haywood's speech, which is most excellent for propaganda. The price of the pamphlet is 10 cents per copy; \$5.00 per thousand. Order now from Chas. Linfante at the above address. The Irish Socialist Federation of New York has also arranged an entertainment to be given in aid of the defense, at Labor Temple, East 84th St., New York City, on April 22. Mrs. Edna Webster Powell will sing. A program of Irish song and wit will also be given.

Help the Buccaffori defense. Do it now!

## STRIKE IN PRINCE RUPERT

(Special to Solidarity.)  
Prince Rupert, B. C., March 30.

I am instructed by the Prince Rupert Industrial Association to write you regarding our strike here. Our organization is a local union along industrial lines, as you will see by the enclosed constitution. We started organizing last December, and are now 1,000 strong. At the beginning of this year we presented a demand to the candidates for municipal honors, for an increase of wages from \$5.00 per eight hour day to \$5 cents per hour. The majority of the council were in favor of it, but we had to strike to get it. Mrs. H. Wood's speech on the increase, but there are four contractors who don't like to come through. But we have got them beaten. Not a wheel is turning and all their efforts to get scales are useless.

One of the contractors actually went to Vancouver to try to round them up, but there was nothing doing; the I. W. W. boys have posted the town, also Seattle, Bellingham, Victoria and other places. The cost of living is so high here that a man cannot live on \$3.00 a day, and it rains every day. There were 155 inches of rainfall here last year. The rest of the time it is bitter cold, so you can guess that it is something fierce.

This jerk water city is composed of tar paper-shacks filled with wage slaves, and the owners of this patch of rock and muskeg are trying to realize a little hard cash on the patch, if they can boom her up and get suckers to come here and buy it up. At the present time it is just a dumping place on this desolate coast for freight and wage slaves, both of which are being sent up to build railroads for their masters. Conditions in the camps up the line are hell.

Yours for the I. W. W. and the Whole World,  
R. GORDON, Sec'y Protem.  
Labor papers please copy.

Fresno Local No. 66 will welcome a new Hall and Reading room, 917 E. St. April first. Everybody welcome. All Fellow Workers traveling through here are invited to give us a call.

Join the I. W. W. and FIGHT for better conditions.

Prepare for the eight hour day by distributing literature and getting suits.

## SCIENTIFIC SKILL OR "SCHMIDT, THE OX-MAN"

In the April number of the American Magazine Mr. Frederick W. Taylor continues his article on "Scientific Management," or the art of educating ox-men. The articles are evidently not written so much for the enlightenment and "uplifting" of the ox-men, though, as they are for the purpose of showing how ox-men may be trained to drive themselves and take pride in so doing. The breed of ox-men dealt with this month (April) belong to the exceptionally aristocratic herd classed in the social stock show as the pure blooded and high priced noble herd of bricklayers. He also tells how to pick and "scientifically" train the best sort of ox-men for shoveling work. Both herds paid handsomely for their education, but this, of course, Mr. Taylor does not illustrate, leading them as a matter of fact to believe that that charitable society known as the Bethlehem Steel Company paid for it out of pure hearted sympathy for their hard and benighted condition.

**Training the Shovel Stiff.**  
You can read about the shovel herd itself. Suffices it to say that their education is saving Bethlehem's lords the sum of \$80,000 per year, which, considering the quality of their training, isn't high, for when these ox-men of the shovel were fully educated into "high-priced men," their number had been reduced from 600 to 140; they were handling 50 tons per ox-man per day under the new plan as against only 10 tons under the old; their wages had increased (?) from the pitiful sum of \$1.15 per day to the magnificent salary of \$1.88 per day; yet, despite this splendid increase (?) in wages, the cost of handling a ton of 2,240 pounds had fallen from .072 to .033 cents per ton. And the ox-men of the shovel, we are told, were exceedingly proud.

**Training the Bricklayer.**  
As for the aristocratic herd of bricklayers, their training was almost as easy, though the officers of their union had first to be seen and frightened with the terrible spectre of concrete before their education could begin. To quote Mr. Taylor: "Mr. Gilbert was erecting a large building in the neighborhood of Boston, and he told the bricklayers, in the first place, that he would not employ any of them at less than \$6.50 per day, the ruling price at that time being \$4.50 a day, (How generous). That was a very satisfactory proposition to the workmen; but he also stipulated that any bricklayer who did not do exactly what he was told would be promptly discharged. By the time the building was a quarter to half way up he had a full complement of bricklayers laying bricks according to the new method, and each of them getting \$6.50 a day. On a

twelve inch wall, with drawn joints on both sides, using two kinds of bricks which all practical men will know was not an easy wall to lay, the average was 350 bricks per man per hour, the record number of bricks which had been laid per man per hour in this type of work previous to the adoption of the new system being 120 bricks.

**Double the Work at Half the Pay.**  
Here is something, however, which the aristocratic ox-men were not shown, and which neither they nor their called-off-fiers apparently took the time to figure out, simple as the process was. Under the old system 120 bricks per hour was the "record"; under the new system 350 bricks was the "average" number laid. Under the old system the labor cost of laying 120 bricks was \$1.60 a cent, while under the new system it cost \$1.14 a cent to lay 350 bricks (this on the basis of the 8 hour day). Under the old system the number of bricks laid per man per day "record" work would be 960, while under the new system the "average" number laid was 2,800 bricks, or nearly three times as many per man per day.

Wages have advanced (?) about 50 per cent while the product had increased practically 300 per cent. Under the old system, "record" work, it cost .00469 of a cent to lay a brick. Under the new system, .00232 of a cent, "average" work. Wherefore, had the old rate of wages been maintained, instead of having been advanced, an eight hour day should have advanced (?) each bricklayer in at least \$13.12 instead of \$6.50. But then it is only just and right to pay for such a liberal education liberally.

Another way under the old system it cost \$6.14 a cent to lay 180 bricks; under the new system it cost \$1.14 a cent to lay 350 bricks, a difference of 25 cents an hour, and for this 25 cents the educated bricklayer laid 290 bricks, nearly double a "record" hour's work under the old system. Or, the wise bricklayer laid under the new system about 1,400 bricks per day per man for which they received what 'a' shot at—nothing. Another way: the bricklayers were laying 120 bricks per man per hour for 56.14 cents; for an advance of 25 cents per hour they laid 290 additional bricks. Instead of their wages having been advanced 50 per cent, there had been an actual out of over 100 per cent, for at the old rate of wages, laying 350 bricks per hour they should have received \$13.12 a day instead of \$6.50.

