

AMALGAMATED CLOTHING WORKERS OF AMERICA

(Continued From Page 1)

leaders) actually presented conditions just as they should be presented, how quickly the workers would feel the weight of these leeches and job seekers and make short work of them, by throwing them off their backs. And so they try to keep the general membership in ignorance of the real facts as they arise.

When a resolution or other matter of importance is brought up, or is to be passed upon, the same is read, a few suckers making motions, the rank and file never understanding what is being done, but by force of habit raising their hands when a vote is taken. They might be swearing their lives away for all they know if a few who really are interested in union affairs ask questions or try to show up the rottenness of proceedings, they are soon termed kickers, and in time the select few try to influence the membership against these kickers, by saying "How peaceful our meetings are when these kickers aren't present," etc. How they try to blind the poor misguided workers, just to hold their jobs, and how the workers fall for that stuff is farcical. They are so used to looking up to leaders, that they are lulled to sleep all the while, depending on someone else to do their thinking for them.

So much for the education the workers get. In the tailoring branch of the industry, there exists such a thing as class distinction. The cutter feels himself above the head operator (all around man); and the h. o. feels above the pocket-maker, the pocket-maker above the sleeve maker, and so on along the line. Class distinctions reigned supreme in the past, and this new organization was going to do away with class distinctions among workers. Yet what do we find today? Pocket-makers' benevolent club; Girls' Club, headed by Ellen Gates Starr (who needs votes); pressers' club, etc.; and instead of these sectional clubs attending their local meetings, they go to their club and don't give a damn about the thing which should concern them most of all. Out of a membership in Chicago of about 1,000, 50 or less attend local meetings. And these "emancipators," instead of doing away with these craft clubs, encourage them.

So you see, the few job holders and job seekers can most always pass and carry through anything that will tend to better their own conditions, never once giving the workers a thought. Now if all this isn't dividing up the workers, I'd like to know what it is. It is the same craft organization as of old, only that it has a new name and new ringleaders. Yet they of the Amalgamated call themselves an industrial organization. Their constitution is the same as the U. G. W. of A. Just last year (1915) they adopted a preamble something on the order of the I. W. W. preamble, but who knows about it? Surely their tactics, and methods of organization are not based on industrial lines. Their members know nothing about the preamble. Their union cards are made up of 2 pieces of pasteboard stuck together, with yellow dyes stamps pasted in. Out of a matter of form, at one of their meetings the preamble was read to the membership and a vote taken as to the adoption of said preamble; and at above stated they raise their hands and vote out of force of habit. It was adopted, the members knowing nothing more about it. They must have it stuck in some store room for reference, in case it should be asked of them what principles they have, on paper. You may ask 95 per cent. of the A. C. W. of A. about their preamble and they won't know what you are talking about.

A few remarks in closing: "The joint board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, employes of Hart, Schaffner & Marks, drew up an agreement with said firm, which binds them for three years, girls getting a minimum of \$8, men \$12. Although girls put in as much time, as much energy, as much labor power, they are not worth as much as their fellow men workers, another thing these broad-minded "emancipators," these "industrialists" have done—they have actually sold the workers to their employers for a term of three years and only for a bare existence at that; when they well know, or should know, that necessities of life do not remain stationary in price. Suppose food stuffs, clothing, shelter, should take a sudden jump—you are bound by a contract. Where Mr. S. Hillman, and joint board, would you get off at. Let me inform you, Mr. Hillman, that in the days of serfdom our forefathers sold themselves to masters, but today we are "civilized," and yours is such a cosmopolitan organization. And to show to the world what a wonderful victory you won for yourselves, a May Day parade was arranged with bands—and right you are; the bands were music to your ear. Your salary goes on, while the poor misguided slaves will go back to the shops, not even daring to strike should the occasion demand. Doesn't your contract bind them? So at last your mission was fulfilled, you liberated (?) the tailors, and in their ignorance they look up to you as their savior. And as recompense, a banquet was held at one of the Chicago restaurants to celebrate this wonderful agreement—an agreement that signs away the life and liberty of your people. Ye of the Amalgamated are to be congratulated upon your wonderful victory.

