

SOLIDARITY

OFFICIAL ORGAN PITTSBURG DISTRICT UNION OF THE I. W. W.

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INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD
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THE INDUSTRIAL DEPRESSION.
Our Wall Street correspondent furnishes some interesting facts this week regarding the depression in industry, which has been in evidence for some months, with prospects of becoming worse in the near future.

One fact brought out clearly in connection with this Wall Street survey is the inter-relation or dependence of one industry upon another. Dependence in the agricultural market, for example, adversely affects the market for steel products and rubber goods. Depression in freight traffic on railroads glut the market for freight cars and locomotives already built and stops further production of those commodities. And so it is seen that marked depression in any one industry affects all others in turn and the entire industrial system is quickly thrown into disorder. The panic is on.

The basic reason for the general depression in industry is also clearly understood in Wall Street. It is because the working class is only buying now the barest necessities of life. In other words the workers are unable on account of ever lower wages to buy up enough of their product to keep the market from becoming overstocked and the wheels of industry stoppage. Depression in industry is caused by the robbery of the working class in the shop.

This fact of working class robbery is still more eloquently brought out by the figures concerning railroad "earnings" in 1908 and 1909. Net earnings of American railroad companies in 1909 aggregated \$50 million dollars, an increase of more than 150 million dollars over the year 1908, and with only 6,000 more miles of track in operation. Similar figures have recently been made public regarding steel, textile and other manufacturers, showing that enormous dividends have been realized the past two years out of the sweat and life blood of their wage slaves.

Now these wage slaves are only "buying the barest necessities of life," while many of them, thrown into the overcrowded labor market without jobs amenable to their own those necessities, and must either beg or starve to exist. This overcrowding of the labor market with an employed has the effect of still further lowering the wages of those still at work. That in turn tends to ever more reduction in the demand for goods, and thereby to deepen and perpetuate the union.

Capitalists who are sellers of luxuries, such as silks, fashions, jewelry, automobiles, etc., to the middle class, find their market for these luxuries cut off when those small fry who are for the most part distributors of the "necessaries of life" no longer are able to realize their usual profits from the sale of meat, vegetables, shoddy clothing,

etc., to the workers. The corner grocery-man who had been thinking for some time of buying an auto, now decides to wait a while because trade is poor. Many "corner grocery-men" do the same. Hence the automobile factory shuts down, and the steel, rubber, copper, railroad and other industries are depressed. One industry reacts upon another and all upon each. There is a general bumping of heads from all directions.

This process, which is inherent in the capitalist mode of production, is corner-stoned upon the robbery of the working class—the wealth producers—in the shops. It cannot be entirely done away with so long as capitalism is allowed to exist. But it can be greatly modified for the better here and now by the workers themselves.

Today the workers are hopelessly at the mercy of their capitalist robbers, because the former are unorganized or divided by craft unions in mill, mine and factory. Under these conditions the workers cannot successfully resist tendencies toward lower wages, a long work day and more intense toil in the shops. Least of all can the unorganized workers resist these tendencies when depression is on and the labor market is overflowing with "hands."

But the working class, by ORGANIZING INDUSTRIALLY, can resist those tendencies and resist them successfully. United in one big union, the workers will shorten the work day and make a general move for higher wages. An eight hour work day where ten hours have been the rule hitherto, will make necessary one-fifth more labor power in industry. Where will the capitalist get the additional labor power to supply his needs? Oh, you say, he will make the eight hour men work harder—make them do as much in eight hours as they formerly did in ten. And you point to the craft union bricklayer, carpenter, miner, printer and others, as proof. But the industrial union, capable of a universal shortening of the work day, will not be hoodwinked by the boss in that manner. Its members individually and collectively will refuse to work any faster or turn out any more product in a given time. They will if necessary, even work slower and turn out less product, on the eight hour system. And if the boss finally overcomes the difficulty by labor saving devices, a still further reduction of hours will be possible through the industrial union movement. Immediately and in the long run the employer will have to get the extra labor power he needs to run his factories from the unemployed in the labor market.

Industrial organization, then, will mean more men at work, higher wages (indirectly, as a result of increased demand for labor power in the shops and a decreased supply in the labor market, and directly as a result of united action of the workers themselves), and better conditions generally. It will tend also to improve the market for commodities which the capitalist is now unable to dispose of because of low wages, and will lengthen the periods between panics and industrial depressions.

Above all, the industrial union will drill the working class for the collective ownership and control of the industries by and for themselves. Today they are operating the workshops for the profit of their masters. The industrial union will prepare and train the working class to run the industries solely for its own benefit, to get all it produces (everything) and compel the boss to go to work.

The only hope of doing away with industrial depressions is to do away with their causes. To this end the workers must get busy at once and build up the one big union of their class that will be able to resist the evil tendencies of capitalism at every turn and finally generate power enough to overthrow the system altogether.