It certainly pays to educate ox-men and I don't wonder that Taylor is being hailed as a savior of the human race.

COVINGTON HALL, Houston, Texas.

## I. W. W. BOOM IN EAST

Organizer in Demand, and Much Agitation Going On.

(Special to Solidarity.)  
New York, April 1.

The I. W. W. continues to boom in the East. Organizer Joseph J. Ettore reports demand for his service in Connecticut and Massachusetts, under the auspices of the National Textile Union. He also has requests from the upper anthracite regions of Pennsylvania. Dates are being made for all these states. They took no stock in the "disinterested" Caroli. The debate took place in a hall on East 22nd Street. It was stenographically reported and will appear in print. On March 31, Ettore addressed the opening meeting of the Bronx local of the Brotherhood of Machinists, and on April 6, the Hughes local's open meeting will have him for the speaker of the evening. Organizer Ettore also addressed the Avanti Club, composed of Italian workingmen, and located in the Bushwick section of Brooklyn, March 26. He is conducting considerable Italian agitation in co-op-

eration with the Italian paper, "Il Proletario."

**Elizabeth Gurley Flynn's Dates.**

Our able fellow worker, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, is also in great demand as a speaker. On Sunday April 2 at 3 P. M., she will address the people of Form, Gates Avenue and Broadway, Brooklyn, on "The New Unionism." On the same evening she will speak in Elizabeth, N. J., on the same subject. Ren Bank, N. J., is also down for a future address on the same theme.

Monday, April 3, 8 p. m., Miss Flynn will address the lithographers, at Schuetzen Hall, 12 St. Marks Place, New York. Monday, April 17, she will appear before another "workers' union. April 9, will find her in Bridgeport, Conn., where she will speak under the auspices of the Brotherhood of Engineers. Dates are also being arranged for her in the lower anthracite regions of Pennsylvania.

Fellow Worker Flynn has recently addressed a large number of organizations of all kinds. She speaks to whoever cares to listen to the gospel of industrial unionism. She is in great demand as a speaker.

The East is waking up; so is the Pacific coast. How about the middle West?

THE COMMENTATOR.

BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON.

The address of the newly elected secretary of local 257 is Theo. Bethak, 1315 Railroad Ave., Bellingham, Wash. All mail should be addressed to him, or his care. Headquarters at same place open day and working. Free reading room.

# SOLIDARITY

EASTERN ORGAN OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

P. O. Drawer 622 New Castle, Pa.

Owned and Published Weekly by  
**C. H. McCARTY and B. H. WILLIAMS**  
 C. H. McCARTY, L. U. 398  
 B. H. WILLIAMS, L. U. 397  
 Place of Publication—rte No. 416, Croton Ave.

B. H. Williams . . . . . Managing Editor  
 C. H. McCarty . . . . . Business Manager

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

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

Entered as second-class matter December 18, 1906, at the post office at New Castle, Pa., under the act of March 3, 1879.

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

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**WATCH FOR YOUR NUMBER.**  
 Each subscriber will find a number opposite his name on the wrapper enclosing *SOLIDARITY*. For instance: '68. That means that your sub expired last week, and you should renew.

## AROUSE THE SLAVES!

Those who are at all familiar with conditions in the clothing factories of the country, are not in the least surprised that investigations following the awful fire in the Triangle shop in New York City, two weeks ago, reveal the fact that there is scarcely a factory in the city that is safe from a like possibility.

Now is the reason for this state of things at all difficult to discover: The workers are not yet sufficiently conscious of their own interests, to protect themselves. Much as we would like to exclusively sail into and bring to account the criminal employers and their accessories, the factory inspectors (and they should be brought to account, if possible), such a shallow view of the situation would only obscure the real issue and make impossible the only remedy.

The masters can never be primarily concerned with the welfare of their slaves. Least of all, when they are not chattering slaves, and cost their masters nothing. Criminal disregard for the lives and limbs of the workers is an inevitable accompaniment of the mad scramble for profits. Add to this a consciousness of supreme power and security on the part of the ruling class; and we need not wonder at the slaughter of innocent workmen, women and children in our industrial hells.

The masters will not voluntarily make a move to protect their slaves. The slaves MUST protect themselves. Employers will remove fire traps, put safeguards on machines, cut out excessive toll and long hours that lead to exhaustion, disease and accident, only when the workers through organization, FORCE them to do so.

Why then, waste much time with sentiment or vain lamentation? You cannot thereby terrify the masters, least of all when they know too well that there is behind that sentiment an organized plan of action among the slaves.

Unspeakingly horrible as was the Triangle disaster, it will be repeated time and again, in spite of all curves and lamentations and even "public demonstrations," unless the workers make it the starting point of shop organization whose purpose among others, is to put an end to fire traps, unprotected machines, unsanitary workshops, low wages and long hours.

A remedy will not be found, either, by

appealing to the courts or law making contrary to law. . . . . But what matters that to the employer? Where will you find a workshop in the United States that is not "illegally" operated? And what are the factory inspectors doing? Serving the capitalist masters, of course, upon whom they are dependent for their jobs and "tips." These inspectors (?) are paid and controlled by the employers to cover up facts and hide conditions. . . . . Only a disaster like the one in New York last year, reveals their criminal worthlessness to anyone but the bosses who own them.

It all comes back to the workers themselves. Appeals to sentiment or attempts at intimidation of the masters will avail little or nothing. Statute laws, all of which are made and enforced exclusively in the interests of the employing class, are illusions. ONLY ORGANIZED FORCE, intelligently and directly applied by the workers themselves, will bring the masters to time, and QUICKLY, too.

Build up one big industrial union of the working class, and you will behold fire traps, factories and other evils, quickly banished from the arena of industry.

AROUSE THE SLAVES! to kick the masters of their pedestal of criminal arrogance and power!

## SUGGESTION AS TO I. W. W. PAPERS

**Editor Solidarity:**  
 I am going to offer a suggestion regarding *Solidarity* and the Industrial Worker, that I believe will take them out of the realm of uncertainty and insure their continued publication. The suggestion is: That the two papers be taken over by the general organization, and then consolidated under, perhaps the title, "Industrial Solidarity"; that this consolidated paper be collectively owned by the general membership and co-operatively circulated to each individual member; that the dues be increased 10 cents per month per member; the money derived from this 10 cents shall be placed in a fund known as the "press fund," which shall be used for the sole purpose of publishing the official I. W. W. paper, and printing leaflets, pamphlets, books and all printing required by the general office and all subdivisions of the I. W. W.; in short, to establish a printing department of the I. W. W.

