

hold and urged the calling of protest meetings. Due to the general disapproval of such a highhanded procedure, the President of the United States had wired orders for the withdrawal of troops within a fortnight. But the mine owners, driven to desperation by such an unexpected turn of affairs, would very likely create a pretext for the retention of the troops by blowing "something off" and then blame it on the Western Federation of Miners and the I. W. W. Such a chance should not be given, and therefore it was advisable to dispatch the opinion of the G. E. B. to the struggling workers in Goldfield.

It was moved by Katz, seconded by Yates, that the general secretary-treasurer send a telegram at once. Motion carried. Telegram read: "Mine Owners, Moore, Miners' Union, Goldfield, Nev."

"General Executive Board of Industrial Workers of the World, in session in New York City, sends encouragement in your noble fight. But beware of traps set by owners in their desire to resort to violent acts and blame it on strikers to find pretext for retention of troops. Be on your guard."

W. E. TRAUTMANN,
"VINCENT ST. JOHN."

SHOE WORKERS AFFAIRS.

The next question taken up was with regard to the recent development in the organizations of boot and shoe workers. Organizer J. P. Thompson was requested to give a brief review of the situation in the foremost industrial shoe centers. Thompson went into all details; explained that sentiment for industrial solidarity he had found among the shoe workers in different places; how "Tobinism" had become an expression of distrust and disdain among the workers, and repeated with convincing force his reasons for asking of the general secretary-treasurer a ruling and instructions on the scope and the make-up of National Industrial Unions, repeatedly referred to in the constitution. Although there was no defining of what would constitute a national industrial union.

Thompson expressed the hope that the G. E. B. may adopt a plan by which it would be possible to rally the shoe workers into organizations connected with the I. W. W.

Secretary Trautmann reviewed at length the history of the various shoe workers' organizations, from the days of the Knights of St. Crispin, through the periods when the unrest of shoe workers with their working conditions manifested itself in turbulent skirmishes under the Knights of Labor; he recited how the shoe workers, losing hope in the craft union movement as exemplified in the United Boot and Shoe Workers Union affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, had turned to the other extreme folly of expecting relief by political action alone; how it was the vote of shoe workers in Haverhill, Lynn, Brockton and other shoe manufacturing cities, that increased the vote-pull of the Socialist party, as these shoe workers were made to believe that that represented the solidarity of the proletarian class; how these same shoe workers, who had gone to make up the necessary vote against a capitalist class institution, the United Boot and Shoe Workers of America, were wasting their energies in this fight because there was no connection and contact between the shoe workers organizations carrying on those fights in isolated places; and that it is becoming ever more apparent that a call for a unification of these forces would fall on fertile ground.

Fellow Worker J. Tracey of Lynn, secretary of the Lynn (Mass.) Lathers' Union, then took the floor to go more into details. He showed how the progressive element had centered their hopes on Hickey to make a fight within the United Boot and Shoe Workers against the officers and the element which had made the organization subservient to capitalist interests; how Tobin invoked the aid of the United States Government, how the United States workers held in Toronto had to submit to the dictates of the agents of the master class; how Hickey was expected to lead the revolt of the rebels; and how spitefully the dissenting and contemptuous of the shoe workers by the organization of which they were compelled to be members resulted in strikes in Brockton and other places. Tracey also portrayed how these strikers were deceived and the revolt quelled by the combination of the shoe manufacturers and their Tobin labor lieutenants, how the strikers were driven back to work in Brockton and feared that the United Boot and Shoe Workers would furnish the strike-breakers, and that as a consequence, thereof the manufacturers of Brockton, and notably so the Douglas Shoe Manufacturing Company, would safeguard themselves against any possible movement for improved working conditions by forcing all employees to be members of the United Boot and Shoe Workers of America.

Tracey showed also how Tom Hickey, although honest in his purpose, was unable to grasp the great opportunities and acted accordingly, and that he therefore was of no further account.

He believed that it was the supreme duty of the I. W. W. to take advantage of the situation and start a constructive propaganda among the boot and shoe workers; enough would be ready to respond to a call for the unification of all these isolated and disconnected forces, and he suggested plans as how the best of results could be accomplished.

Katz moved that the general secretary-treasurer prepare a leaflet, giving therein a general outline of conditions in the shoe industry. Motion was seconded by Cole and carried.