Such is the development of the child of the old regime.

MARY SHEBER

SOLDIERS INTIMIDATE STRIKERS

(Special to the Buffalo Times) Springfield Ont., May 2—Fearing violence between the striking Italian and Russian laborers on the Welland canal, a company of the 176th Battalion was yesterday rushed to Thorold and placed on duty along the canal locks, etc. The strikers are demanding an increase from \$1.75 to \$2 per day, and have threatened to become violent unless they are placated.

These same men went out on strike about 10 days ago, and a portion of them returned to work with a promise that their request for an increase in wages would be considered by the canal contractors. Nothing, however, has been done. The Austro-Hungarian and Italian canal employes are remaining on duty, fearing interest if they strike. They are, however, having a difficult time trying to do anything, as the striking Russo-Italians threaten to interfere with their sewer way.

JEWISH PRESS MONEY

New York, May 1st—Solidarity. Local 178, Br. 1, I. W. W., re-quests the press for the following statement: All monies belonging to the "Waker" (discontinued) and entrusted to Fellow Worker Frank Tannenbaum, amounting in all to \$25, have been collected. It was voted to turn over the full amount to the "Industrial Union" as an I. W. W. organ in the Jewish language now being published in Brooklyn, N. Y.

X. Fellow workers and friends in whose possession there is money belonging to the "Waker" will kindly forward same to Br. 1, Local 178, I. W. W., 250 E. 61st St., New York, and say this book the trouble of sending committees after them. J. D. CARLPH, Rec. Sec'y.

Metal and Machinery Workers, Organize!

The Hour of Opportunity

Fellow Workers: The time is now at hand when you should be thinking of improving your working conditions. If you really want to do something for yourself in the line of more wages, the shorter workday and better conditions, the opportunity is now here. The history of the country before has the Metal and Machinery Industry been so busy as at the present and the demand for steel and metal goods is increasing every day.

There is a general cry of "PROSPERITY," but for whom, the workers? NO! Prosperity for the bosses. They are swimming in luxury, but you, the workers who produce all this wealth, are just meeting out a bare existence. Isn't it time that such things should be changed? If you think anything of yourself, you surely will say YES! Fellow Worker, these rotten conditions with low pay can be changed if you will but take time to think a moment. There is one way, and only one way in which you can hope to better things, and that is by organization. But when you organize, you must organize right.

DAY OF THE SKILLED A THING OF THE PAST

In the past many sets of workers have organized along craft lines, which has proved to be a fatal mistake, for one set of workers being pitted against another in time of strike. The invention of the modern machinery has been so perfected that the skill has passed from the man to the machine. The man has become a MERE MACHINE TENDER. Owing to the loss of the standard machine, now coming into existence, a common laborer can in a short time, be taught how to run the machine just as well as the skilled man; in other words, the skilled mechanic has come to the level of the common laborer. Therefore the time is here when the skilled and unskilled must have a common understanding.

THE REMEDY—ONE BIG UNION

Some will say, "We know all about this, but what remedy have you?" In answer we can say that there is only one remedy and that is organization of labor. Organize all the workers in the Metal and Machinery Industry into ONE BIG UNION, and the Metal and Machinery Industry into ONE BIG UNION ONLY, SO AS TO BE ABLE TO FUNCTION IN ONE UNION. Organize in such a way that a man or a woman's card will be good in any industry or line of work, that he or she may be forced to follow up. That is, a card will be transferable from one industry into another, without further cost, and in this way the entire working class will be together in ONE BIG UNION. Our motto is: "Once a union man in one industry always a union man in all industries."