Ten cents per month per member would be \$1.20 per member per year, and this might be said to be too much, in view of the fact that the price of the paper now is \$1.00 per year. However, when the fact is taken into consideration that we would expect to lose our advertisements, I do not think \$1.20 would be too much. Then, again, this sum would soon enable us to equip a modern up-to-date printing plant, we could enlarge the paper to eight or twelve pages and put out a maximum quantity of the best revolutionary literature at a minimum cost. Locals and individual members could then secure literature at such cost as to permit of free distribution of literature and papers, thus carrying the revolutionary message to the workers, thereby increasing our membership. Every member would be a subscriber to our paper; the office reports would be published at stated times in our paper, and the general membership (or at least a larger number than at present) would be kept informed as to the conduct of our general business.

The paper could be so made up that all sections of the country could be represented—east, west, north and south; or if thought best, an eastern edition and a western edition could be issued, but with the present means of communication and transportation, I do not think this would be necessary.

The papers to be conducted on the present lines of revolutionary propaganda. This idea can be developed, and the paper and printing plant so safeguarded as to prevent it from becoming the private mouthpiece or property of scheming union politicians who would use it to advance their private interests, as so many craft union papers have become.

At the present time the energy of a few members is divided in an effort to support two I. W. W. papers, and the result is that neither one is in very "robust health," in fact their "circulation" is so poor that either one or both is liable to "cash in" at almost any moment. Why divide our energy? Let us consolidate it and our efforts in building up ONE BIG PAPER to represent and fight for ONE BIG REVOLUTIONARY UNION.

Think this over, fellow workers, and possibly some of you may be able to put the idea in such shape as to present it at among others, is to put an end to fire traps, unprotected machines, unsanitary workshops, low wages and long hours.

One big paper, one big union!  
 O. L. WAKEUP.  
 Grand Rapids, Mich.

## "HARD TIMES" A TALE OF THE UNEMPLOYED

By The Commentator.

It was the same old story—no work. Once more were the anxious mechanics and laborers turned away, once more was the hope for employment dashed.

To say that they were angry is to put it mildly. Many of them had believed that only the lazy were without employment. Repeated experience however soon convinced them that the industrious man-of-family was perforce compelled to starve along with the unmarried man, who cared little whether school kept or not.

And so down the road, away from the factory gate, they went, cursing and swearing against fate.

Jim Little was especially wrought up over matters. Ambitious, always saving and scraping and filled with the belief that a workman could become a millionaire by practicing "abstinence and self-denial," he started himself and family, only, in the end, to realize that he had a Sisyphean job on hand; for when he had saved a little, alone would come a "layoff," compelling him to begin all over again; and keeping him as far away from billion-aires as Mars to the earth. So he ripped and swore to find himself always in the same hole, and then, in a fit of anger and thrift, against whom the fates ought to have made some discrimination as a token of the esteem in which they held his extraordinary virtues and their very ordinary vices. Little, as a consequence, was railed and sulphurous.

"This thing," he yelled, "has got to end. It can't last. It has got to end!"

Tom Louie, his nearest companion, on hearing this, smiled somewhat amiably. Tom had been in Jim's boots himself once. He too had believed that the sun of independence shone upon the man of individual ambition and character. But experience had taught Tom that, owing to its general or social nature, industry affects all workers alike, especially in times of depression. The result is a lack of capital at one time, and "overproduction" at another. At all times there is the robbery of labor, which prevents it from buying back that it produces, or in producing capital as conditions require. The result is industrial stagnation or depression. Factories stop, mills shut down, the unemployed swell to abnormal numbers, and widespread misery afflicts the members of the class most essential to society, the class that possesses its brain and brawn, the working class.

"You're all a lie," "right you are," "that's the correct doc," etc., interrupted Tom, while the crowd pressed nearer and waited with impatience for his further explanation of the problem.

"Now boys, fellows that we want to end our misery, we must abolish the cause of it, the capitalist class and the profit and wages system on which it rests. The only way to end the system itself is organizing us to do it. It is organizing us so that we can operate industry in a technical way. We must organize so as to take over and operate industry in an administrative way for our own benefit and the benefit of society. This means the organization on industrial lines of an industrial administration by, and for, the workers in other words, of society, of which they are the most numerous and important part. Now this organization is already under way. With its eye on the final goal and as the preliminary steps thereto, it strives at present for ever more of labor's products in the form of wages and less hours. These will both be beneficial to the unemployed, as they will cause a demand for more labor, by increasing the purchasing power of labor and the demand for commodities; and by also increasing the number of jobs.

"This organization is known as the Industrial Workers of the World, with headquarters at Chicago, Ill. Get into it and stop the robbery of labor, with its resultant panics, depressions and unemployment, and abolish capitalism. Get into it and helping the new era for labor; the era in which labor shall rule because it alone is competent and entitled to do so. Get into it and struggle for the immediate needs of the hour, while working for this great goal. The cause of labor is disorganization. With organization all things are possible. This the capitalists realize, for they organize trusts and divide labor when and wherever they can. Organize into one big union of all the workers, for the abolition of the capitalist class and the capitalist system. Then and not till then, will our unemployment and misery completely end."

The crowd, including Jim, pressed around Tom, to shake his hands, convinced he had uttered, and to give instinctive though silent support of the solidarity for which he had so eloquently pled.

## BACK TO THE LAND!

NOT many months now, and the grain harvest will begin in different sections of the country. Thousands of floating workers will start on their annual migration from the cities to the country districts to help in the harvesting of the crops.

The city hour work day will be the rule—that is, eight hours in the forenoon and eight in the afternoon. Promises of \$3.00 per day and steady work for harvest hands will materialize at \$1.50 and \$2.00 when it don't rain. Thousands won't get any work at all, but the employment shark will grab them, all right. In more cases than one, the summer's stake will look like 20 cents when the "boes" return to the cities in September.

That is, unless something is done by the harvest hands in the meantime. That SOMETHING is to ORGANIZE and get a corner on your labor power during the harvest.

Last year, several hundred harvest hands got concessions from the farm owners in the State of Washington by organizing on the job in the I. W. W. Their efforts were more or less crude, as a result of inexperience.

But the experiment was worth while and indicates what may be done on a wider scale this year and in future harvest times, if the farm laborers will begin to consult their own interests. We are glad to note that the St. Louis I. W. W. is taking up this proposition and calling for systematic efforts to organize the harvest hands. Let others do likewise without delay.