The hour of 2:45 p. m. having arrived, Wm. Yates suggested that the board take an adjournment, and owing to the fact that all executive board members would likely attend the entertainment given by the Industrial District Council of New York City, he moved that the board adjourn to meet Monday, Dec. 23, at 10 o'clock, a. m.

Motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1907.

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order at 10 o'clock, a. m. Present: Williams, Katz, Cole, Yates and Trautmann.

As the committee of the New York District Council and Organizer Connolly were present to give a report, the chair ruled that this matter take precedence before any other can be taken up.

James Connolly reported that he was before the Central Committee of Harbor Workers, and presented the matter, but as the organization had other very pressing business to transact, including the election of officers for the ensuing term, the Central Committee could not consider the proposition at this meeting; but he, Connolly, had been assured that the matter would be called up at the first meeting in January. Report was received.

At this juncture Connolly was asked for an explanation of an article in the Industrial Union Bulletin sent him concerning the strike in which a statement was contained, although in a vague form, that Building Trades Industrial Union No. 95 of New York City had filled the places of strikers who were members of the American Federation of Labor.

Organizer Thompson, who had put the question for explanation, stated that said article in the Bulletin was held before him in a public meeting in Boston, to substantiate the assertion that the I. W. W. was pursuing the same tactics as have been and are still a practice in the craft unions. Thompson claimed, and he was sustained by all members of the general assembly that the article referred to did not state the conditions clearly, and for this reason the I. W. W. had laid itself open to criticism by those workers who frown at scab-producing methods.

Connolly, in reply, explained the matter thoroughly.

"At a given job of building construction all plasterers were members of the I. W. W.; the workers in the other trades of the diverse A. F. of L. unions. The business agencies demanded of all I. W. W. plasterers; the employer did not acquiesce, and the A. F. of L. members were called on strike to enforce the discharge of the I. W. W. members."

"Many of the lathers on the same job had already put in their application for membership in the I. W. W. Local No. 157, but they did not obey the strike order to force themselves and the other I. W. W. plasterers out of a job; other lathers had also put in their applications for membership; and when a plan A. F. of L. lathers vacated their places in the strike force, the I. W. W. members out of their jobs, these I. W. W. lathers were allowed to proceed with the work, so as to nullify the efforts of the A. F. of L. lathers to force membership in the I. W. W. members in the strike force." Connolly, in admitting this matter, asked for a general ruling so that he and in fact all active members of New York City could be guided by the decision of the general executive board.

This matter brought forth an animated discussion, in which all members of the executive board took part. Many instances were cited in substantiation of the fact that the I. W. W. members had been active in striking themselves were not employed in the same branch; and how very often the I. W. W. members, under hardships and sacrifices, without expecting an immediate result, were active in making strikes called by the A. F. of L. successful. But it was shown also that the labor lieutenants of the A. F. of L., knowing that this spirit of working class solidarity of I. W. W. members would show itself in every strike by precipitating strikes; for the sole purpose of establishing the A. F. of L. closed shop, and leaving the I. W. W. members who went on strike with the others out of their jobs.

Cole cited instances in the railway strike; Williams referred to the strikes in Humboldt County, Cal., and Pittsburg; Katz showed how the International Clerks Association fought against I. W. W. by blackmail and other criminal methods; Yates referred to a case of recent date that occurred in New Bedford, where the A. F. of L. enforced the discharge of I. W. W. loomfixers, and it was also proven that this warfare of discrimination had the support of the employers of labor.

Finally it was moved by Katz, seconded by Cole, that the general secretary-treasurer draw up a ruling to be adopted as a general code, to wit: "That the Industrial Workers of the World declare that they will support, by word and deed, any movement, strike or lockout of workers, irrespective of their present affiliation, when inaugurated to advance the material interests of the wage earners, in the shape of improved working conditions, and they will use all the efforts within their power to bring about a victory for the workers. But in the event of strikes and discriminatory methods being inaugurated for the destruction and annihilation of the I. W. W. or parts thereof, it is the manifest duty of the I. W. W. that such onslaughts be defeated and that all honorable means be used to attain that end."

Again the point was discussed whether the policy of retaliation would be advisable; or whether places of workers who leave their jobs to enforce the discharge of I. W. W. members should be filled. The unanimous opinion was that retaliation or place-filling tactics, as in operation in the old unions, must be repudiated by the I. W. W.; but nobody would expect I. W. W. members to join in strikes called by business agents against the I. W. W., and that wherever the employers should engage other workers to fill the places of those called out for discriminatory purposes, I. W. W. members could not be expected to quit their jobs then.

