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VOLUME SEVEN WHOLE No. 321.

SOME WAGE CONDITIONS OF THE ANTHRACITE MINERS

Bitter Fight Between the Old Time Union, Which is Willing to Continue Starvation Wages for the Sake of a Contract, and the I. W. W., Which Would Improve Conditions by Immediate and Direct Action

(Solidarity has a special correspondent in Scranton, investigating the general situation in the anthracite region. His writing will appear in later issues. Meanwhile, the following from the Scranton (Pa.) Times, of Feb. 25, will prove interesting reading.—Editor Solidarity.)

There is a grim and bitter fight to the finish scheduled between the United Mine Workers of America and the Industrial Workers of the World at Greenwood, where the Delaware & Hudson company has a large colliery. The strike of the workers there has been in progress two weeks and at a meeting of the industrial workers yesterday afternoon the nearly 200 men in attendance declared that they will not return to work until they are assured of better wages. They showed due-hills to support their statements which they have been receiving starvation wages. One miner showed a due-hill that made him a debtor to the company when he called for his pay. A miner with seven in his family displayed a due bill showing his net earnings at 81 cents for two weeks.

"God help anybody who goes into that place to work," said a I. W. W. shout to a group on a corner near the entrance to the colliery yesterday afternoon.

"Yes, and he'll have to help you fellows, too, if you try to stop us when we resume work," said a union man.

Notice posted by representatives of the miners' union for a meeting this afternoon were torn down or burned within a few minutes after they had been posted. Seven young men took a stand near a telegraph pole during the afternoon and warned industrial workers that there would be trouble and plenty of it if any of them as much as laid a hand on the notice posted there. The challenge was not accepted, although the union men were outnumbered two to one by I. W. W. crowd.

"Starve at home rather than at work," said Editor to the crowd at the meeting yesterday afternoon. He told union men at the meeting that if they returned to work they will have to work with the scum of the slums from New York and Philadelphia.

ADVICE RETURN

Officials of the miners' union say that they can not take up the case of the men unless they return to work. They have advised the men to resume work, but the men have been holding back through fear of attacks by industrial workers. Tomorrow or Monday many of the men plan to resume work. They say that the poor wages being received by the industrial workers are no less than the men deserve. "They came here and merely got out the coal, leaving the rock as it was," explains one man. "Some of them have been used to working in mines where there is not the high roof that there is here; they don't realize any change in conditions, and the result is that they don't earn as much as they might," explains another. But union men agreed with the industrial workers that the miners are not being paid what they are entitled to. They attribute the blame to a recent change in foremen.

Today the miners' union is holding a meeting in Greenwood and the industrial workers are meeting at the same time. The union is requesting the men to resume work so that their contracts may be taken up in the way provided for in the agreement between mine workers and operators. "The industrial workers' leaders are urging the men to remain away from work until the company guarantees that the miners shall receive at least as much as the laborers. There is a very peculiar situation in Greenwood as shown by the due-bills of the striking miners, most of their laborers receiving more money."

The laborers won't work for less than \$2.00 a day and miners who showed due-bills at the meeting yesterday had anywhere from thirty-one cents to \$13.38 coming to them.

SOME SAMPLE DUE-BILLS

Anthony Potrosky, who is number 159 on the company's roll, worked 8 days. He was out of the mines several days because of the death of a child at his home. It was the intention of Potrosky to work 14 days.

(Continued on Page 4, Cols. 1 and 2.)

BED BUGS AND TIMBER BEASTS

If any reader of Solidarity has any doubt about the truth of statements made regarding rotten conditions in some of the camps, I will extend them a cordial invitation to visit Camp 19, Virginia and Rainy Lake Lumber Co., at Ash Lake, Minn.

This camp has three bunkhouses, in which are housed about 150 timber beasts. On entering any of the three bunk houses you have no difficulty in ascertaining what species of living beings are the most common inhabitants of said buildings. The sides and roofs are alive with vermin of various sizes and descriptions.

It did not get one hour of good sleep all night. About the middle of the night, the watchman came in to see how the fire was, and about one-half the camp was sleeping on the floor. The best explanation that can be found for this is that the small inhabitants of the bunks resented the company of "timber beasts," and took advantage of their sleep to kick them onto the floor.

It seems to me it is about time Minnesota lumberjacks wake up. The lumberjack is robbed in the pay envelope, is robbed physically by lack of sufficient food, and then robbed of his sleep by bed bugs.

If any lumberjack who reads this wants to put a stop to all blood suckers, whether they be lumber barons or bed bugs, he should get in touch with some I. W. W. literature, so as to remove all cobwebs or obstructions from his upper story, and then, with a I. W. W. card and do his share to sound the death knell of all bloodsuckers.

E. W. LATCHER.

WEBB CITY MINERS - AN ERUPTION GETTING IN LINE IN CONNECTICUT

Beginning to See That the I. W. W. Offers the Only Hope for Them and Their Kind.

(Special to Solidarity)

Webb City, Mo., Feb. 25.—The message of industrial unionism is fast becoming crystallized in this large hitherto endeavor. Feeling is growing among the miners and smelters, that organization based upon scientific lines, intense convictions, firm in discipline and direct in its actions, is the only solution for the elimination of the ghastly conditions existing here. Already a feeling of perturbation has entered the mine workers. Only had that soon their lofty position is being placed in the hands of mine owners, and they will be held to devise ways and means to check the drive of capitalist Workers of the World. No mine owner, your tricks of capitalism, your methods of attrition, are becoming familiar to the large army of workers here. No more will they subject themselves to the deplorable conditions, the low wages, and other infamies of the death-dealing hell holes called mines.

