

THE FORCES AGAINST THE I. W. W. ESPECIALLY IN THE LUMBER INDUSTRY

By John M. Foss

This article is written for the purpose of trying to call the attention of the members of the I. W. W. and the workers in the lumber industry of the Western district, to the fact that it's about time some line of action is taken to combat the opposition toward organization.

The reason for the opposition, I believe, is that the bosses are using some method of the I. W. W. to destroy their own organization, by having these members work ostensibly in the interest of the A. F. of L. union, with the method of boring from within. In my judgment, the bosses are beginning to realize that their workers are to have an organization of some kind, so in order to satisfy that desire in the minds of their slaves they are sitting up nights scheming some plan whereby they can save the great or rush towards their pocketbook.

In the state of Montana in 1907 the I. W. W. was such a menace to the lumber interests that they made use of an A. F. of L. "international," headed by Grant Hamilton, and ordered the members of the I. W. W. to either join that union or roll up and hike. At Seeley Lake, the members of the I. W. W. rolled up their blankets to a man, rather than join a union aided by and friendly to the bosses.

In my estimation, the same tactics are being used now against the I. W. W., but on a much larger scale. Instead of working through a strike, the bosses are operating as an organization, against an organization, thus destroying the opposition to their progress, which is important in order that they may gain the field for themselves. The ideas now prevailing within the ranks of the I. W. W. speak for themselves, as follows:

"The I. W. W. is a dual organization. Join the A. F. of L. and bore from within."
"In order to get the opposition out of the way, they begin like this—within the I. W. W.:

- "Start something that will raise confusion."
- "Appeal to the rank and file."
- "Ridicule the officers and active members."
- "Do away with the General Secretary and Organizer."
- "Do away with the General Executive Board."
- "Abolish the general office, by boycotting it, if not controlled, and refuse to pay."
- "Do away with the convention (Why doesn't the A. F. of L. do away with it?) and, if not controlled by them, boycott the papers, one at a time, until all are broke."
- "Counterfeit the dues stamps, and disappear with the funds of locals."

"To hell with the constitution, the rules of the organization." And then cut down the per capita to the point where the organization can't meet running expenses. Small per capita, in my estimation, works like a small wage does to the worker—results in pinching pennies and not progress.

The above, and other ideas, are the reason for the condition in which the I. W. W. finds itself at the present time, especially the National Union of Forest and Lumber Workers.

Any one who has read the Eighth convention report will see for himself the line of action taken by a number of the delegates. Further than that, some individuals who are now officers in the A. F. of L. International Union of Shingle Weavers, Sawmill Workers and Woodsmen, were very active at that convention, coaching their crews between sessions, and their respective rewards are as follows:

Jay Fox—G. E. B. member of the A. F. of L. organization.
W. J. Foster—Secretary of local union of same.

Also Mr. Ben Reitman, who always wants an I. W. W. hall to lecture in when he comes to town, did all that he could to help in coaching. I was at the convention and saw him. And so were others, who are now in the west, waiting for Ben to ask for our halls.

Local 440, I. W. W., Nelson, B. C., was railroaded into the A. F. of L. "federal union" by W. Johnston, member of field I. W. W. at that time, who also organized a "Syndicalist League" to bore a hole in it; and now there is neither "League," A. F. of L. or I. W. W. there, in the lumber camps of woods.

Take the history of the A. F. of L. in the western part of the country, and you will find similar schemes of opposition to the I. W. W.

The bosses are now in league with the A. F. of L. in running down the I. W. W. in the lumber industry, and the reason is that the A. F. of L. is determined to end until the masters have accomplished their purpose, when they will also fight the A. F. of L., even if it is friendly, as the workers must have no organization at all, in the estimation of the masters. But as there are now two unions in the field, the bosses have use for the one that stands for "a fair day's pay for a fair day's work."