IN THE HOLY NAME OF TRADE

Can ye tell me, O ye workers, why the money-demon gloats,
Why the rulers never stop to when ye tear each others throats?
Can ye tell me, O ye toilers, why the young are stooped and old,
Why so many work a-hungred when the land is filled with gold?
"Yeal For profit, profit, profit, all these broken hearts are made—
In the holy name of trade!"

Can ye tell me, lords of commerce, when machines should on them wait,
Why the burden bears the hardest on the weakest in the State?
Can ye tell me, O my masters, why invention's mighty breath
Only fills the nostrils that hastens on the children on death?
"Yeal For profit, profit, profit, all these broken hearts are made—
In the holy name of trade!"

Can ye tell me, laureled statesmen, why around so many hearths
Broods a shadow and terror that is not our mother earth's?
Can ye tell me, O ye teachers, why with all the wealth we find,
Why the race in sorrow's mothered and the love-sight's going blind?
"Yeal For profit, profit, profit, all these broken hearts are made—
In the holy name of trade!"

—Covington Hall.

Trautmann contended, however, that such awkward situations should be avoided wherever possible, and he cited two instances in California and Washington and the statements were corroborated by Williams, where the I. W. W. workers were called by the A. F. of L. agents to enforce their discharge from employment, walked out with the others. Thus having gained the confidence of their fellow workers, they had a chance to show them the futility and foolishness of their action, with the result that in both of these cases the workers decided to forewear obedience to the fakirs and join the I. W. W., or to start economic development and concentration of industrial enterprises the State rights and State boundary lines are wiped out and eliminated in the political regime of today, and the political regime is more and more centered into one central agency due to the change of mode of production and extent of commerce; so must the working class organize today for the administration of industries to suppress the political system; and as State lines disappear in fact, although in imagination every State thinks to control the State affairs, so must the workers prepare the grouping of the industries for their proper management. As the union of workers in one given industrial plant constitutes the smallest unit, the various unions of workers engaged in the same industry in different places would be welded together for administrative purposes, and they would form a national industrial union, or a subdivision of a department organization. Such national industrial union would also yield a greater power in the present day conditions, with the employer start given industry. But at the present time there are no provisions made for the formation of national industrial unions, and this feature of the I. W. W. is therefore hard to explain in the constitution, and it could be given in other localities where the Borden Milk Company had agencies. Especially in Paterson something should be done by Fellow Worker Katz to get the employees of the Borden Milk Co. into the organization.

Katz stated that special efforts would be made on those lines.

SHOE WORKERS' AFFAIRS.

Tracey was given the floor to continue his review of the situation in the shoe industry. He stated that the union of which he is secretary would no doubt vote to become a part of the I. W. W., but the members would have to be given the assurance that immediately efforts be made to spread the propaganda and organize enough shoe workers so that they would all be subject to rules governing the shoe workers of that particular industry; the shoe workers would not object against continuing their present dues of 25c per week; but it was imperative that special efforts be made to take advantage of the most favorable situation in the shoe industry, and whether the upbuilding of the I. W. W.

After considerable discussion it was moved by Cole, seconded by Yates, that the per capita tax derived from shoe workers be largely devoted to the propaganda purposes among the shoe workers. Motion carried unanimously.

SCOPE AND COMPOSITION OF NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL UNIONS.

This brought up the question as to what methods would be the best to establish connections between unions composed of workers in different industries. It was admitted that it worked as a great stimulus in organizing work if a chain of such industrial unions is connected together by some medium of communication and exchange of material affecting the work of the particular industry.

Tracey asked for information so as to convey same to the shoe workers in the different places who are interested in the propaganda work of the I. W. W., whether the various branches in the shoe industry for instance, would have separate charters, or be attached as branches to one given industrial union in one given locality, embracing every worker in that particular industry; and whether, as the I. W. W. constitution provides for the formation of a Department of Leather Industries, all the various divisions that would fall under that department would be bunched together in one industrial union.

Trautmann explained that as far as the arrangement of branches subordinate to one industrial union of workers in one given industry are concerned, the constitution of the I. W. W. was so far the best and most satisfactory.