There is only one organization in the field today which organizes in such a way and it is the INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD. Other unions have claimed to do so, but have not lived up to their promises. Past labor struggles have taught us the necessity for ONE BIG UNION OF ALL WORKERS. For examples of past defeat note the loss of the famous Pullman, Baldwin Locomotive Works, Colorado, West Virginia, Calumet, Mich., strikes and others.

ALL METAL AND MACHINERY WORKERS TOGETHER

The European War has been the biggest factor for the increased demand of metal and machine goods. The bosses are getting bigger prices for them than ever before. But the wages of the workers have not hardly been increased and if you are waiting for the boss to raise your wages you will have to wait a long time yet. They have not done anything for you in the past but abuse and lie to their promises. Past labor struggles have taught us the necessity for ONE BIG UNION OF ALL METAL AND MACHINERY WORKERS to do that and that is to organize in ONE BIG UNION. THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD wants ALL THE WORKERS in the blast furnaces, rolling, wire and tinplate mills, sheet and tube works, ornamental bridge and structure shops, foundries, automobile and machine factories, machine manufacturing plants, etc., and all the workers employed in and about the mills, shops and yards where metal and machine goods are turned out, together in ONE BIG UNION. EVERYBODY TOGETHER REGARDLESS OF RACE, CREED, COLOR OR SEX. SUCH A UNION WILL HAVE THE POWER TO DICTATE TERMS TO THE BOSS AND NOW IS THE TIME TO ORGANIZE, TO STRIKE A BLOW AT THE BOSSES' POCKETBOOKS.

If you want to increase your wages, get the shorter workday and improve your working conditions, now is your opportunity. Never again will you have the chance that you have now. Organize, Get Together, SKILLED AND UNSKILLED. ONE BIG UNION OF ALL METAL AND MACHINERY WORKERS. IN UNION THERE IS STRENGTH. ORGANIZATION IS THE KEYNOTE TO SCIENCE AND SUCCESS. GET TOGETHER AND GET THE GOODS FOR THE ONES WHO PRODUCE IT—THE WORKERS. ONE ENEMY—THE BOSSES. BE A MAN—A UNION MAN. JOIN TODAY! Now is the time! For information communicate with Room 307-164 West Washington St., Chicago, Ill.

NEW RAILROAD WORKERS STICKERS FOR LOCAL No. 600

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600
UP TO THE BOOKY RULES

A striking sticker just issued for the new Railroad Workers Organization. Three inches in diameter, printed in red. Price six cents. For stickers and information pertaining to the organization, address: Wm. D. Hayward, 307-164 W. Washington St.

MINERS WERE BUNCOED

Continued From Page One
their new day began as soon as they entered the stables to get the mules ready for the cars and it ended when they brought them back and cared for them, before leaving for home. Now they are supposed to get the mules ready and care for them; as before, without having all that included in the work day. Their work is now supposed to begin when they attach the mules to the cars and commence the actual work of driving: The 8 hour day is a fraud, as far as the mule drivers are concerned.

Finally the agreement provides that the operators may extend the length of the work day whenever production requires it. Here's a loop-hole—Johnston will work over the full 8 hour day, should the operators deem it advisable to do so.

The 8 hour day was not introduced all over the anthracite region at once; that is generally, that would have caused a general strike in protest against it. It is being introduced piecemeal; now here, then over there and so on, elsewhere. And so on. Doesn't this process speak most eloquently of the real nature of the 8 hour day won by Fred White?

The fact, non-formal recognition of the United Mine Workers in three districts has no other meaning than that the U. M. W. is doing up something beneficial for the miners. They are both fighting it tooth and nail.

FIGHTING THE I. W. W. The I. W. W. is spreading in Luzerne county, with Pittston as the storm center. Here the police board up and close up I. W. W. halls. They intimidate owners of property who want to do anything for the I. W. W. for meeting purposes. They were saucy with halls attached that are rented to the I. W. W. with threats to break leases. A property owner was called before a court of police and locked in a cell in order to break down his determination to stand by his rights to lease his property to the I. W. W. members. He was called before a court against it. But die I. W. W. go on meeting somewhere, somehow. It refuses to go out of existence.