Local unions in sections where harvest hands have hitherto been given to the possibilities of industrial organization among the agricultural workers. There is a wonderful and practically inexhaustible field. Agriculture is a basic industry, and one that becomes progressively, more and more important.

Local unions in sections where harvest hands are recruited should be on the job, getting these men to join the I. W. W., and laying plans to harvest better conditions for the farm workers this summer.

Dig in now, and lay the foundation for the Agricultural Department of the Industrial Workers of the World.

## AMONG THE SUB HUSTLERS

The I. W. W. boys in Greater New York are working on a plan to double the circulation of *Solidarity* in the big city. As a preliminary step they ordered 1,000 copies of No. 68 to be distributed at several big meetings in New York. Justus Ebert of Brooklyn is the prime mover, assisted by Fellow Workers Walsh, Breen, Morrison and McPherson. Look for results in New York soon.

Frank Morris is sending in sub rights along from this city. He also reports having held good agitation meetings in Lorain and Fremont. Keep her going, Frank.

One of our most active and tireless sub getters is J. J. Farley of Norway, Mich., who is now rambling over Michigan Territory, that purpose alone. He recently made a trip through Ishpeming to Pullman, Mich., and sent in a good bunch from the different places visited. Says he is going to move south from Norway and use the dragnet on the way. Farley will get them.

A number of bundle bills are now due for March. We need this money, and urge all locals to pay up without delay.

Albert V. Roe the one-armed bicyclist, who until recently had his wheel stored in the Fresno jail, where he was confined for being fresh enough to try to speak on the streets of that city, is again at large. He is going to wheel across the country from Fresno to New York, soliciting sub rights for the I. W. W. papers. *Solidarity* has armed Roe with a bunch of sub cards, and we shall expect to see them come in like snow in a March blizzard pretty soon. Let 'em come, Albert. We'll take care of them.

Quite a number of combination sub getters with the International Socialist Review roll have already come in. Get out attractive readers of the Review and show them *Solidarity*, clubbing offer. Both *Solidarity* and the Review one year.

Every reader of *Solidarity* ought to be also a reader of the Industrial Worker. That's easy, with our clubbing offer—both papers one year for \$1.50. Subscribe now.

Here is something worthy of imitation: "Spokane, Wash., March 28.

"Solidarity:  
 The local last night decided to help *Solidarity* by ordering me to send for \$5.00 worth of prepaid sub cards, and in accordance with their instructions I am enclosing money order for \$5.00 in payment of same. The way I shall work it will be, after I have sold the \$5.00 worth of subs, I shall immediately send for a further supply of cards, thus from that initial \$5.00 we can form a fund for *Solidarity*. The localists of \$5.00 for prepaid sub cards and from the sale of the prepaid cards, I have decided that as soon as one bunch of cards is sold, we will get one forward the proceeds of such sale to you, and get another bunch of cards in return, continually repeating, thus forming a kind of endless chain. I think this is a good method, and if each local would make an initial expenditure of \$5.00 for prepaid sub cards and from the proceeds of the sale of the same keep buying more, you would soon have subs coming in so fast, that you would have more than you could use, and get another and buy an Official Bull-dog, to look after the same. Trusting you will soon attain that complete printing plant, and having you ever get the merits of the plan I have outlined above, I remain, with best wishes,  
 Yours for One Big Union,  
 RICHARD BR.  
 Sec'y Joint Locals, 1

## GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.

After April 1st 1911, the number of the Cambridge building will be changed to 160 North Fifth Ave. All locals take notice. Use new street number as it will avoid delay in delivery of mail.

518 Cambridge Building,  
 160 N. Fifth Ave.

## CHANGE IN LOS ANGELES.

Local Unions No. 1, 19, 18 and 63, I. W. W., Los Angeles, Calif, have moved to 604 Crocker street. All the latest revolutionary papers and literature on hand. All wage slaves are welcome.  
 WM. R. SAUTER,  
 Joint Secretary.

**INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT**

(From the "Bulletin International.")

**Revolutionary Syndicalist Press.**

Revolutionary syndicalism is undoubtedly making enormous progress in all countries. Several weeks in succession we have been able to announce new organs of direct action tactics. Now the first number of "DER SYNDICALIST" has appeared, a paper for the propaganda of the principles of revolutionary syndicalism among the numerous German workers living in France, who usually are imbued with reaction and nationalist spirit and of excessive discipline. In the first article Georges Yvetot, the secretary of the Federation of the Labor Exchanges, bids a hearty welcome to the German comrades and their paper, the address of which is: 38, Rue de la Grange aux Belles, Paris, X.

Another new and revolutionary organ has appeared in Belgium. It first appeared the 5th of October. It is called "L'EXPLOITE," and is a socialist organ of direct action. At the head of the paper is the following declaration of syndicalism and class struggle: "As well as we believe that revolutionary syndicalism will overthrow bourgeois society and inaugurate a new collectivist or communist society, so we are convinced that the existing unions must fight by all means for all possible material ameliorations. Our unions must demand more and more and obtain more and more advantages from their exploiters, and so by a sort of gradual expropriation prepare the final great expropriation."

The paper intends to fight against Clericalism, Patriotism and Militarism. Address of the editor: Emile Chapelier, 28 Rue Vanderschrick, Bruxelles, Belgium.

**The Syndicalist Movement in England.**

Comrade Tom Mann writes us: "I am again in South Wales organizing on the basis of Syndicalism. The dispute in the Rhondda Valley still continues, the mine owners being reimbursed for their losses by the combined owners of South Wales. Throughout Britain there is a strong development in favor of Amalgamation and in some cases of federating unions. Small sectional unions have seriously retarded the proper growth of the syndicalist spirit, it has been impossible to secure any agreement among so many unions when the time for fighting the capitalists has come around. Two months ago ten unions in the Furnishing trades amalgamated and became one union. Thirteen small unions in Sheffield have amalgamated and become one, six unions in the Iron Moulding trade have just agreed by vote of members to amalgamate. A National Federation of Transportation Workers has just been formed consisting of the following unions: the Stevedores (loaders of boats), the Dockers, the Seamen, the Firemen, the Carmen, the Lightermen, the Crane Drivers, the Ship Stewards, Bakers and Butchers, and the Dockworkers of Ireland. Syndicalist propaganda efforts are being regularly carried out."