The industrial union being the unit, branches can be chartered by that unit as industrial divisions of particularity in a given industry warrant, but legislation for all branches is centered in the industrial union, and all communications with general headquarters of the I. W. W. or with headquarters of a department organization or a National Industrial Union, which constitutes a part of a department, have to go through the channels of the Industrial Union, and all tax payable to the headquarters must be paid through such an industrial union; although provisions can

be made in accordance with the requirements of the hour, should assume the privilege to determine this vital point at issue, and await the consent or disapproval of the membership at the next convention.

Therefore, as contended by Trautmann, should a rule be established, and he suggested that 3,000 members organized in not less than seven different localities should suffice to form a "National Industrial Union" of workers engaged in one given industry. Arguments were continued as to the number of members, and local unions required to organize such a national industrial union. Finally it was moved by Katz, seconded by Yates, that it is the sense of the general executive board that a National Industrial Union can be formed when there are at least five Industrial Unions of workers in one given industry with an approximate membership of 3,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Question on tax to be paid by National Industrial Unions to general headquarters of the I. W. W. was the next subject matter discussed. Motion was made by Cole, seconded by Yates, that the sense of the general executive board that the tax of a National Industrial Union payable to general headquarters of the Industrial Workers of the World shall be 8-12c per month per member.

As the I. W. W. stands in good standing in the national industrial union, subject to further legislation on this subject by the next convention of the I. W. W. Motion carried unanimously.

Tracey of Lynn stated that this action of the G. E. B. gave the shoe workers of Lynn a tangible proposition to work on. He suggested that the general call issued to shoe workers be mailed to as many shoe workers' organizations as possible; he was organized in Lynn the endorsement of the call would be given, and then it would be easy to inform others in a circular letter emanating from Lynn shoe workers, accompanied by a request to support the cause for the formation of a National Industrial Union of Shoe workers could be formed. He stated further that he knew of shoe workers' unions in Brooklyn and New York, now independent, with an approximate membership of 1,500 and composed of progressive workers, who very likely would co-operate in a movement for the formation of a National Industrial Union. These suggestions of Tracey were adopted.

The secretary-treasurer stated that the I. W. W. had approximately 5,000 workers engaged in the textile industries; in Paterson, about 3,500; in New Bedford, 700; in Lawrence, 50; in Lowell, 300; in Andover, 100; in Mapleville approximately 200; in Fall River, 20; in Hoboken, about 150; in Lancaster, 50; and other unions were in process of being formed. He suggested the calling of a National Industrial Union of Textile Workers, as he knew that many other unions of textile workers, especially those of Philadelphia, would join the I. W. W. and such a National Industrial Union immediately after a call would be issued. Katz, who had been doing propaganda work among textile workers in Pennsylvania, corroborated the statement.

Motion was made by Katz, seconded by Yates, that the general secretary-treasurer be instructed to issue a call for a convention, for the purpose of organizing a National Industrial Union of Textile Workers. Motion carried.

Chairman Williams declared that Fellow Worker DeLeon, as well as any other member of the I. W. W., has the privilege to present matters to the G. E. B. and that Fellow Worker DeLeon be so notified.

As the hour of 2 o'clock had arrived, a motion was made by Cole, seconded by Katz, that the board adjourn for dinner, and convene at 3 o'clock. Motion carried.

DECEMBER 23RD—AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 3:10 p. m. Chairman Williams called meeting to order. Discussion on forming "National Industrial Unions" was resumed. The secretary suggested that plans be made for the formation of a National Industrial Union of Timber and Lumber Workers, as there are now organized requisite number of locals and members to entitle them to have such a national union organized, and such a call for a convention would bring into the folds of the I. W. W. more lumber workers in different parts of the country.

A general discussion ensued on this proposition. It was pointed out that the workers in the big lumber districts are practically unorganized; in Minnesota is a strong movement on foot to organize them into the I. W. W.; and the Finns and Swedes are conversant with the program of the Industrial Workers of the World.

In California, Oregon and Washington the National Union of Woodmen, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, is discredited and almost extinct; the Louisiana I. W. W. has gained a foothold, and will be able to make good headway, but in Maine, New Hampshire and East Canada, the lumber workers are held in bondage by the corporations, and a sort of craft union, with headquarters at Detroit, of which all officers are lawyers and skinner, while the employers themselves support by forcing the lumber workers to pay dues to that conglomeration.

