

The Working Class And The Employing Class Have Nothing In Common.

INDUSTRIAL WORKER

VOL. I. One Dollar a Year. SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, SATURAY, MARCH 12, 1910. Six Months, 50c No. 51

LOGGER SPEAKS TO THE LOGGERS

By Wm. McKENZIE.

I would like to ask this question: "Are the loggers of Puget Sound worthy of the name of men or are they not?" The employers and owners of the logging camps look upon the logger no more than they would a dumb brute. In many cases even they do not think as much of the average logger as they do of their driving horse or of their automobile.

The reason for this I say is, that the conditions in many of the camps which they own are not as good in many cases as are the stables where they keep their horses or automobiles. You loggers of Puget Sound know that the majority of the bunk houses on Puget Sound country are not fit for any man that has a spark of manhood left in him to sleep in; and yet you will go to these places and not make one word of protest to your employer about these conditions.

I think we can safely say that on the average there are about twenty-five men to the bunkhouse and these twenty-five men are ordered out to work when the whistles blow. At 1 o'clock they are ordered out to work again to stay until 6 in the evening. Rain or shine we are forced to go out to work. Now where do these twenty-five men dry their clothing? There is no dry house and only one little stove in the center of the bunkhouse for the entire twenty-five men. What is the result? The men have to go to bed in their wet clothing, get up in the morning and put the clothes on almost as wet as they took them off, and the chances are that the employer comes around and asks you "how things are going," and you reply, "Oh, all right." At the same time you know that they are not all right and what is more, that they are all wrong. Still there is not one of you that has the manhood left to say one word about these conditions.

Now take it on the other hand, when the boss logger goes into the stable, he does not ask how things are going. He sees his horse all dripping wet and his automobile all covered with mud. What does he do? He fires the man who is taking care of the stable immediately and has an extra blanket put over his horse. Does he get an extra blanket for you when you come into the bunkhouse all wet and covered with mud? Does he? No, you bet he doesn't, and what is further, he tells you if you don't like it you can roll up and get out. Then you will have the pleasure of once more going to town and visiting some employment shark, to whom you pay a dollar or two, for information to secure some other job on which the chances are, the conditions are as bad as the camp which you just left.

As for the grub, you all know that in the majority of the camps it is not fit for human beings to eat and is one of the chief reasons why you quit so many jobs. As a rule one of the first questions you ask a logger friend of your acquaintance who has worked in some other camp as to how the "chuck" was and two-thirds of the answers that you receive are that it was on the "bum," and "that is the reason why I bunched the job."

We all know of these things, but we do not seem to know how to get the better chuck and better sleeping quarters, shorter hours, etc. Quitting jobs will never secure for us these conditions, nor will individual kicks. All the boss does when you become dissatisfied with your job is to send you down to the employment shark's office, with whom the chances are, he is connected with telephones, and have him send up another man. It is time that all loggers were beginning to realize what are the reasons for these conditions and ways and means to remedy them. Some of us have already come to the conclusion that the only way that we can hope to better these conditions is to organize. For this reason we have formed loggers' locals. Several of these are already in existence along the Coast, at Seattle, Portland and Vancouver. Preparations are being made to form locals at several other points. To do this it will take the cooperation of all the men employed in the logging camps.

The loggers in Montana were able through organization to cut the hours of labor to nine per day. Why can't we loggers on Puget Sound do the same? The Western Federation of Miners, through organization, have been able to gain an eight-hour day and a minimum scale of \$5 per day. Can't we do the same? Are we not as intelligent as the miner or the logger in Montana? The loggers' locals of Seattle, Portland and Vancouver have laid the foundation on which should be built an organization encompassing all the loggers on Puget Sound. The rough work is done; the rest remains to cause for these conditions and ways and means. Do you wish yourselves classed as non-union men? Will you wait until the rest of the loggers are organized to the extent that you will be forced into the organization? Or will you get in and do your part to building up a strong working class organization in the logging industry?