To that end I wish the members of the I. W. W. would consider this matter, as it is very important to the organization and to the workers in general. The name alone proves that the new union, so called, is nothing more than what the rules call for—and that is a craft union:

"International Union of Shingle Weavers, Sawmill Workers and Woodsmen."

That's three craft unions, and if it happens, three different contracts.

If that is the kind of junk the workers are going to fall for, I feel sorry for better conditions, shorter hours, higher wages, doing away with blankets, double prices, hospital fees, employment sharks, and unemployed, for some time to come. There is one sure thing about an eight-hour day, and that is, the bosses will not consider it until the workers directly force them to it.

The only way that I can see any hope of organization of all workers in the lumber industry, north or south, in the National Industrial Union of Forest and Lumber Workers, I. W. W., understanding that in injury to one is an injury to all, regardless of creed or color, which is a weapon to fight with, and not fool with. And damn well the masters know it. Hence their reason for opposition.

FOR SOAPBOXERS

The assorted packages of Leaflets, known as the "Grab Packages" is a winner as an easy seller from the soap box. You should have a few of these on hand for this summer. —Fred Lewis.

The "Grab Packages" consists of one each of our English Leaflets, ten in number, and one of our new printed, large Manila envelope, and a supply. Every soapboxer should have a supply. \$2.50 per package, delivered. Order from I. W. W. Publishing Bureau.

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SOLIDARITY

REAL PROSPERITY OF RAILROADS

Examination of Revenues Shows Greater Net Receipts During Last Four Years Than For Any Previous Period

(Cleveland Press)

In the great battle which has been raging before the interstate commerce commission, the question whether the railroads of the United States shall increase their rates 5 per cent, railroad Trojans in opposition.

The proposition submitted a set of questions to him on the subject of rate increase, which he answered as follows:

"It is true the net revenues of the railroads have decreased."

During the past few years it has been proclaimed broadcast in newspapers, magazines, and bulletins, and in almost every conceivable manner, that the cost of labor and supplies for the railroads of the United States has been increasing, while freight rates have not been permitted to increase, the result in a constantly declining net revenue.

The proposition sounds plausible, but it is absolutely fallacious. The fact has been practically a revolution in American railroading during the past five years. Larger engines, longer roads, and more powerful equipment have enabled a man to handle two or three times as many tons as he could 15 years ago.

INCREASED TRAIN LOAD

The B. & O. has increased its train load 50 per cent over the last three years. The undisputed evidence in this case shows that the net revenue of American railroads in 1913, above all costs of labor, supplies, taxes and interest, were greater than for any other year since the first locomotive was built, except in 1910.

The national propaganda about depleted revenues commenced in 1910. The report of the interstate commerce commission shows that their net revenues during the past four-year period, commencing with 1910, have been greater than for any other four-year period in the history of the railroads.

How the railroads of America jugged their accounts, and how?

I will not accuse them of jugging their accounts; but I will state a few facts and you can reach your own conclusion.

The carriers' exhibits in this case show an increase in net corporate income, but it was claimed that increase in net corporate income had not been at as great a rate as the increase in capital stock. This is true of some carriers and is true of others.

The railroads attempted to gum the figures consolidated for all the railroads in this territory. The table apparently showed that the average per cent of net corporate income plus interest on funded debt to the total capital obligations of all the carriers operating in this district, was less during the five-year period than the previous one.

The exhibit also showed that the rate of return in 1913 less than in the first period.

LEAVE OUT YEAR OF 1913

In compiling these statistics the railway companies so arranged their five-year groups as to leave out the fiscal year 1913. If the groups be carried forward one year so as to include the fiscal year 1913, this remarkable situation—that the showing of net corporate income plus interest on funded debt to the total capital obligations of all systems operating in the eastern district during the five-year period ending with 1913 was greater than in 1908, and in 1913 it was greater than in either one of those five-year periods.