It was pointed out that the conditions of the Western lumbermen, should be further developments should be awaited for, before a definite date be set for such a convention, and it would for this reason be better not to set the date for the convention too early. He would suggest that all particular arrangements for such a proposed convention be left to Heslewood, as he was best posted on the affairs and prospective developments in the Montana and Idaho lumber districts.

A motion was made by Katz, supported by Cole, that the general secretary be instructed to issue a call for the formation of a "National Industrial Union of Timber and Lumber Workers" to be held on August 1st, 1908, and that it be left to the discretion of Executive Board Member Heslewood to select a proper place for the holding of such a convention. Motion carried.

At this juncture Fellow Worker Katz suggested that the board go into executive session to allow Fellow Worker DeLeon the floor for the presentation of proposals.

Fellow Worker DeLeon, before starting to present the matter, asked the board whether that was considered an executive session. Thereupon the speaker left the room.

Fellow Worker DeLeon then started to explain what he had to say, but he asked for a hearing. He stated that he had the intention to proceed to Chicago directly when he heard that negotiations were being conducted with the Harbor Workers of New York City; as he deemed his knowledge of things important enough to entertain the fear that injury may result from misdirected moves; but that he felt relieved when he heard that the general executive board would meet in New York City.

DeLeon intimated that there was a "police spy" at work in I. W. W. affairs, and proceeded with the outline of his theory; until he was interrupted by sufficient grounds to bring out open charges against James Connolly, the organizer of the Industrial District Council of New York City. Executive Board Member Cole asked for an interruption of ten minutes, as he wanted to withdraw from the room. On his return Fellow Worker DeLeon started to resume.

At this juncture T. J. Cole rose for the purpose of entering his protest against any further continuation of the meeting behind closed doors. Cole asserted that from personal observation he is convinced that any tolerance of star-chamber proceedings will wreck and destroy the Industrial District Council of New York and all unions in the adjacent towns. Cole contended that he did not know that the suggestion of "going into executive session" meant a meeting behind closed doors.

Yates wanted to know where Cole got his information that the District Council would be wrecked. Cole rose to answer, but being interrupted by DeLeon, who stated that he would immediately start for home, if the executive board would stand for such a mode of procedure.

Secretary Trautmann stated that he, although not having a vote, would insist on having his vote cast jointly with that of Cole, entered on the minutes, on the ground that a continuation of star-chamber proceedings at which the most serious charges are made, would result against another member of the I. W. W. without the accused having a chance to hear the charges, or to defend himself, would inevitably bring in its consequences ruin and disastrous results to the I. W. W. and the country. Justified were those who condemned Sherman, Moyer and their associates for their actions in the star-chamber sessions of the majority of the first executive board of the I. W. W., still in the minds of brand those who joined in the cry of condemnation and yet would tolerate a repetition on this occasion.

When the first executive board of the I. W. W. disfranchised in star-chamber sessions some of the most progressive railroad workers to please a coterie of fakirs, without giving these victimized proletarians a chance to voice their side of the case, it nearly rent the I. W. W. asunder, and as it would be better than any body, no matter who he be, thinks exceptions should be granted and a repetition countenanced.

Chairman Williams also immediately joined in the protest, and was to be recorded accordingly; he also ordered that the doors be thrown open and the proceedings be continued in the open.

Fellow Worker DeLeon then proceeded with the presentation of his charges. He asserted that it was his desire to keep any political party wranglings out of the I. W. W.; and nobody could accuse him of being insincere in this attitude; but he claimed that there was an evident connection between parties that were trying to drag a controversy between the S. L. P. and Connolly into the I. W. W. in New York City and Chicago, and as substitution for the same, fellow Worker DeLeon produced a private letter sent to him by an employee of the I. W. W. office by the name of Otto Just, in which reference was made to this controversy.

DeLeon claimed that the letter of said Otto Just had been mailed first to the national secretary of the Socialist Labor party, and was delivered to him open; and as the many corrections in that letter were made in two handwritings, it was evident that that letter was not the product of one individual; and the affair thus assumes a suspicious aspect; that consequently Just, an office employee of the I. W. W., must have been working in connection with somebody to drag the Connolly affair into the I. W. W.

Objection was again raised against further continuation of the case, until Connolly would be present himself. T. J. Cole moved that the matter of presentation of charges by DeLeon be postponed until the Industrial District Council of New York City be given a chance to have DeLeon and witnesses summoned to be able to present their side of the case. Motion carried.