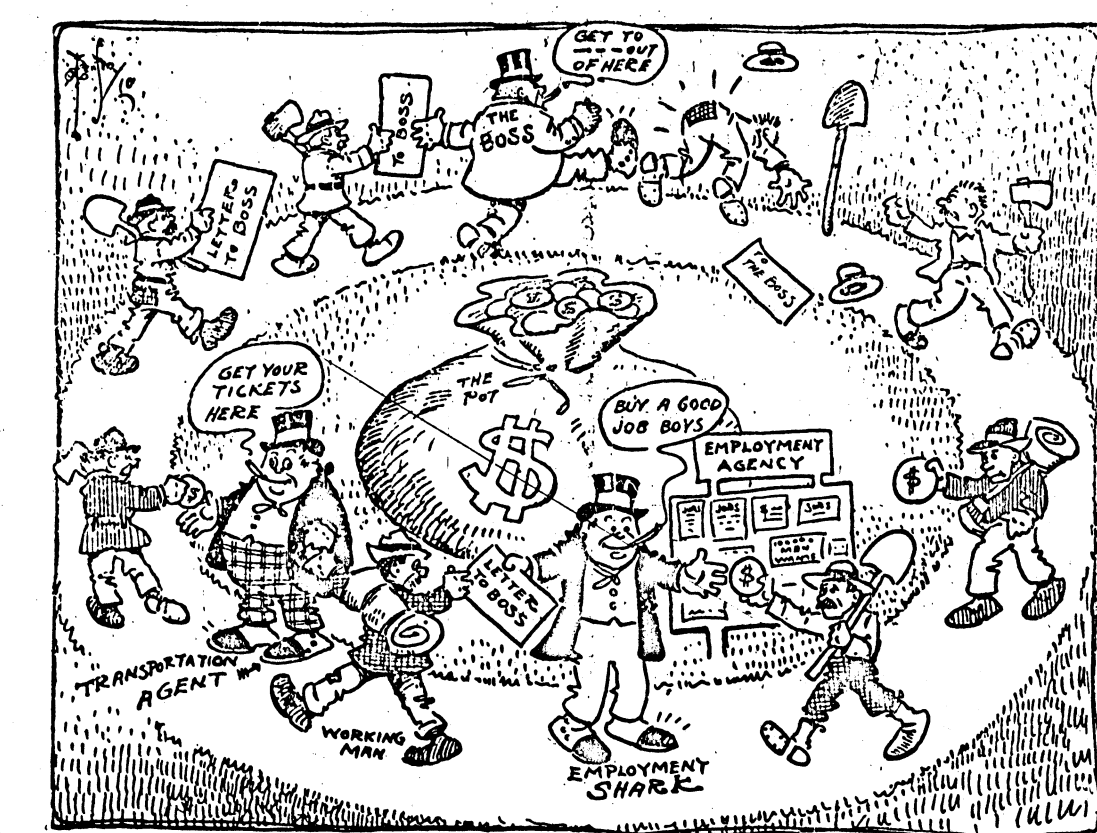
The laundry girls in Goldfield, Nevada, who were organized into the Industrial Workers of the World, were able to get \$1.00 per day for eight hours work, and would still have the wages had not the unorganized workmen flocked in from surrounding places when they heard about the high wages there and scabbed the I. W. W. out of existence. The section men in the same district received \$4.50 for eight hours work and would still be getting it if it had not been for the unorganized.

Now the loggers are organizing into the I. W. W., to do the same thing and it is up to you loggers, who are not as yet members, to get in and do your part.

The lumber industry is the principal industry of the Northwest, and in no industry are there so few organized workmen. It is for this reason that the conditions are as bad as they are.

Do you think you would have to go to some employment shark if you were organized? Do you not think that by organization that you could force the bosses to grant you more wages, shorter hours of employment, better sleeping accommodations, better food and more of a variety?

If you do not, you certainly have not got as much sense as the laundry girls of Gold-



The Endless Chain—Employment Shark, the Transportation Agent, and the Boss—Fleece the Workers.