This whole persecution is based on a policy of united purpose, fighting, etc.; all purely imaginary and useful to the opponents of the I. W. W. Adjoining Pittston township is Boston settlement. Here a strike took place against contractors. The latter picketed the mines armed with guns. The I. W. W. men simply looked on and laughed at these warlike and unnecessary preparations. Thereupon the contractors got "riiled." They called for the police. They came, searched the I. W. W.'s and found nothing; not even a pen knife. But the contractors were insistent. Thereupon 25 I. W. W. men were arrested and hauled before the town squire. He is paid according to fee. So he did some business, on general legal principles, of course. He fined the married men \$10 and costs; the English-speaking he discharged. Another I. W. W. member, arrested later, was hauled to have a knife on his person. All were released after a day or two. That is the whole story of "the I. W. W. terrorism" at Boston settlement in the near vicinity of Pittston, Pa. It is a useful fiction, that hampers but will not stop I. W. W. growth.

MAY DAY IN OLD FORGE In Lackawanna county, the Scranton district, the I. W. W. has no such bitter opposition to overcome. Here it is treated with a greater measure of fairness and decency. In Old Forge, on May Day, it held a great international demonstration. Five thousand were in line. The City park was the scene of the festivities. The mayor at first refused a permit for its use, as he feared trouble from the element of the I. W. W. But he finally relented when told that the meeting would be held without a permit, and saw that it was well policed to prevent fear. He feared no trouble. He occurred except a good time generally. The Editor is not inclined to feel doubtful over the result of the I. W. W. in the anthracite region. On the contrary, though, it is too early to fully see the result of the I. W. W. He believes that time will bring the agreement of the U. M. W. to be detrimental to the miners with a continued increase of I. W. W. membership. He believes that ON THE FEDERAL PRICE INQUIRY

Circulation Statement

Previously reported gain	546
Subs received during week	121
Subs expiring this week	111
Loss for the week	60
Total gain to date	586

Solidarity \$2 Fund

A fellow worker has suggested that every reader of Solidarity be asked to contribute to about TWO DOLLARS A YEAR to a fund to help pay and enlarge and improve this paper and Publishing Bureau. The sum may be sent all at one time, or in installments, if more convenient. Contributions, however, are not limited to two dollars each. Send in your contribution now, and assist us to get some needed printing done for the summer's educational campaign. Following are the sums received on this fund to date:

Previously reported	\$ 69.10
Alfred Martin	1.00
Unknown Worker	.50
F. M.	2.00
Wendell Franklin	2.00
M. Lavine	1.00
Estelle Baker, Ter. Hawaii	5.00
Russian I. W. W., Queensland, Australia	29.21
Lois Kammer	2.00
Jessie E. Koons	2.00
Total, May 18	\$112.82

You I. W. W.'s of the United States, note that donation from our Russian fellow worker in Queensland, Australia! They want a bigger and better Solidarity. So they dig in their pockets and donate ONE-FOURTH of the total amount received to date. If you American rebels don't do better, by return this fund to date, to consider the proposition of moving Solidarity to Australia. Remember, we want at least TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS by June 1. The date is near at hand. Dig in a little, this week, for all you are worth.

Members of Cleveland Propaganda League have been notified that Fellow Worker Holiday has been authorized to receive applications for membership, without the capitalist interests in the absence of the secretary. He may be found at the hall, 225 Crampton Ave., New Franklin, Ohio. —Bloss Williams, Fin. Sec'y.

What the War Really Means

WAR is a pitiless revealer of the true nature of the nations. The present war is a struggle for economic supremacy between the British Empire and the various nations. But—what are the deeper economic causes? The "war of motives" driving the nations to slaughter?

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