Only recently two miners, who being hoisted to the surface at the American Devine Mining Co.'s shaft, suffered death—a horribly mutilated mass of human wreckage.

The two badly mangled bodies were afterwards placed in the parlor of the Webb City Hotel, the establishment, who by the way are feeling a financial impetus, and say soon be surpassed in wealth by the "one" national industrial pines.

A "continual procession" of workers marched in and out of the system. Looks of consternation and of hatred for the mine owners appeared on the pale and emaciated faces of the industrial workers after they had viewed the ghastly victims of efficiency. A class of bitter resentment exists here, of course commingled with a feeling of servitude for the boss.

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SIOUX CITY MEAT WORKERS ON STRIKE

Both Packing Houses Tied Up by General Walkout.

(Special to Solidarity)

Sioux City, Iowa, Feb. 25.—Like a thunderbolt from a clear sky, came the strike of packing house slaves of Sioux City, on Tuesday, February 23, when a committee led by Frank Fisher, a hog butcher, petitioned the superintendent for a strike of six per hour. Upon refusal of Cameron, the superintendent, to consider the demands, the men walked out.

A meeting of the I. W. W. was held this last evening by a group of strikers, and devised ways and means as successfully carrying on the strike among the workers, the great majority of whom are unorganized. A committee of three was elected, who, in conjunction with the strike committee, called a mass meeting. It was addressed by Fellow Worker F. Cady of the I. W. W. and several others, with spoke in Jewish and Russian. Great enthusiasm and interest were shown by the slaves. Plans were made to extend the strike to all packing houses.

The following morning both packing houses were brought to a standstill by a general walkout, mounting a formidable aspect. Telegrams have been sent to other packing centers, proposing a sympathetic strike. The law and order gang were delegated to the scene of peaceful picketing, but no trouble has yet occurred.

Meetings are being held, addressed by speakers from the I. W. W., preaching the gospel of solidarity and encouraging the workers to stand together.

PRESS COMMITTEE

THE HOUR OF OPPORTUNITY

From almost every section of the country comes reports of a general speeding up of industry. New York, Baltimore, the sunny south, the coal fields, the automobile industry, the lumber woods, both east and west, the mines and numerous other industries are all speeding up, preparing for a big summer's work.

I wish to call your attention particularly to a situation which exists in the automobile industry.

Necessity for lighter cars has created a great demand for lighter materials for the heavier parts such as engine cases, transmission cases, etc.

This has led to the use of what is commonly called aluminum, but in reality is nothing more than bauxite, a low grade of aluminum ore. More master class sabotage.

Before the war the price of commercial bauxite was 17 cents per pound, now it costs 55 cents a pound. But here's the pretty part of the whole matter. Very few foundries handle aluminum castings; they're not prepared for it. And so therefore those who do are swamped with orders. One foundry here in Cleveland is 6 months behind their orders now and they have been working overtime for 6 months already, trying to catch up with the orders on hand.

What an opportunity, you say, for a few live ones on the job. "Yes, indeed!" But where are they? Practically the same conditions exist in the steel industry, the lumber industry, the general part of the whole matter. Very few foundries handle aluminum castings; they're not prepared for it. And so therefore those who do are swamped with orders. One foundry here in Cleveland is 6 months behind their orders now and they have been working overtime for 6 months already, trying to catch up with the orders on hand.

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class conscious, anyway... explanation, close contact with them... in the bum, I have arrived... the consideration of...

Wanamaker's Riot Inciters Other News And Views... Many strikes and revolts are now... "labor movement" is more of a... that than a period of optimism...

rules of the artel... 1. Each member has to take an... 2. Each member receives an equal... share of the net income of the artel...

THOUGHTGRAMS By Stumpy... A politician comes along and has... himself touted as a saviour of the... people and a defender of democracy...

out of it, but the manager and a... few others could save more, as we... will average it to start. For thirty... years of life we've got...

THE PREAMBLE... The working class and the struggling... class are both in a state of... confusion and uncertainty...

to be prepared to make... there is a little sentence... method" which is also a... determined solely by the... DHD in their use...

Three great industrial corporations... of the United States now control... to the amount of nearly \$200,000,000...

Are you not Solidarity sub-petter?... Solidarity to grow to 16 pages. More... Solidarity means more pages...

A worker's compensation law is... a most excellent thing—for the... worker, and for the state of Washington...

Now what is to be done with it?... You may say to put it out at interest... to bring in greater returns...

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to be what right anyone... might by the panhandle... of the I. W. W. We must... respect the man who takes... interest on the job, but the... fellow slaves as a profes...

Why Schwab talks about profit... sharing, the workman should get... his pleasures and his diversions... without the opportunity he... shared them with Schwab?

Now, the artel form of organization... is bound to disappear with the... coming of the present system...

George N. Skinner, President of... the Employers' Association of Wash... ington, has just announced...

Calif. Miners Take Note... (Special to Solidarity) (Cont.)... There will be a mass meeting of... miners at the Porterville Pavilion...

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to be a "sand-hog" fit his... one of the workers who... the life of the "sand-hog" is... a wheel for the "dollar... wheel" for the same class...

the Artel--A Russian Organization... Russia has a well established... labor movement, which is large... and active in small cities...

The "Sand Hogs" Continued From Page Two... "Human life is sacred" Two bodies were immediately... picked up from the river, one... shattered. The next day the river... yielded to the other was a... battered, shapeless mass!

What looks queer about this... statement is that God should have... dressed a "sand-hog" in a... military uniform...

A missionary attending the... congress of the Latin American... nations, now in session,... mourns as follows: "A shocking... prospect is before us...

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