GRAND JURY LOOKS INTO EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES

Labor Commissioner Maupin Calls Attention to Swindles Practiced in Omaha.

Omaha, Neb., Feb. 23.—"Omaha is rotten with fake employment offices," says State Labor Commissioner Maupin.

Complaint has been made to him by Colorado authorities that scores of Italian laborers are being unloaded there by an Omaha agent, who obtains a \$2.00 fee for sending them to work, which does not exist and landing them there without resources.

A letter received by him from the Colorado Labor Commissioner gives the name and address of this agent and makes explicit complaint against him. Commissioner Maupin was before the Grand Jury Friday afternoon, and there is reason to believe that he handed the communication to them as a basis for an indictment.

Commissioner Maupin says that the fake employment agencies have been practically put out of business in Lincoln and the labor department will now center its attack on those in Omaha where conditions are particularly aggravated.—World-Herald.

ANOTHER CASE AGAINST EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES

Shark Hires Twenty-three Men to Go to Job Where Only Four Are Wanted.

Seattle, Wash., March 4.—Another case of employment shark methods came to light when the steamer T. W. Lake (known to those who have worked on this boat as the T. W. Workhouse), pulled into port and placed an order with Crane's Employment Agency for four deckhands.

The sharks, as is their usual method, placed the sign asking for four deck hands out on the job board, but instead of taking it down when the requisite number of men advertised for had bought jobs, the sign was kept up until a crew of men numbering 23 had been hired. These men were all charged a dollar apiece for the information.

Having been told where to report to work, the men were at hand at the stated time with their blankets and effects. The mate, after picking out four of what he thought would make the most willing workers, told the others that he had all the men he could use. Thus the disappointed job seekers were compelled to return and once more search the job sign for a desirable job. Workers get wise. Don't buy jobs.

COMPLAINT IS FILED AGAINST EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES

Deputy Labor Commissioner Wagner Will Make Investigation Against Employment Agency.

Austin, Texas, Feb. 22.—Complaint has been made to Labor Commissioner Myers to the effect that a certain employment agency at Fort Worth has been sending men to work on the construction of the Bartlett-Florence railroad, which is now being built between Bartlett and Florence, promising these men that they would be paid \$3.00 to \$3.50 per day, and after the men have worked a week, they are paid only \$1.50 to \$1.75 per day. Labor Commissioner Myers at once detailed Deputy Labor Commissioner Wagner to make an investigation of the complaint. Deputy Wagner left yesterday for Bartlett to make the investigation. When questioned as to what could be done in the premises, in the event the complaints are established, Mr. Wagner said he could not tell at present, but asserted that this would be left to a recommendation being made to the next legislature to regulate employment agencies in Texas.—Statesman.

RESOLUTION.

At Regular Business Meeting of Local 419 Redlands, California, the Following Resolutions Were Drawn Up.

Whereas, The capitalist class all over the world are continually solidifying and strengthening their forces in order to more certainly defeat the attempts of industrially organized workers to overthrow their rule, as evidenced by the formation of the International Oil, Steel and Transportation Trusts, etc., and

Whereas, We, of the Industrial Workers of the World, cannot fail to be aware of the significance of these moves and to see that the future success of our own movement depends on our ability to checkmate and defeat such moves, and

Whereas, Effectual co-operation on an international scale among the industrially organized wage workers of the world has, hitherto, been rendered difficult, if not impossible, by their various national affiliations with political reform movements, and their international affiliation with the International Socialist Bureau and Congress, and

Whereas, The said International Socialist Bureau and Congress, together with most of its constituent bodies, is composed of and dominated by a collection of long-haired capitalist "professors," middle-class exploiters of labor, and sleek political grafters of the "friend of labor" type, thereby assisting Capitalism and incidentally making for themselves an easy and "distinguished" existence by keeping the Workers' attention engaged on a continuous political sham-battle, meanwhile the Capitalist masters are pressing their wage-slaves lower on the industrial field, and the Workers are becoming ever more befuddled, disgusted, distrustful and despairing, therefore be it