**The Congress of the Federated Workers' Union of Roman Switzerland.**

Was opened on March the 5th at 10 o'clock in the morning at Neuchâtel. Forty delegates from Geneva, Montreux, Vevey, Lausanne, Chaux-de-Fonds, Yverdon, etc., were present. The report of the Federative Committee, the giving of an account of their work during the year, and calling attention that a new committee must be appointed for the next year, to administer the printing office of the Workers' Union, and the organ "Voix du Peuple." An interesting discussion took place here to intensify the union of local branches. An untiring Anti-Militarist propaganda was decided upon. The Geneva delegates reported on the boycott of the Tribune, a rich daily bourgeois paper which has shown great hostility to the workers. By figures the delegate proved that the paper will have to make peace as it has already had great losses. This again shows that a powerful weapon is being put in the hands of the workers. The Chaux-de-Fonds branch was elected to form the next Federative Committee. The decision to send a subsidy of 50 francs to the International Bulletin was unanimously accepted in view of the services this paper is rendering the revolutionary syndicalist movement.

**HENRI BAUD.**

**International Strike of Seamen.**

From the 12th to the 14th of March at Antwerp the Conference of International Seamen was held. The question of an international strike was discussed. The central committee which is in Berlin and which has been so bitterly opposed to the preparation of the strike, had sent three members. Delegates from Germany, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland and England were present. The English Comrade Havlock Wilson represented also the U. S. A. France was unshakably again not represented. After the reports on the organization of seamen and the opinions in different countries, England proposed the international strike of seamen. Long discussions took place. Germany declared it to be difficult for them as they had only organized an increase of \$1.00 to \$2.00 a month in the wages of the seamen. Havlock Wilson was authorized to state that the American seamen at least of the Atlantic ports, are in favor of a strike. English seamen have in a year increased by 20.00% and now out of the total of 60,000 English seamen 30,000 are organized. In all England obtains adhesion more certain from the U. S. A., England, Norway, Holland and Denmark. Germany

and Sweden are against; Belgium must delay decision as they have to consult with the General Trade Union Commission of Belgium. The Conference has appointed a defense committee which has to prepare the situation and prepare an international strike when deemed necessary. Last Tuesday this committee held its first sitting to examine fundamentally the conditions in the various countries.

**Syndicalist Congress in Portugal.**

The 14th of February the second Portuguese syndicalist congress was held in Lisbon, which was more important than the first when the trade unions represented were governed by political tendencies rather than by syndicalism. But during the last congress it was quite evident, that the Portuguese syndicalism had been influenced by revolutionary syndicalism, as direct action, and revolutionary tactics were warmly applauded.

**Peasants Strike in Austria.**

During the last weeks the whole Austria has been agitated by the peasant resistance of the State, Post, and Telegraph workers. Here as in Italy, and recently on the French railways, the enormous power of such a peaceful strike, that even the trade unions represented were governed by political tendencies rather than by syndicalism. But during the last congress it was quite evident, that the Portuguese syndicalism had been influenced by revolutionary syndicalism, as direct action, and revolutionary tactics were warmly applauded.

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The general spirit of the compositors has been good for the last two months. Nevertheless the newspapers are appearing, and it seems that the struggle is to be a protracted one. The paper manufacturers from their side, boycott the socialists who have great difficulties in bringing out their papers. It is a strike of peaceful means, "with folded arms," very honest," "quiet and dignified" as the labor papers of central and eastern Europe are proudly informing the public.

**Labor Struggle in Denmark.**

The movement for increase of wages which we mentioned before, is accompanied by serious events. A general lock-out has been declared against the electrical fitters whose wages the masters intend to diminish; the same is the case with the woodworkers. The carpenters will be locked out all over the country from March 9th, while the metalworkers are threatened by a similar fate. Everywhere the employers are taking the offensive.

**The Wage Scale in Norway.**

During the last year no less than 330 collective contracts involving 36,000 workers, have expired. Of course the dates of the expirations of those contracts are not the same, but already 20,000 workers in various branches of industry, iron industry, building trade, tanning, mining industry, are decided not to renew their contracts without new negotiations which, it seems, will not be carried on without some serious conflicts.

**FROM A WEALTHY MANUFACTURER**

To His Son Who is Superintendent of a Small Plant.

By G. H. Perry.

No. 2.

Factoryville, 1911.

Dear Son—

I received your letter in answer to mine and was perfectly satisfied with the progress you have made in turning out the finished product and the prices that you secured for it, but there are several points that I must not only give you advice on, but which I must also warn you of their very serious danger. In managing the office you have done splendidly, but in the management of your most important asset, the labor power of your employes, you still have much to learn.

I note that you took my advice and

squared up matters with the craft union. Good. That is perhaps the best bit of business that you have done since you have had charge of the plant. I note what you say in regard to those employes who are socialistically inclined, and when you state that the most of their attention seems to be centered upon the coming elections and woman suffrage, you satisfy me beyond all shadow of doubt that they are harmless. You must not take them seriously although you must give them the impression that they are a real menace to the present order of society.

I note one very dangerous question which you have to deal with, which you do not seem to attach enough importance to. That is the posting of eight hour stickers all around the plant by men belonging to the I. W. W. You state that there are only a few of these men in the plant and that you do not think they are dangerous because all the radicals among the socialists are not on friendly terms with them and that the stickers do not call for an eight hour day until May 1 1912.

You must hunt out all these men in the plant and discharge them at once. They are dangerous. It is easy to see that you have had no experience in Industrial Matters or you would see the grave menace these men are to the profit end of our business.

I know by sad experience what these men are and what they will do. You say that they do not call for the eight hour day until next year. Let them get a foothold in your plant and you will see them call for an eight hour day tomorrow and what is worse they will get it. Their organization is built on exactly the same lines as all our huge combinations and they have the whip over us inasmuch as they can control, if organized, the labor power of the world, without which we can do nothing.

The political socialists are not on good terms with them, eh? Of course not, neither are the anarchists. The socialists call them anarchists because they refuse to fool away their time in casting ballots that can not gain them any material benefits, while the anarchists call them socialists because they believe in and enforce discipline within their ranks, while they combine themselves to murder of these theories but go on talking to the vast ranks of unorganized workers who are interested in getting more bread and butter and shorter hours of toil.

And the unorganized workers listen to their plan of organization and marvel that they had not organized that way before as it is so simple and concise. Therein lies your danger. You must take steps at once to try and counteract the influence these men have had upon your workmen. It will be hard, as discontent and dissatisfaction always follows in the trail of these men. You can see as well as I what effect the gaining of the eight hour day would have upon our business. In order to put out the full product of our plant we would have to employ more men. That in turn would make a scarcity in the labor market which would cause wages to rise while the men would have more leisure time to devote to the study of bettering their conditions. They would be more dissatisfied than ever, as a worker always grows restless if he gets an opportunity to use his brains. Our salvation lies in keeping him hard at work all the time so when his day's toil is ended he cannot think of anything but sleep. As long as we can keep him in that condition he will be docile.