It has been claimed that the interest charges have increased, leaving not so large a return on capital stock after interest payment have been made. Here again we find, using the five-year groups adopted by the carriers, that the average per cent of the net corporate income to capital stock outstanding for all systems in the eastern district was slightly lower during the 1908-12 period than during the 1903-7 period, and it is one-hundredth of 1 per cent lower in 1913 than in the first period.

SITUATION IS REVERSED

If we pursue the same method as just outlined and include the year 1913, the situation is again completely reversed. The average per cent of net corporate income to capital stock outstanding, after the payment of all operating expenses, all taxes, all interest on funded debt, and all other expenditures of all kinds and characters of the railroads in the eastern district was greater during the five-year period 1904-7, 7.59 per cent on the capital stock outstanding for the 1909-13 period it was 8.07 per cent, and for 1913 it was 8.07 per cent.

The rate of return on capital stock outstanding was greater in the latter five-year period than in the former; and the rate of return in 1913 was greater than the average for either of the two five-year periods. The increase in net corporate income has been at a greater rate than the increase in capital stock outstanding; and there has been a greater increase in net cor-

porate income plus interest than in total capital obligations.

These figures which I have just given are entirely independent of any changes or deductions because of depreciation. The statistics were taken from the exhibits of the carriers offered in evidence without any alteration of any kind, to include the year 1913, as given by them in the five-year groups.

During every winter revenues fall off. This is the normal condition. During the past year the Pennsylvania, Baltimore & Ohio and other lines, have been compelled to spend more money for fuel than they received from the sale of the fuel, which was the largest in the history of these railroads.

The Pennsylvania alone expended over \$3,000,000 during the calendar year 1913. The New York Central has just completed its depot in New York City at a cost of many millions.

It is always unjust to take as the basis of comparison the period of time. Every time there is a recession in revenues, if you increase your rates, then you should decrease your rates every time you should increase them. It is a poor rule that does not work both ways.

ENORMOUS NET INCREASE

The average revenue per ton haul one mile is as great today as it was 15 years ago, and during that period the net revenue of our railroads have increased more than 100 per cent.

That method of putting rates up and down as revenues increase and decrease from month to month would result in unbearable confusion and hardship.

The railroads adjust their maintenance allowance from year to year practically on the basis of the company may dictate. For instance, on the 10-year-consolidated statement of the railroads covering all the companies operating in this district every year in which their gross revenues have increased, their maintenance allowance went up or down the same manner.

The first time that rule was ever broken, maintenance allowance went up or down during the past seven months. Their gross revenues declined \$2,000,000, their maintenance allowances were increased more than \$17,000,000.

HOW NET REVENUES GREW

If their maintenance allowances during this seven-month period had been on the same basis as they were on for the last year, 1912, the net revenue of the railroads would have been a decline in net revenue of 9 per cent. In 1908 their net revenue was a decline of 13 per cent. No crisis followed, and the following two years the net revenue from American railroads per mile of line, and per train mile, and in total, were greater than ever in the history of the industry.

In 1911 there was a decline in net revenue of 11 per cent because of crisis followed. They didn't have to abandon private ownership; and they didn't have to advance in freight rates. Yet the following year their net revenues were greater than ever in the history of the industry in all business. It always has been and always will be.

CLIFFORD THORNE, Des Moines, Ia.

Regarding "Wooden Shoe"

Los Angeles, Calif., March 29, Solidarity.

On my return to Los Angeles, I found a couple of money orders from the "Co-operative" and "Solidarity" I have had no connection with. I have never seen either No. 20. James O'Neill was given charge of the paper and got out of town. I have never seen either. I broke down with my last issue on overwork and was compelled to leave.

All fellow workers are requested to not send in money orders for the "Wooden Shoe," as they will only put us to the trouble of returning them to you.

BILL B. COOK.