Resolved, In order to remedy these evils, and lay the foundation for international UNITY and SOLIDARITY among the industrially organized wage-workers of the world, the General Executive Board of the Industrial Workers of the World be, and hereby is, directed to take immediate steps to sever our connection with the International Bureau and Congress and be it further

Resolved, That the G. E. B. of the I. W. W. be, and hereby is, directed to issue a call to all unions of industrially organized Workers throughout the world who are revolutionary in aim and direct actionists in tactics and who have no affiliation with any political party, to assemble in conference at earliest convenient date at suitable place in order to form an International Industrial Union of all such workers on the basis of equal representation and equal universal membership cards, transfers and emblems, regardless of race, color, nationality, creed or occupation, and be it further

Resolved, That we, members of Agricultural Workers Industrial Union, No. 419, I. W. W., of Redlands, Cal., hereby call upon all locals and members of the I. W. W. to whom the necessity of action is apparent, to second our efforts to get these resolutions discussed at their regular business meeting and to instruct their delegates to the next convention and bring this matter forward at the convention; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to every I. W. W. Local and to all I. W. W. papers for publication.

By Order of Agricultural Workers' Industrial Union, No. 419, Redlands, California. (Sen. Local No. 419.)

ENTIRE OFFICE FORCE OF SOLIDARITY ARRESTED.

Just as we are writing the editor is arrested. Full particulars later.

The editor wrote the above just before being arrested. Since his arrest, every member of the press committee has been arrested. The reason for their arrest I do not know. We will do our best, however, to give this the utmost publicity.

With one or two exceptions every worker that has been active in pushing Solidarity in this vicinity has been arrested.

It looks like an attempt on the part of the police to adopt Spokane tactics. Now it is up to every one who reads this to get busy and do their part. We will depend on you. Action is the thing that is now needed.

G. H. PERRY.

WE'RE JAILED!

We grabbed us last night, March 1st, the day when the fight opened out again in Spokane, the whole press committee of Solidarity and the Free Press, a local Socialist party paper that does not press work, were arrested and thrown in jail on a trumped-up charge by agents of the steel trust. Probably they have an understanding with the Spokane officials. This is written in jail. Solidarity nearly all set up when we were arrested and no space for particulars this week. Particulars next week.

Editor was at work on the "For the Ten Thousand" column when pinched. Boys, go after the ten thousand. Send in the subs and bundle orders.

Solidarity is here to stay. Hoory! Sail on!

ACTIVE AT SAN DIEGO.

Industrial Worker:

Enclosed find money order for the amount of \$1.25 in payment of our regular bundle order of 50 copies.

Will say that we have opened up a free reading room at the Commercial Hotel, corner Seventh and I streets. All Fellow Workers arriving in the city will find us at this location. With the aid we received from G. S. Young who gave us a receipt for the amount of \$20.00 on the old S. P. We were enabled to purchase 75 chairs and some four or five benches for the reading room.

From now on San Diego will carry on an active campaign of agitation and organization among the workers.

Yours for Industrial Freedom,
BENSON JAYNES.

SPOKANE FIGHT FOR FREE SPEECH SETAILED

Spokane, Wash., March 6, 1910.—At last the great Spokane battle has been brought to a close. This was effected through the instrumentality of a series of conferences between the city and county officials and an I. W. W. committee. The following is an account of the various conferences and the conclusions arrived at by the contestants in this long battle.