Now this is what I would suggest that you do at once. Donate a reasonably large sum of money to the Y. M. C. A. for the building of a gymnasium. This will attract the younger folks and they will not only be surrounded by an environment that is favorable to us, but will also improve their physical strength so we can arrange for some night revivalist, like Billy Sunday, Gypie Smith or some other such character who will get them in the frame of mind to attend the Y. M. C. A. and kindred institutions. I have no doubt if you follow these instructions that you will see favorable results in a short time.

You be sure and write often and tell me how the men seem to take to this treatment. Don't deal so much on the money question in your letters. That is no important part of our business. If we can control labor the money end will control itself. Be sure and set upon my suggestions and do not fail to keep me well informed. Your father,

J. D. WORKEMHAID.

Agitate for the 8-hour day!

**I. W. W. PREAMBLE**

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

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

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

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wages for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for the every-day struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

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

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Lake Jay, Washington

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**CHANGE OF LOCATION.**

The office of Solidarity is now located in the Gilliland building at the rear of No. 8 Oregon avenue, having been moved from 10 1-2 South Mill street.

Send in the subs.

**DULUTH I. W. W.**

Local Union No. 68 of the Industrial Workers of the World maintains a headquarters and reading-room at 907 Michigan Street, Duluth, Minn., for the free use of working men.

FORNITUDE LINEUP

(Continued From Page One)

Downward Adjustment. A Wall St. organ declares that "general economic conditions are still in a process of downward adjustment." The phrase sums up the situation well, as far as the "World of Labor" is concerned. "Downward adjustment" is the rule there. The New York building trades are facing unemployment to such an extent that the arbitration plan favorable to the employers' association has been forced on the unions. The latter are powerful organizations, but "downward adjustment" has embraced them too.

Upward Tendencies. Despite capitalist tendencies to the contrary, labor is making great endeavors upward. Its interests compel it to act in opposition to capitalists' interests. And so, while the latter work downward, labor's adjustments are ever in the opposite direction. This is the case with the Ohio and Illinois miners, who are on strike; and with the Grand Rapids Furniture workers and Northwestern railroad workmen and handlers and telegraphers, all of whom demand increased wages and better conditions. This is a most encouraging sign; for when labor strikes for better things, despite adverse tendencies, there is hope and life. Don't overlook that, you pessimists!

On the Railroads. The shopmen machinists, boiler-makers, and others—employed on the Northwestern railroads are now working up demands to be presented on June 1. They claim that some increase given them during the past two years are considerably below those granted to other classes of organized labor. The railroads will resist.

Freight handlers on 20 railroads centering in Chicago demand an increase of 20 per cent over present scale, which expires on May 1st. The union's contract requires 30 days notice to the General Managers' Association.

Employees of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Co. have decided to demand more. They intend asking for 28 cents an hour in the hope of obtaining 25 cents. It is understood that the management will refuse to make any concessions.

The Canadian Pacific Railway is going to run special coal trains from Spokane and the coast to help its lines and big smelters along the border, in the event of the open shop coal strike in Alberta and British Columbia. Bids are being placed in Lake Erie ports to be rushed up the lakes. Special trains will carry these cargoes west.

The Army of the Unemployed. Depression in the coal business has thrown 20,000 men out of employment in Illinois, according to statements made by coal operators and union officials. This is one-third of the entire number employed. Six thousand employees of the rubber mills in Massachusetts and Rhode Island are on a vacation ranging from one to three weeks. In most of the mills which are closing, the annual repairs will be made. All of the mills are controlled by the United States Rubber Company.

The Penna. R. R. has reduced the working time of its shop employees from 55 to 45 hours a week. Shop employees are being closed down and men laid off; 12,000 employees are affected.

The Union Pacific has discharged 150 shopmen at Omaha. Other railroads are laying off thousands of employees.

Comers' "Steel Trust War" Again. According to press reports, the American Federation of Labor is to renew its attacks on the steel corporation early in the next session. Representative Stanley of Kentucky, who has been active in the past in this direction, is a member of the new Committee on Rules and will work to get a resolution authorizing an investigation of the steel trust and of the steel business generally. The A. F. of L. men are confident that such a resolution can be passed through the House and they think they can arouse public attention through the investigation to their charges against the company, which have been heretofore presented to the Department of Justice and not sustained.

Just how this resolution will enable steel trust employees to organize, or how it will raise their wages, is not evident. Investi-

gations do not organize the unorganized, nor do they create conditions that make such organization possible. The Standard Oil is the most investigated and the least labor-unionized of trusts. The organization of the workers is the work of the workers themselves. And it must take place on the job, not on congressional paper.

Capital No Respector of Politics. The workmen have no politics that the capitalists are bound to respect. The P. O. employees cannot organize to increase wages and get better conditions. The Socialist Party men are being fired by the corporations. Now machinists are getting it in the neck, politically speaking. Labor troubles are facing military stores and small arms shops at the Rock Island, Illinois arsenal, employing 1,500 men, as the result of an order issued by the war department prohibiting civil employees there from holding political offices. Notice has been given to the promised introduction of Johnson and C. C. Wilson, skilled laborers, because they were candidates for commissioner in Rock Island at the recent primary.

Alkerman Charles Best and William Cochran, employes at the arsenal, were notified that they must resign the offices or be dismissed, and having only two months more to serve in the council, both chose the former course. All four are members of the local unions. This action on the part of the war department, coming in connection with the promised introduction of the Taylor system of "scientific shop management" (See elsewhere, "Schmidt, the OX-man"), is expected to result in strong protests to the war department.

Another Brand of Cossack! Talk about the state constabulary of Pennsylvania, world famous as "the cow-sucker." Here's a new brand of cossacks, also a Pennsylvania product: According to press reports:

"Unique among railroad schools in America is one for apprentices which has been established at Altoona, Pa., by the Pennsylvania Railroad, co-operating with the Engineering School of the Pennsylvania State College. This school is for the benefit of regular apprentices in the railroad shops at Altoona. The object of the school is to give to apprentices a knowledge of the fundamentals of mathematics, mechanics and drawing, thereby making them better artisans—men more useful in their specific trades. The large attendance shows that the men are eager to make the most of the opportunities open to them and the company is more than repaid by the actual increase in efficiency of its workmen, and by the assurance of unswerving loyalty from the men who have received all their training in its service."

