

Financial Statement FOR JANUARY

The following is a Statement of Receipts and Expenditures at the General Headquarters for the month of January, 1908. Any errors found herein should be reported to this office.

(Concluded from last week.)

Table with columns for date, name, amount, and category. Includes entries for Jan. 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31.

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Industrial Unionism and Politics

(Continued from page 1)

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themselves to new occasions and to new duties. I will remember how many of us looked askance at the New Industrial Union movement following the manifesto of January, 1905. I also remember, when I arrived in San Francisco in the fall of the same year, a lady comrade remarked to me that she did not like to see S. L. P. organizers coming around "and doing most of their talking for the I. W. U." and she added, in a half-jocular, half-serious manner, that "this I. W. U. will kill the S. L. P. anyway, if we don't look out." It never occurred to the comrade in question that the S. L. P. influence in certain directions might operate to the detriment of the I. W. U. With the comrade in question the S. L. P. was of supreme consideration; the I. W. U. was of secondary importance. That attitude of mind was natural at the time and in the circumstances. I remember again, a year later, I received a letter from a comrade and to me the growth of the S. L. P., who among other things deplored the fact that "this big baby of ours" (meaning the I. W. U.) "did not seem inclined to recognize its parent" (the S. L. P.). That attitude of mind—regarding the I. W. U. as mainly a product of S. L. P. teaching and experience, and therefore requiring to be under the especial tutelage and supervision of the S. L. P., was a very common attitude, almost two years ago, and is by no means uncommon today among the S. L. P. membership. The thought that S. L. P. men might "learn a new language," as Marx expresses it, and having acquired the new tongue, "learn to move in it without recollection of the old," and not keep "translating the new language back into the mother tongue," that thought seems hard to grasp by many even who have been most active in the past and who have contributed most to the growth of revolutionary thought in America. And I. W. U. back into terms of the S. L. P. so many of you keep translating the and thereby, though doubtless without intention, you inject confusion into the minds of the workers. A recent experience will illustrate the point further. At an I. W. U. mass meeting in Brooklyn several weeks ago, after I had spoken for an hour, and in my own way had explained as best I could the fundamental principles and aims of the industrial movement, without referring to any political party, a comrade of the audience took the floor and reminded the audience that to take the Social-ist political parties in the field, and that especially they (the workers present) must not forget the S. L. P. and its literature, etc. I felt it my duty in the circumstances to take the floor and for an I. W. U. discussion. I insisted that we were there to teach Industrial Unionism and to recruit members for the I. W. U.; exclusively; that there were workers present who possibly didn't care a fig whether there was an S. L. P. in existence or not; and that while we would not attempt to dictate to the Socialist parties what they should say or do in their own meetings, we should insist upon controlling itself and its own meetings without dictation or interference from outside organizations or individuals. And so with all due regard for past services, we say to all those who cannot adjust themselves to the I. W. U. position, "Hands off!" whether such individuals belong to one or the other of the two Socialist parties. To the parties as a whole, we have no objection, (usually at the later stages), maneuver themselves oftentimes into false or reactionary postures, because they fail to adjust themselves to new conditions or fail to recognize the fruition of their labors in new forms. In the history of the anti-slavery movement in America we have an instance. At the opening of the Civil War we saw many of the old-time abolitionists, after having fought for thirty years on the principle of "no compromise," and after having suffered internal disruptions and endured outside persecutions without "retreating a single inch"—we saw many of these abolitionists, when faced with the fruition of their labors, opposing the war and the political organization in the north that was prosecuting it. Those sturdy anti-slavery men could not understand that the conflict between the states was the only means of realizing their ideal—the abolition of slavery. I trust we may not have a parallel case in the American labor movement. And for that reason I have spoken plainly to you tonight. I hope you will take what I have said in the spirit in which it is given, and consider seriously the proposition I have discussed with you: "Only the Economic Organization of the Working Class can set on foot the Political Reflex of Working Class Interests." Govern your conduct according to that understanding, and it need not be long until the working class shall have come together upon the political as well as upon the industrial field, to end forever the age-long nightmare of class rule.

PREAMBLE OF THE I. W. U.

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life. Between these two classes a struggle must go on until all the toilers come together on the political, as well as on the industrial field, and take and hold that which they produce by their labor through an economic organization of the working class, without affiliation with any political party. The rapid gathering of wealth and the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands make the trades union unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class, because the trade unions foster a state of things which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one another in wage wars. The trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers. These sad conditions can be changed and the interests of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries, if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making injury to one an injury to all. Therefore, without endorsing or desiring endorsement of any political party, we unite under the following constitution. (Copy of Constitution Sent on Application.)

Price List of Supplies:

Table listing various supplies and their prices, including Constitutions, Local Letterheads, Envelopes, etc.

Industrial Union HANDBOOK. Gives an outline of the Structure of Industrial Unionism and Analysis of the Preamble. Very useful in arriving at an understanding of the form of organization of the Industrial Workers of the World. Price, postpaid, 10 cts. Special rates on large orders.

LET THE LIGHT IN

YOU WILL NEVER LEARN anything about the INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD by absorbing the dope its enemies hand to you; a good antidote for their lies is the TRUTH. Get the TRUTH by reading what the I. W. U. SAYS FOR ITSELF. Here is a good combination for \$1.00. Handbook of Industrial Unionism, Constitution of the I. W. U., Report of Secretary Trautmann, Industrial Unionism, Burning Question of Trades Unionism, Address on I. W. U. Preamble.

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: Handbook of Industrial Unionism, Constitution of the I. W. U., Report of Secretary Trautmann, Industrial Unionism, Burning Question of Trades Unionism, Address on I. W. U. Preamble.

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Stuttgart Congress on I. W. U. Ground

Extracts from Resolutions adopted by the Congress on the Relation of the Political Organization to the Political Party. I realize the difficulty that faces men who have been thinking and fighting along certain lines for years; who have been holding fast to certain principles and tactics which they have regarded as fundamental, and in the practical application of them have acquired a certain well-defined attitude of mind. I realize the difficulty that confronts IWW Bul 13—Fisher MIO Thirteen such men when called upon to adjust

Member of Local... I. W. U.

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