On February 28th "the executive or fighting committee" of the I. W. W. elected a committee of three—Fellow Workers Gillespie, McKelvey and Foster—and commissioned them to call on the authorities and discuss the situation before opening hostilities on the morrow. This interview terminated in practically a declaration of war on both sides, as the mayor seemed to think the only possible solution of the difficulty was to test the ordinance in the court. He frankly stated that he did not enforce a prohibitive or discriminative ordinance, but said he had no other choice than to enforce the laws already on the books. He professed willingness to treat on the matter, but claimed lack of jurisdiction. This was considered unfavorable by the committee, and the mayor was told that the fight must continue until the I. W. W. was crushed or free speech assured. Next day the committee, enlarged by the addition of Fellow Worker Stark, called on the police department, where a general conference was held. The authorities showed a willingness to reasonably consider the situation and asked for specific credentials from the committee, which would show their authority to talk business. These credentials were secured, and on March 3d the general conference met. The city and county were represented by Mayor Pratt, Prosecuting Attorney Pugh, Corporation Counsel Blair, Chief of Police Sullivan and Captain Detective Burns. The I. W. W. was represented by Fellow Workers Stark, McKelvey, Gillespie and Foster. The conference took on the nature of demands by the I. W. W. These were four in number: First, the promise that landlords would not be intimidated into refusing the rent of halls to the I. W. W. as has been done during the last few months of the fight, and that I. W. W. meetings be absolutely free from police interference, provided, of course, that we kept within the common rules; in short, hall conditions were to be the same as those prior to November 2. Second, freedom of the press and the right to sell the Industrial Worker on the streets; in other words, as before. Third, the release of I. W. W. prisoners in the city and county jails. Fourth, the use of the streets for public speaking.

The first two propositions were granted after but slight discussion. The third proposition was very closely related to the fourth, and after a very unsatisfactory discussion of it the committee turned to the fourth so as to find out how they stood on that. The mayor, corporation counsel, etc., assured the I. W. W. committee that free speech is to be allowed in Spokane in the near future, and though no date was or could be set for this new arrangement to take effect, they were positively assured that it will be in short while. And meanwhile the regular religious organizations will not be discriminated in favor of, but must await their time when the streets are open to all. With this proposition established as a working basis, the conference again took up the matter of the release of prisoners, which was a delicate one to handle. Prosecutor Pugh professed to have no animosity against any of the prisoners, but stated that it is impossible to release them all at once. It was agreed that the city prisoners (some fifteen in number) should be immediately released, and the county prisoners (fourteen in number) released on a sliding scale, to begin immediately, without discrimination. In return for these concessions he demanded a hostage in the shape of National Organizer F. W. Heslewood, who was then vigorously fighting extradition proceedings at Coeur d'Alene City, Ida. The conference came to a stumbling block here, as the I. W. W. committee had no jurisdiction over Heslewood, who is employed at Coeur d'Alene by the national headquarters. To obviate this difficulty it was necessary to put the proposition before Heslewood, so the conference adjourned, to meet again in Coeur d'Alene three hours later.

Owing to poor connections Heslewood could not be reached before 7:15 p. m., and the final extradition proceedings, scheduled to start at 7:30 p. m., were postponed while the conference met in Judge Dunn's private chambers. Meanwhile the committee had been increased by E. Gurley Flynn, Heslewood and Attorney Moore. The situation was outlined to them and the further proposition made to Heslewood that if he surrendered himself he would be released on \$2,000 bond and his case continued from time to time, for 30 days, when it would be dropped. Flynn's case is to be allowed to vegetate also, and it too will be dismissed at the end of 30 days. Meanwhile the appeal will pend and he be allowed his release on bonds.

The Burns case and damage-suits against the city are to be dropped. This decision, as far as Heslewood was concerned, could not be postponed, as the court was waiting while the committee conferred, and upon the strongest recommendations of the I. W. W. committee Heslewood accepted the terms in so far as he was concerned. The object of this was not to bind the organization in any way. Heslewood simply placed his head in the lion's mouth at the instigation of the committee and his own belief that the rank and file, on referendum, would accept the conditions jointly agreed upon. The next day he surrendered himself to Spokane county and is now out on bonds.

The following evening at a mass meeting in Hillyard, composed of all the I. W. W. members in town, regardless of where they hail from, the action of the committee was indorsed and the street fight was officially declared off, pending the good faith of the authorities. The conference committee has visited the boys in the county jail and explained the situation. They also have indorsed the action taken. The city prisoners were released by Chief Sullivan according to the agreement. The charters seized by the police in the raid on the hall have been returned.

CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
Spokane Locals I. W. W.