The I. W. W. points the way. Join it and get in line.

FROM ITALY.

Florence, Italy, Sept. 1.
Solidarity—
I congratulate you on the 4th—Tenth Edition of Solidarity. Get out soon editions about other industries.

Fraternally,
ODON POR.

The industrial organization of the working class is the only means by which the workers can fight their everyday battles for more of the good things of life and by which they will eventually compel the parasite boss to get off their backs.

BY WAY OF COMMENT

The English unions are reported to be very much excited over a court decision denying them the right to levy assessments for political purposes. It is well they should be; for a union should be in a position to do with its powers as its interests apparently dictate. But, isn't the agitation a rather timely one, in so far as English parliamentarism is concerned? It serves to cover up the recently exposed impotency of the latter; and to give it a new lease of life.

The report of the Treasury officials regarding the improved financial outlook, as compared with that of three months ago, will not prove inspiring to the hundreds of men now being laid off all over the country. To them the amount of finances in the possession of their masters is simply a demonstration of their own wretched poverty. Nevertheless, it may mean the turning of the capitalist tide. Let us hope so, for, contrary to popular belief, working class revolt is mostly fire during "prosperous" and favorable industrial times.

Our fellow workers in the National Textile Industrial Union are to be congratulated on the holding of their third annual convention. Though confronted by an unusual depression, they went forth undaunted to marshal once more the textile workers in battle array against the present vicious capitalist system. It is such grit as this, displayed amid untoward circumstances, that will finally secure for the workman the full product of his toil; and industrial democracy.

Edward McDonald has done the American working class an invaluable service in writing one of the first strictly industrial union pamphlets. His "The Farm Laborer and the City Worker" is an admirable piece of work. Simple in diction and argument, it is nevertheless thoroughly scientific in spirit and fact. The average workman can grasp its scope and significance with ease. Illustrated with three cartoons, embellished in good typographical style, and enriched with a short outline of an Agricultural Workers' National Union by W. E. Trautmann, the pamphlet is one worth purchasing. Send in orders to Solidarity Literature Bureau, and gladden thereby the hearts of the printers who have so ably seconded the good work of Edward McDonald.

We said, by way of comment, some weeks ago, when describing the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union as a manufacturers' organization, "there are others." In a subsequent issue we verified our position by citing the Actors' Protective Union, which helps managers to impose wage reductions. Now we want to add the Amalgamated Association, which is undercutting the wage scale of the Sons of Vulcan, to the advantage of the steel corporations employing its members. Farley's strikebreakers ought to go on a strike against these organizations; they are scabbing on Farley and his pets. He bosses have to pay Farley and his crew good coin of the realm for their services; but the A. F. of L. organizations do the job for nothing. There will be more of them coming. Watch for them.

THE COMMENTATOR.

Boom the Steel Issue

Number 43, October 8, of Solidarity, will be devoted to the steel industry. We already have some good material for that issue, and are on the track of more. Among other features will be a section of a map showing the Pittsburgh district within a radius of 100 miles from New Castle with the possessions and divisions of the U. S. Steel Corporation. It will be accompanied by an explanatory article of great value to the industrial union organizer. We also have already in our possession several good articles dealing with conditions in the steel industry. We want to make this issue a hummer, and to that end we are going to urge every local union to order a big bundle, and every reader of Solidarity to send in at least one sub this very week. We need the money to make the present to meet the pressing necessities. And the workers need the paper.

So get busy everywhere, and rush in the subs and bundle orders. One dollar per year; bundles, one cent a copy in any quantity. DO IT NOW!

The craft union may still serve the particular interest of small groups of "scabcrats" of labor, but even that is no longer certain. One big union is needed by all.

Talks to the Slaves

By a Womring Rebel.
Did you ever notice the look of despair without hope some workmen (slaves) wear on their faces. They ought to be ashamed to look a burro in the face.

Some slaves imagine the I. W. W. advocates dynamite. It would require a stronger explosive than dynamite to wake some of them up. Some have been dead so long they are afraid to pass in front of the undertaker or near the bonafide and are only going about to save burial expenses. Needless to say they would not join the Union.

Some long faced, starved out, pauperized slave told me the other day that only the second coming of Christ could save the workmen. Wouldn't that kill you? Who will be Christ, anyway? I heard someone say that he died 2,000 years ago, and yet they can't leave him alone. Poor fellow, he must have been a union man.

"La Voix du Peuple," official journal of the French Confederation of Labor, reports 164 strikes during the month of June in France, two-thirds of which were either successful or partially so. The average length of the strikes was 2 and one-half days. It don't take the French Syndicalists very long to show the boss where he is at, neither do they believe in endless strikes which only succeed in demoralizing and pauperizing themselves and their fellow workers. Quick and direct action is what tells.