As none of the witnesses nor the defendant in the case were present, a motion was made by Katz, seconded by Cole, that the DeLeon-Connelly matter be taken up at 9 o'clock, a. m. next morning...

The letter written by Otto Justh to DeLeon was the next subject for discussion. The letter could in no way be considered as emanating from the general office, typewritten on plain paper, the reference therein about certain remarks which DeLeon was supposed to have made at the last convention of the I. W. W. about Connelly, was based on general information undoubtedly gained from hearing a general discussion of delegates in the general office...

However, as the two handwritten letters in the many corrections made in the letter indicated a collusion, in some way, a motion was made by Katz, seconded by Cole, that it is the sense of the general executive board that Otto Justh be requested to order at 10 o'clock A. M. by Chairman Williams. Charges of DeLeon against Connelly were taken up. Connelly was present, as were many others.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, 1907.

Meeting was called to order at 10 o'clock A. M. by Chairman Williams. Charges of DeLeon against Connelly were taken up. Connelly was present, as were many others.

Fellow Worker DeLeon began to sum up the organization statements. He started out with explaining the situation of a man who is with one foot in the S. L. P. and with the other in the I. W. W. and that the injury done to one foot must certainly be so as to the other, that the mischievous act of one man in the S. L. P. must cast their reflex in the doings of the I. W. W.

ORGANIZING OF WORKERS IN THE TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICE

The secretary read letters from Covington Hall of New Orleans, La., and his answers thereto, all pertaining to the formation of an industrial union of Telephone and Telegraph workers. The Hall outlined in his letters the chances of organizing all employes in the telegraph and telephone service in the Southern States, with New Orleans as the central agency for propagating work.

COAL MINERS' AFFAIRS.

The secretary-treasurer gave a brief review of the work done in the coal mining districts; that immediately after the close of the third convention circular letters were sent out into mining camps asking whether arrangements could be made for mass meetings with General Organizer St. John as speaker; that not one unfavorable reply was received...

But the only obstacle to the successful consummation of such plans were the high dues and fines checked off by the wages of coal miners by the companies, and it would be hard to organize these pioneer unions if the members thereof would have to pay 15 per cent. month to headquarters. Lots of men could be organized and educated in revolutionary industrial unionism if only the check-off system would be abolished.

Arguments on these items were exhaustive: Katz, who had been organizing in Pennsylvania, stated that from personal observation he gained the knowledge that the coal miners in the anthracite district were waiting to be organized in the I. W. W.: that the United Mine Workers had lost all prestige among them; that in a meeting called by the U. M. W. with their National Secretary-Treasurer Wilson as speaker, only 12 miners showed up. But in the anthracite region the United Mine Workers could not enforce the check-off system, and therefore not get the fines and the black-mail system against rebels established, and if they would try to do it there would be a revolt by the outraged slaves.

Connelly stated in reply that the two mining districts which were organized in Poland and contrasted the condition of the workers there and here; how they had been driven from their native land by one set of plunderers to be further driven to a new one, where they were treated far more unscrupulously than their former masters. Bigos, who is quite an orator, held the floor for 40 minutes and was listened to with marked attention and at the conclusion of his talk received quite a shower of applause.

At this point Webster paid his respects to Mitchell and told how he had organized the coal miners into separate districts with separate contracts to entice at different times, and said all this had been done at the desire of the coal barons; he also pointed out that with the coal miners organized industrially we had the key to the whole situation.

He then told of the conspiracy in the west, how Meyer, Hayward and Pettibone had been kidnaped and held almost two years before being tried, how they had emerged triumphantly from the battle of Idaho under the conditions in Goldfield where next touched upon and the part St. John had played there; how he, St. John, had been literally riddled with bullets, how the capitalist press had treated the affair, and that Mullany was being fawned upon and petted like any other pet peddle of the capitalist class. Weber closed by explaining the system of organization, and told that local 157 was divided for educational purposes into four language branches. Taken all in all, it was one of the finest meetings that has ever been held in this city and speaks volumes for the organizing ability of Weber and our Polish fellow-workers.

At this point T. J. Cole rose to ask a point of order. He wanted to know whether the chair would permit the injection of matters which the I. W. W. had nothing to do with; as for instance, the reference to Connelly's record in the Socialist Labor Party of Ireland.

The chair ruled that the point is well taken, and that such matters should not be injected because they are irrelevant.