These men, owing to their training and education, will be the intellectual Cossacks of labor. "Unswerving loyalty" to the master, be he capitalist or capitalist corporation—that is the earmark of the Cossack.

How the Capitalists Unite! The capitalists believe in competition—as long as it pays. After that, combination forces its advantages on them. When will craft unions see that union seething, which is another form of competition for jobs and wages—no longer pays; that industrial concentration is now the order of the day? Take a leaf from the book of the capitalists. Here's one—

At a meeting of soft coal men in Pittsburgh, the United States Coal Exchange, which is to be the selling agency of the principal bituminous coal corporations in this section of the country, was formed with preliminary capital of \$300,000. Twenty companies with a capital of approximately \$500,000,000 are to be represented by the new agency.

The agency has been in process of formation for some time. It is the result of the decision of the large coal interests that all have been suffering from competition which entails, among other things, the maintenance of separate sales agencies. The agency will take over the selling of all the product of most of the bituminous coal mines of Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky.

Why not form a large combine for the selling of labor power? The I. W. W. shows how!

The strike at the plant will be renewed. The firm must live up to the terms of settlement. The I. W. W. men are determined to stand or fall together. At the present writing, it looks as if they will stand and not fall; they have brought the firm up with a sharp turn.

BROOKLYNIAN.

LOCAL UNION 432.

Members take notice that a special meeting for the purpose of instructing delegates to the National Convention will be held on April 9th when final instructions will be given.

Members not receiving their papers should communicate with the Secretary when the same will be sent on to them.

J. H. REYNOLDS, Financial Secretary.

Kick in this week with a bunch of subs for Solidarity. That propaganda counts.

lengthy open letter to the citizens of Grand Rapids that the unions only represented a small fraction of the 10,000 furniture workers. McFarlane rushed to print with the statement that ONLY THE SKILLED WORKERS were RECOGNIZED AND ORGANIZED; that the union had a majority of skilled workers, while the rest of the union did not organize, recognize or include the hundreds of unskilled workers in the factories. Mc. also stated that the unions had not made any demands of the manufacturers, but he simply submitted a "document" REQUESTING a conference on the propositions contained therein.

Bosses State Their Position.

In the lengthy statement issued by the manufacturers through their association, they claim they did consider the communication sent them by the district council; that they will continue to run, as heretofore, on the open shop basis; they will hire their workers for their efficiency and pay them on their merits, what they earn, what they are worth to their employers; they will not discriminate between union and non-union men, and that nothing will interfere with this good old American way of doing business; that their men are satisfied, none has complained to them and no reply has been received to the individual letters sent to their men, therefore they must be satisfied; that only 3,000 out of 10,000 voted to strike and they, the manufacturers, were not the large majority of the workers to be dominated by this small minority of dissatisfied workers who have been stirred to this act by non-union organizers; that the union had always believed, and do now, in a "fair day's work for a fair day's pay," (just the same as Samuel Gompers); that they, the manufacturers, will not tolerate discrimination between the demands of their men selling their labor at the highest possible price and that they, the manufacturers, will not be interfered with in their business transactions; that the demands of the workers would mean an increase of 80 per cent in wages, that is, a nine hour day with eleven hours pay; they would also require that the factories just for the purpose of keeping the workers at work; that in ten years they have paid out in wages more than \$70,000,000; that the wages paid in Grand Rapids are equal to those paid anywhere in the furniture industry for the same class of work; that the manufacturers have no objection to a general scale of wages among them; that the condition of the furniture market is such that the factories may have to close down for a month; whatever we, the manufacturers, do, will be for the benefit of the workers in Grand Rapids (G. R. in this instance being the manufacturers).

The manufacturers are firing union men individually, and are closing down their factories the shop committee has been "canned" bodily. Meanwhile the union leaders are running hither and thither, conferring here and there with the traders and their parasites and giving these parasites full details concerning the plans of the unions. These cowardly and hypocritical bourgeois, who are using the workers to promote their business, will give these workers in the lurch and turn and smite them when they can no longer be used.

"Damn the Public!"

It is time the workers told these slimy crawling spy pilots, traders, lawyers, editors and politicians that they, the workers, could take their business and their scurvy parasites who prate so much about the mythical "public" party, the "general public"—to hell and mind their own affairs. There are only two economic classes in society, and what is the concern of one worker in the concern of the whole working class. There are only two parties in this quarrel; let all the workers line up on their own side of the quarrel, let all the capitalists and their retainers line up on their side. Yes, but damned few of the workers are conscious of their CLASS; but they will be. Commodore Vanderbilt said many years ago, "The public be damned," and I heartily concur with the sentiment. Damn the public!

O. L. WAKEUP.

THE MARCH ON FRESNO

Graphic Account of the Free Speech Invasion From the North.

Solidarity. It has been under instructions of a committee composed of the following members of the "Fresno Relief Brigade"—Fred Meyer of L. O. 178, Tom Pearson of 234, C. F. Miller of 434, E. M. Clyde of 434, C. W. Missa a non-member, I herewith submit a report covering the most essential features of the celebrated "march on Fresno."

On the evening of Feb. 15, 1911, 47 men left Seattle by boat for Fresno to assist the fellow workers who were contending for the right to speak upon the streets of that city. We were joined by others along the way on leaving Portland on the 15th we numbered 112, two having left us here to go by boat. About 20 of this number were members of the Socialist Party, and a very few were members of no organ-

ization. We came from Seattle to Portland in different groups and some encountered considerable difficulty in getting over the road so we concluded that in the future we would remain in one body.

We organized ourselves and elected an executive committee with supervisory powers, a secretary-treasurer to receive and disburse all money, a committee on trains whose duty was to learn the most suitable trains to ride, ranging time, etc. Their usefulness suddenly ceased at Ashland, Ore., however.

We had our cook with assistants; we had a well organized police system with Joe Risk of L. O. 92 as chief, but the most important department of all was no doubt our hospital corps which we organized at Hornbrook, Calif. S. Mortimer of L. O. 380 made a most efficient Chief Medical Director, as he has spent many years in hospital service, and the success of the trip was due in a great measure to the able manner in which he cared for the sick and disabled. He at all times carried out a well equipped unit of the most necessary remedial agents such as bandages, liniments, caustics, antiseptics, sterilizers, etc. The doctor was the busiest man of the entire party and his attention given to the sick and equal, or even superior to that received in many hospitals. The hospital also included 10 men who brought up the rear to see that no one should be left alone or neglected by the exhausted.