The attention of our Russian readers is called to a new Russian weekly started in Detroit, of which five issues have already been published. The editor is Joseph Fellow Worker, Jos. B. Polonsky is the editor, will contain regular articles on Industrial Unionism and the I. W. W. Subscription price is, one year, \$1.00; six months, 50c; Canada, \$1.50 per year. Send orders to The Publishing Co., 417 Free Press Bldg., Detroit, Mich.

Those in charge of publicity in connection with defense dues, free speech, rights, strikes, and other events in the W. W. world, should not fail to send weekly articles to the editor. Clippings from capitalist or labor papers are also wanted. Write to them yourselves, from the standpoint of the organization. Persistent publicity is what counts.

We have on hand 15,000 copies of "How to Overcome the High Cost of Living," published by F. C. Dougherty, a 16-page pamphlet that covers the whole range of views. Local agitators should push the sale of 100 copies. Price \$1.00 per 100.

Local 90, I. W. W., of Newark, N. J., has moved to 1205 South Main Street, Newark, N. J. Headquarters at 192 S. Orange avenue. Meetings open every evening. All being comrades are welcome. Address, Newark, N. J., 192 S. Orange avenue, Newark, N. J.

Local 82, I. W. W., Indianapolis, Ind., has moved to 119 West Maryland Street. Secretary W. C. Barry and Treasurer J. C. Smith are getting in shape for a big time agitating this coming summer.

Industrial Union Literature

This following is a list of the literature we have in stock at this time in quantities sufficiently large enough to insure immediate delivery. This is the best of Industrial Union Literature with plenty of variety for selection. Prepare for the summer agitation by sending in your order now. All literature is sent carriage prepaid on receipt of CASH with order.

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By Justus Ebert

In this book Fellow Worker J. Ebert gives the best exposition of the constructive and social philosophy of the I. W. W., that has yet appeared in print. It is not a work of fiction nor of speculation, but a matter-of-fact, practical treatment of recent phases of the industrial, social and political life, as revealed by the great textile strike at Lawrence, Mass., and the trials of Ebert, Slovinski and Caruso growing out of same. Handsome cover, Gold Stamp Binding, 160 Pages with 8 Page Illustrations. 75c Price per Copy

The New Unionism

By Andre Tridon

A CLEAR statement of a philosophy and practice of Syndicalism, its history and present status all over the world. Every member of the I. W. W. should have a copy of this book for their own information and to meet the assertions of others as to the status of Industrial Unionism in the different foreign countries. Endorsed and recommended by Tom Mann and other authorities of their respective countries as being historically correct. 200 Pages. Cloth \$1.10. Postage Prepaid. Paper . . . 30c

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BY means of the "One Big Union" 16 pages; price 2c; per hundred \$1.00

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THE entire subscription list of the Industrial Worker is now on our mailing list. If you have previously subscribed for the Worker and are not receiving Solidarity kindly send in receipt showing the money sent to Worker when making complaints, as this is the only guide we have aside from their regular mailing.

Those who were already subscribers of Solidarity will have their subscription extended to the time due them from the Worker. This has meant a very heavy financial burden to Solidarity. To fill these subscriptions, due to the increased amount of paper and postage needed, and the fact that the organization has not been in shape to reimburse us for this expense. This will also further decrease the receipts on account of the delayed renewals from subscriptions extended way ahead.

Those who are glad to receive this number of new readers with our propaganda and give them what we need for their money, and hope to be able to make the grade with the help of each of our readers. Now is the time this is needed. Do your utmost to boost the \$1,000 fund and secure new readers. Introduce our literature and paper to your friends. In short it will be necessary to use every means at our command to Boost, Boost, BOOST for a larger and better paper. Let us hear from YOU today.

A new edition of "The New Unionism" is on the press and will be ready for delivery in a few weeks, which we had in stock are also exhausted. The new edition of this book will be taken care of as soon as this edition is out.

The few cloth copies of "Syndicalism and the Co-operative Movement" which we had in stock are also exhausted. The new edition of this book is a number of copies of this book in paper binding at 75c.