Wm. Yates asked whether the parties of the controversy had exhausted all previous resources of launching complaints before bringing the matter up before the General Executive Board. He asked for a ruling whether this matter comes within the province of the G. E. B.

The chair ruled that the parties to the controversy would have to go through the regular channels and the matter can only be presented to the general executive board after all other resources have been exhausted.

supervision by the general executive board, and that Connelly by injecting in the article remarks of a political party, favors, for instance his criticism of the Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance, was violating one of the established rules, and that therefore the G. E. B. had jurisdiction in the case and could investigate the matter and enforce the law as regards the conduct of organizers.

Williams in explaining his ruling stated that the attitude of Connelly as organizer is not involved; if there is such organizer, and failure of such council or a local union to comply may eventually cause the revocation of their charter; but as a local union is the smallest unit of the I. W. W., the general executive board will recognize the right of such unions to dispose of such matters first, and then if in the proper course such matters reach the general executive board, the same will know that all previous recourses have been exhausted and that the matter is now to be construed as an attempt to inject S. L. P. matters into the I. W. W.; inasmuch as the Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance was considered an economic organization.

Katz voted not to sustain the chair: Cole, Yates and Williams voted to sustain the decision. The chair was sustained.

Fellow Worker DeLeon asked whether there was nothing that could change the ruling of the general executive board. Chairman Williams stated that he could see nothing that would prompt them to reverse that decision.

This disposed of the matter, and other questions were immediately taken up. Katz asked whether he as member of the G. E. B. has a right to prefer charges on account of the conduct of an organizer who is a member of the I. W. W. He asked to proceed with presentation of his charges upon which he would claim that Connelly is disqualified to act as organizer.

Connelly stated in reply that the two mining districts which were organized in Poland and contrasted the condition of the workers there and here; how they had been driven from their native land by one set of plunderers to be further driven to a new one, where they were treated far more unscrupulously than their former masters.

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Webber closed by explaining the system of organization, and told that local 157 was divided for educational purposes into four language branches. Taken all in all, it was one of the finest meetings that has ever been held in this city and speaks volumes for the organizing ability of Weber and our Polish fellow-workers.

At this point T. J. Cole rose to ask a point of order. He wanted to know whether the chair would permit the injection of matters which the I. W. W. had nothing to do with; as for instance, the reference to Connelly's record in the Socialist Labor Party of Ireland.

The chair ruled that the point is well taken, and that such matters should not be injected because they are irrelevant.

Wm. Yates asked whether the parties of the controversy had exhausted all previous resources of launching complaints before bringing the matter up before the General Executive Board. He asked for a ruling whether this matter comes within the province of the G. E. B.

The chair ruled that the parties to the controversy would have to go through the regular channels and the matter can only be presented to the general executive board after all other resources have been exhausted.

would offer a motion that an organizer be stationed in the Scranton, Pa., coal district as soon as finances permit. Yates amended that within two months, if finances should permit, Katz be stationed in the Scranton district. Motion as amended carried.

Connelly brought up the disparaging effect on the progress of the I. W. W. because the differences about the two political parties that claim to represent the working class politically are being brought into the meetings and the work of the I. W. W., and suggested the adoption of a resolution setting forth the opinion of the general executive board on the matter.

Cole moved, seconded by Yates, that a request be sent to all members, requesting them to argue and settle the differences on matters pertaining to the two political parties that claim to represent the working class politically in the meetings of said parties; and not to bring into the I. W. W. matters that should be brought into the political field is desirable. Motion carried.

No further business being before the board, motion was made by Cole, seconded by Katz, to adjourn sine die. Motion carried.

W. M. E. TRAUTMANN, Gen. Sec'y-Treas.

Textile Workers Hold Successful Meeting

Following is a brief report of a meeting held in New Bedford, Mass., Jan. 19, under the auspices of Textile Workers Industrial Union Local No. 157, Polish branch.

Polish branch members opened the meeting and called upon Secretary Wm. Yates as first speaker and he outlined the condition of the working class in the United States and the textile workers in particular. Mr. Yates stated that the lines of craft unions were utterly inadequate to cope with the conditions as they exist; he pointed out the disastrous strikes that have taken place in Fall River, New Bedford, Philadelphia; how fixers have scabbed on weavers and weavers scabbed upon them. He referred to the traitorous conduct of the so-called labor leaders, which, coupled with the ignorance of the rank and file, was responsible for the present situation.