At Ashland, Oregon, Feb. 17th, the S. P. railroad refusing to permit us to ride further, we began our memorable march westward through Calif., March 7th. The distance covered on foot was 244 miles. On passing over the Siskiyou mountains we reached an elevation of 4,000 feet and a snowdrift through 3 feet of snow over the State road into Hornbrook. On this trip one of our party (the operator) had his feet so badly frozen that it became necessary to send him to the hospital.

Getting over this hill we encountered no more snow until we reached Weed. At Steinman in the Siskiyou's and at Weed we were prevented from spending the night at camp fires on the side hill where the ground was covered with snow. Sleep, or even rest, was impossible.

At Sisson the elevation is 3,554 feet, and the snow was deeper than at any other place. Here we were picked up by the May Roberts Theatrical Co., and our fares were paid into Dunsmuir, 14 miles, where we attended the show in a body and were supplied with coffee and sandwiches at the expense of Miss Roberts. She had our pictures taken with her troupe and the R. and city police in the background. Later when we met her in Beading she donated \$15 to our "jungle" fund.

The police force of the Southern Pacific railroad consists of 125 men which we met on the 20th of March. At the time we passed, but as we made them no trouble many of them became quite friendly with us, but they always found that we were questioning their authority, they asked the less they knew about us.

On March 5 we arrived in Chico where we received the first official notice that the fight had been won on the 7th we disbanded; our presence was no longer needed in Fresno.

Yes, we made slow progress during the trip. The pace was set by the rear guard who were determined that no one should be deserted along the way. Some of our number could easily have made 40 or 50 miles a day while it was difficult for others to make 20 and Chico, Calif., March 7th.

We held great stunts in all the towns along the way and gained the sympathy and assistance of the citizens, who donated money, clothing and food.

We had great stunts on the eight hour day and made it a feature of the trip. Red Bluff, Calif., was the only town along the line to show a spirit of hostility. At Red Bluff our presence was not wanted, of the Temple Hotel, who fed all of us while there (5 meals) and furnished many beds for the two nights.

I was not down upon the suffering, hardship and exposure endured, but will simply say that but few of our number were prepared for a trip of this kind. Some were lightly dressed, others nearly barefooted.

Many feet were blistered and bleeding. Over the hills we were hungry, tired and sleepy. Once over the hills it was constantly raining, through which we traveled the last 100 miles.

At no time did we allow strangers to come among us, although they tried to break in on different occasions.

At the time of disbanding we had 90 at the meeting, which was nothing short of marvelous when it is considered that they were brought together on a day's notice after the sum of 413 of our previous experience in organizations. This was 10 percent of our number on leaving Portland, but a number of those who left us went ahead and reached Fresno.

It has often been asked, "Why did you not split up into small parties so you could ride the trains?" We had before us the fact that many small parties previously tried to reach Fresno, never reached there. Should we have split up we would have received the support and assistance of the citizens, the police would have continually arrested and driven us out of the towns. The result would have been that but few would have reached Fresno. True, there was some friction and discussion among us, but as time was it permitted to discuss. Most of the time of the trip, and each of the 96 expressed regret that we should not continue on to Fresno.

It is impossible for me at this time to

give a financial statement, as I have no books, but approximately \$250 was collected and disbursed besides food and clothing.

It would be asked, "Would you undertake a similar trip in the future?" I believe this entire 96 would respond to a call of necessity, but we hope that no such call will be made for trivial or insignificant reasons.

Now that the Fresno fight is won let us all get busy on the eight hour day.

E. M. CLYDE, Seattle, Washington.

THE I. W. W. CONVENTION

At a joint meeting of the branches of Local Union 85, I. W. W., Chicago, Ill., held at 1411 of Polish Branch (3), 1468 Milwaukee Ave., March 27, 1911, 8:30 o'clock, P. M. the delegate to the 6th Annual Convention was instructed as follows: To send, work and vote for the passage of the following resolutions—

1. The levying of a special assessment of not less than six (6) months upon all members; to be in full force as soon as voted by referendum in its favor has been compiled and made known by the General Secretary. All money to be used only for organizers and speakers; the other half to be used only for the assistance and maintenance of such I. W. W. papers as are now in existence, whenever such help is given such assistance and support.

2. The putting into the field of exploitation and production a greater number of organizers, agitators and teachers, speaking the language or languages of those to be educated and organized.

3. The inauguration and establishment by the General Administration of a system of classes in Economics and Industrial Unionism for the purpose of getting better, and more, material for the field.

4. Changing the time of future conventions of the I. W. W. from the first Monday in May to the first Monday in November of each year.

Resolved, by Local Union No. 85, in joint meeting regularly assembled, that classes in Economics and Industrial Unionism for the purpose of getting better, and more, material for the field.

Resolved, by Local Union No. 85, in joint meeting regularly assembled, that Vincent St. John, of the first Monday in November of each year, be held the holding of the said convention on the first day of May, next, as has been provided for, and that we hereby request all the branches and sub-branches of the I. W. W. to have published in the "Industrial Worker" and "Solidarity", not later than about the middle of the month of April, whether or not the convention should be held in May.

Fellow Worker B. Schragger, 3343 W. 10th St., member of branch 5 (Polish) and editor of "Solidarnosc", was nominated without opposition, and elected unanimously as alternate.

VINCENT KORKOWSKI, Chairman, THEODORE MEYER, Secretary.

San Diego, Calif., March 24, Solidarity.

In answer to a communication from General Secretary Vincent St. John, asking the necessity of the local raising of funds for the convention, the following note was carried by our local:

"The Local 85 donates \$5.00 toward the expense of holding convention, I for that we forward same immediately, the suggest through our papers, the We and Solidarity, that in order to insure for same, that every one of the 110-115 has raise the amount of \$5.00 by tax or collection or in any way suitable to them for use in same to headquarters immediately."

Urged upon all locals the necessity of purchasing immediately from the bank upon the all the supplies they possibly can to hold the convention.

May 1st. If you are a friend many of the locals will not be able to meet the call for \$5.

But if every local bought supplies to the amount of \$10 right now, that would certainly put headquarters on its feet and in a position to hold the convention.

Yours for the I. W. W., ROBT. J. BRYANT, Sec'y, Local 15.

SPECIAL CLUBBING RATE

By arrangement with the circulation manager of the International Socialist Review a special clubbing rate has been made with that magazine. Both the Review and Solidarity may now be had one year for the sum of \$15.00. Previous experience in organizations. This was 10 percent of our number on leaving Portland, but a number of those who left us went ahead and reached Fresno.

Don't forget that we want the EIGHT HOUR WORK DAY, May 1, 1912. You must do some real hard work. Keep busy.