Cotton Mill Workers of South

(Continued From Page 1)

ciety was organized, and the mill owners were threatened with an enlightened group of young workers. That was too much for them. They couldn't permit such progress. The books were removed to be under the surveillance of the supervisor of the welfare department of the local mills.

The boys scout are all children of the mill workers, of course. They are taken to a camp for a week or two in the summer and there trained in the noble work of how to obey their masters, and shoot down their own fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers in time of strike.

As I said before, the mill workers all live in company houses, the rent of which ranges from 55 cents to \$1.05 per week, which is deducted, of course, from their pay, as is the wood, which they get for twenty-five cents a month, is also taken out in the mill office.

I went through two of the mills shortly after my arrival here. The temperature of the weave rooms in both was above 90. There was not a window open, not a breath of air. I quickly drew my coat off and gasped for air. When I got to the door I nearly fainted. In this lint-laden, airless, de-vitalizing atmosphere, men, women and children toil eleven and twelve hours a day. Some of the children were so small that I couldn't see them from the spinning frames. All were thin, pale, clad in rags, and either had pieces of cotton cloth or gunnysack about their feet, or were barefooted.

Some of the children are too small to even be termed "hands" or figure on the payroll of the mill. They are taken into the mills, however, to "help" the other members of the family, and their "pay" is included in the wage of those whom they help.

To get a fair conception of the feudal system one need only come down to the southern mill town. The worker here is as true a vassal as ever a one was held by a feudal baron.

These are some of the conditions which I have observed since coming here.

These are some that we'll have to contend with in our work of organizing the textile workers in the South.

Indeed, it may be said that the I. W. W. goes where "angels (or is it devils?) fear to tread.

A Trick of "Man-Hunters"

Often we have accused the capitalists of being "man hunters" and reported its findings to "Solidarity" in which it was published in the latter part of March, 1913. The committee failed to find anything against Dawson and he was elected secretary of Local 297 and later represented them at the Eighth Annual Convention of the I. W. W. The standard dish and of low grade at that.

The same houses are of the three-story type, divided into rooms of 12 by 10; each room is occupied by ten men, each having \$1.00 per month. These rooms are not cleaned out by any janitor; it's up to the tenants to do so.

These bank houses are so over-crowded with bed bugs, fleas, and other pests that sleeping in them means torture. They are truly called vermin-houses. There are practically no heat furnaces. Steam pipes are installed in some, but the steam arrives at each radiator at intervals that it is practically non-existent. One must be furnished with wooden blocks of the double-dub variety, and is a free for all. This is so over-crowded that a great many, unable to obtain a room in the other bank houses, are compelled to sleep on the boardwalk.

The situation among the foreign workers with families is equally deplorable. The children and young seem to be built of the odds and ends of all the houses. The extensions between the houses and surroundings are unsanitary; children of various ages and of both sexes are seen in the dirt and filth around the place. The interior of these houses is so filthy and so smelly that it is almost unbearable. The children of various ages and of both sexes are seen in the dirt and filth around the place.

So outrageous are the conditions in this camp that Dr. Carleton H. Parker, of the Committee on Immigration and Immigration of California, whose attention was called to them by Local 215, I. W. W., inspector to make a report which he has received from the north, being the matter before the authorities.

The conditions of civilization here are far inferior to those of the savage, and consequently the miners are nearly all short-stroke men. The mine is owned by a group of capitalists of the state of Maine, who are no doubt God-fearing people of Puritan stock.

The officials connected directly with the management of the property are extremely hostile to organized labor, and the result has been unable of unwilling to make an impression, though it maintains local in Kennebec, and the secretary collects. Being ordered away from the camp some years ago, he hasn't murdered up enough courage since that time to ignore the bosses' command. I doubt if any of the men are members of the W. F. of M.

The nationalities of the camp comprise Americans, Spanish and Italian. The former (not including those organized in true societies) are all blame the "Dago."