He then told of the conspiracy in the west, how Meyer, Hayward and Pettibone had been kidnaped and held almost two years before being tried, how they had emerged triumphantly from the battle of Idaho under the conditions in Goldfield where next touched upon and the part St. John had played there; how he, St. John, had been literally riddled with bullets, how the capitalist press had treated the affair, and that Mullany was being fawned upon and petted like any other pet peddle of the capitalist class.

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Katz asked against the ruling of the general executive board, if not members are out of employment, or that he would have to decline to act as organizer, because he is in such a position that he would have to have the assurance of prompt payment, but he

From the Mexican Defense Committee

Los Angeles, Jan. 20, 1908.

Comrades and Fellow-Workers: We are writing you in behalf of the alleged Mexican revolutionists, Messrs. Magon, Villarreal, Rivera and Serabia. Three of these men were arrested here on the 23rd of August last, and have been imprisoned on one charge or another ever since that date. The Mexican government has tried in every way to extradite these men to Mexico. Failing in this they have determined to keep them in prison upon some charge in this country, in order that they might not conduct their agitation by correspondence in Mexico. This is a persecution, and we are able to state that much of the essential evidence produced at the hearing was perjured and forged. Without the perjured testimony of Vasquez and the forged instrument, which they claim is a roster of officers, there could be no conviction.

It may be necessary to carry this matter to the United States Supreme Court on appeal. We would not hesitate to go to Arizona if we thought it were at all likely that we would have a trial there; but we have an affidavit in our possession from Capt. Furlong, the detective, said that they did not care whether the charges were true; that all they wanted was to get the men to Arizona, and then they would take them over the line where they wanted them. You must know that Mr. Serabia was kidnaped by Mexican agents, co-operating with the American officers at Douglas, and was taken over the line into Mexico on June 30th, 1907. His eye, he was returned by order of the American government. If, however, these men are taken over the line they will be shot. Mr. Furlong testified at the hearing that he arrested these men without a

warrant, and that he was paid by the Mexican government to do so.

The first charge made against the men after their arrest was that of murdering a public officer; next with murdering in Mexico and entering this country contrary to the immigration laws; the next was larceny in Missouri; the next was murder and robbery in Mexico. All of these charges have been successfully resisted. They were then charged with conspiring to violate the neutrality law, and are sought to be taken to Arizona, where the conspiracy is claimed to have been entered into, which would give Arizona jurisdiction of the offense. This would give a reason to transport the men into that territory. They would then have them near the Mexican line, and could take them over without difficulty.

We are writing you these facts that you may know the danger in which these men are placed and will be placed in the near future, and that you may satisfy that we are sorely in need of funds for their defense. Being in prison, they are unable to reach their friends by correspondence, and hence are unable to raise funds themselves. Trusting that you will be able to assist us in raising money for their defense, we are, respectfully yours, DEFENSE COMMITTEE.

P. S.—Please forward all funds to Mrs. Miamie Shea, Secretary-Treasurer, No. 688 Ruth Ave., Los Angeles, Cal. Benj. T. Weber, Cor.-Rec.

At several important industrial centers last week the I. W. W. was successful in holding unemployed demonstrations without having heads battered or getting into jail. Seattle's jobless army, 8,000 strong, sent a committee with J. H. Walsh of the I. W. W. at its head, to visit the mayor, who confessed his inability to do anything. The only satisfaction these thousands of unemployed men is in industrial organization and the control of the jobs which such organization necessarily means.

OUR BOOK LIST. Below we give a partial list of books which we are prepared to supply to readers of this paper. As will be seen the list contains many of the books with the contents of which Industrial Unionists should be familiar. They range from light but instructive pamphlets, to the scientific and philosophical works of Labriola, Morgan and Marx. Any book in the list will be sent, postage paid, on receipt of price, and we ask all members of the organization and readers of this paper to order their books from us.

Order for Subscription Cards. Wm. E. Trautmann, G. S. T. Industrial Workers of the World. I am interested in extending the circulation of The Industrial Union Bulletin and wish you would send me Subscription Cards as follows:

To know what Industrial Unionism is you must read what is said about it by its friends and what it says for itself; only in that way can its present aims and ultimate purposes be understood. The following are recommended to workmen who desire to learn what Industrial Unionism is:

VIOTORUL SOCIAL. Romanian Socialist Monthly. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE FOR AMERICA \$2.50. ADDRESS: 21 St. J. Trade St. Jassy, Romania.