The shabby conditions in this California mining camp make it an ideal environment for good living agitators who'll get on the job and sacrifice a little comfort to being a "liberation" to the slaves, of an I. W. W. member.

DAN BUCKLEY.

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Merrick has changed another number now, B. O. Gray, of L. U. 215. So far he has not produced one bit of evidence and "feared" to get to the meeting of the trial committee appointed by Local 215 to look up matters regarding the committee report. The investigating committee reported that Merrick had fled the country against the accused but the local has not yet taken final action in the matter.

We may well ask, "How long is this thing to last?" How long shall we even worry over this thing "sp" from "man-hunters" outside our ranks? We will not let these double-crossers to destroy our movement with this ancient weapon of the blackmailer who, in this case, demand the revolutionary movement for ransom?

It is about time we find the spies in our own ranks ourselves and in almost every town of the W. W. these so-called friends have done more than the entire Steel Corporation. The sad part of it is we fear that they are not getting paid for it.

You are either with us or against us and he who cries "sp" and will not or can not give the facts is strictly against us. We have heard this false cry long enough, now let us have facts, or shut up forever. In the future we will not let us have to learn that the I. W. W. and everything else in "ism" and "osophies" have nothing in common. E. F. DORRÉ.

A California Mining Camp

(Special to Solidarity)

Redding, Calif., April 7.
The Mammoth mine, located about four miles from Kennecott, in the county, California, is the richest copper property in the state of California. It is said to employ 600 or 700 men. Conditions in the camp are very bad. The board is unclean and of the poorest quality and is served in any old way. "Man-hunters" are the standard dish and of low grade at that.

The same houses are of the three-story type, divided into rooms of 12 by 10; each room is occupied by ten men, each having \$1.00 per month. These rooms are not cleaned out by any janitor; it's up to the tenants to do so.

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DAN BUCKLEY.

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Justus Rhoda	1.00
F. L. Ebert	.70
Harry Zuff	1.00
A. J. Gann	1.00
F. R. Fullmer	2.10
Total April 15th	\$86.15

Flemish Monthly I. W. W. Paper

To All Members of I. W. W. Locals, and to All Flemish-speaking Workers—Belgians, Dutch and Follow Workers. On June 1 will appear the first issue of the Flemish paper "Het Licht." This copy will be free of charge. There are Flemish and Dutch slaves in every town and in almost every town of Illinois and Michigan. Nearly all the Flemish workers, Lawrence and Lowell are members of the I. W. W. We hope that what we have been able to do here, can and will be done elsewhere. It is the duty of every revolutionary worker to approach these slaves and enlighten them on the principles of economic slavery and the one big prison. Now is your chance to show what you are willing to do. You don't need to do any talking; just sign your name for us. Bring this up before your local, act yourself, do your share in the work. Subscription price is 50 cents per year. Address: Manuscript Dept., "Het Licht," Frans-Belgian Hall, 9 Mason St., Lawrence, Kan.

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I. W. W. Press

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Published weekly by the National Industrial Union of Organized Workers, Southern District. Address, 520 Poydras St., New Orleans, La.

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Published the 1st and 15th of each month by the Hungarian Speaking Locals of the I. W. W. Ad. 435 E. 72d St., New York.

LA HUELGA GENERAL
Published weekly by the Mexican Branch of the I. W. W. of Los Angeles, 428 N. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles, Calif.

SOLIDARNOSC
Polish. Published by the Polish Locals of Chicago. Ad. 4019 Clearview Ave., Chicago, Ill.

PRUMISLOVY DELNIK
Bohemian. Published by the Bohemian Locals of Cleveland. Ad. 4222 Dakota St., Cleveland, Ohio.

EL OBRERO INDUSTRIAL
Spanish. Published by Tobacco Workers of Chicago. No. 102, I. W. W. Ad. Box 157, Ybor City, Florida.

IL PROLETARIO
Italian. Published by the Italian Socialist Federation. Ad. 149 West Fourth St., New York, N. Y.

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TO THE RESCUE OF SOLIDARITY

SOME I. W. W. MILITANTS IN THE PITTSBURGH DISTRICT PLEDGE THEMSELVES TO BOOST A "SOL" SUSTAINING AND PROMOTING FUND

Pittsburg, Pa., April 12

To the Fellow Workers:—The passing of the Industrial Worker was a deplorable happening, making the survival and building up of Solidarity all the more necessary. For, if Solidarity also goes down in financial ruin, it will leave the I. W. W. sadly crippled as to means of expression. It is now quite plain that it is for us to go to it and dig up the cash. And as the good old summer time draws near, we can do it. Therefore, we propose the following plan as being the most efficient, and bearing in the most general way on those who are able to contribute.

FIRST
We agree to be FIVE OF FIVE HUNDRED men who will contribute one dollar per month during April, May and June of this year to give Solidarity a boost.
OR
We will be FIVE OF ONE THOUSAND men to give FIFTY CENTS per month during April, May and June of this year to boost Solidarity.

Come, boys, this is a man's size organization; let us go to it. Join the Boosters' Brigade. Save Solidarity and our own credit at the same time.

H. A. GOFF
GEO. DAWSON
E. F. DORRÉ
NIKE BUREAU
WM. BECK

PUBLISHERS' NOTE.—Solidarity will be pleased to enroll names for the "Boosters' Brigade" of 500 or 1,000. Send in your name and contribution without delay. It means that Solidarity will be kept alive, but will become more efficient and aggressive, and that the I. W. W. Publishing Bureau will expand its literature department, by numerous pamphlets and leaflets now awaiting publication. What do you say?

The Live Ones HOP PICKERS, ATTENTION

The following is a list of Local Unions receiving a Bundle Order of 100 copies of over of Solidarity each week. Locals whose account is not paid for current month will be discontinued from this list.

San Francisco Locals	600
Los Angeles Locals	500
Leo Lippa, Pittsburg, Pa.	500
Seattle Locals	400
Spokane Locals	300
Isler, Bailey & Cosgrove	300
Cleveland	300
Minneapolis Locals	200
Kansas City Locals	150
Sacramento, Cal., Local 71	150
Portland, Ore. Locals	150
Butte Workings Union	100
East Lake City Locals	100
Patterson, Cal. Local 152	100
Philadelphia, Local 8, Br.	100
N. I. U. M. T. W.	100
Local 341, Chicago	100
Local 322, Vancouver, B. C.	100

Contractors Profit By Competition For Jobs

Perhaps one of the most fortunate things that has happened for the contractors in connection with the large amount of paving work to be done in Meadville this year, and which has been started by each of the three contractors, is that the work was delayed last Summer and the contract not let until this Spring.

If the work had been done last Fall the labor done then for exact the same work is \$1.50 cents to a dollar a day more than the same kind of work can now be had, and when there was a man to be had last Fall there was no one to get the work done. It was a man to get work, and willing to work 10 instead of nine hours.

There are a number of men who have been laid off by the contractors since this Spring. The men employed at this price, and men employed at a strong paving, working nine hours a day, get as high as \$2.50 a day, with \$2.00 as the minimum. Practically every contractor in this area was hard pressed for workmen, and the men were freely paid \$2.50 for nine hours.

This Spring the prevailing wage for exact the same work is \$1.50 a day, and the day is 10 hours. There are said to be lots of men willing to work the long day for the lower wage, and contractors say they are able to get all the men they can possibly use.

In this secondary stage this condition is probably due to the very large number of laborers that have been laid off by the railroads, including the Erie and the reduction by the Erie of its labor wage scale to 10 cents an hour. It has been a long many years since wages for labor have been as low as 12 1/2 cents an hour. The Erie reduction was made in 1912. A good many of the Erie laborers have refused to work for the new scale.—Meadville, Pa., Re-



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