The French journal, "Les Temps Nouveaux," brought to us the horrible murder of Aernould a young soldier in the disciplinarian battalions of Algeria (North French Africa) by his officers. The murder according to the testimony of his comrades was one of the most horrible ever committed: it makes one's blood freeze with horror to read the horrible details. Men who have served in those battalions and have survived, tell stories of tortures inflicted upon them and their comrades by their superiors that would shame an Apache Indian of the most cruel type. It appears that the practice of torturing those unfortunates has been going on for years with the sanction of the French government. The officers of those battalions are devoid of all common human feeling, and have instead the blood thirst of a tiger with the cynicism of a hyena. Needless to say their victims are of the working class. When will we long suffering proletarian end it all?

I have heard pauperized slaves say the I. W. W. was too radical. Hell, it is not half radical enough. I bet those fellows don't know enough to get out of the rain.

HOW TO JOIN THE I. W. W.

Any wage worker, wishing to become a member of the Industrial Workers of the World, may proceed in the following manner:

1. If you live in a locality where there is a union of your industry or a mixed (recruiting) union already in existence, apply to the secretary of that local union. We will furnish you with an application blank containing the Program of the I. W. W. Constitution and the two questions which each candidate for admission must answer in the affirmative. The questions are as follows:

"Do you agree to abide by the constitution and regulations of this organization?"
"Will you diligently study its principles and make yourself acquainted with its purposes?"
The initiation fee is fixed by the Local Union, but cannot be more than \$5.00 in any instance, and is usually \$1.00 or less. The monthly dues cannot exceed \$1.00 and are in most locals from 35 to 50 cents.
2. If there is no Local Union of the I. W. W. in your vicinity, you may become a Member-at-Large by making application to the General Secretary, whose address is given below. You will be required to answer affirmatively the two above questions, and pay an initiation fee of \$2.00. The monthly dues are \$1.00 for Members-at-Large.

3. Better still, write to the General Secretary for a Charter Application Blank. Get no less than TWENTY signatures thereon, of bonafide wage workers in any one industry (for a Local Industrial Union) or in several industries (for a Local Recruiting or mixed Union) and send the charter application with the names to the General Secretary, with the \$10.00 charter fee. Signatures, conditions and instructions will then be sent you, and you can proceed to organize the local.

The Local Recruiting or mixed Union is for propaganda purposes and to get recruits for bonafide Industrial Unions. According to the I. W. W. Constitution, as soon as 30 workers of any one industry are found in a Mixed Local, these 30 must form a Local Union of their own industry.
Join the I. W. W. Do it now.
The address of the General Secretary of the I. W. W. is VINCENT ST. JOHN, 518 Cambridge Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

LABOR DAY IN GLOBE

Once Radical Mining Camp Now in Hands of Conservatives and Politicians.

Four years ago, on May 1, the editor of Solidarity was in Globe, Arizona, a speaker at the May Day celebration held in that city. It was a great occasion. The radicals were in control of the camp at that time, and Globe Miners' Union, W. F. M., almost to a man, TOOK a holiday without the consent of their bosses. Eleven hundred members of No. 60 were in the parade, together with all other labor organizations in the city. J. W. W. and A. F. of L. united for the occasion. Industrial unionism was the theme of the speakers, and there was no mincing of words. Practically every person in Globe was present to listen. Employers, business men and mounted police were astounded.

At that time Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone were in the Idaho jail awaiting trial, and the fighting element were in the ascendancy in the W. F. M. Globe was ranked as one of the best and most aggressive camps in the jurisdiction of that union. But it was like an oasis in a desert of unorganized workers, and has since surrendered to outside conservative influences, as indeed the W. F. M. appears to have done generally.

The following clipping from one of Globe's daily papers, tells the story of degeneracy, as shown on the occasion of a Labor Day celebration held in that city Sept. 5:

"The parade started from the Arizona Eastern station at ten o'clock, and passed northward on Broad street between thousands of spectators. At Benker's Garden the column doubled on its line of march and moved southward to Dreamland and disbanded to listen to the speakers.

"The marchers numbered about 1,500 men, besides several little tots who marched with their fathers as mascots.

"It was led by mounted police, followed by city and county officials in automobiles, preceding the city fire department. The Globe city band, led by Marshal M. H. Page and Sheriff J. H. Thompson, was followed by the following line of march:

"Miami Miners' Union, about strong.

"Miami local of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron workers, increasing the Miami delegation to about 300."

"Miami Local 617, I. L. B.
"Globe Miners' Union, about 400 in number, preceded by a large float containing a machine drill and windlass hoist.
"Electrical Workers with float containing engine and dynamo in action.
"Blacksmiths.
"Barbers' Union.
"Magicians' Union.
"Globe Bartenders' Union.
"Engineers' Union.
"Painters' Union.
"Typographical Union.
"Carpenters' Union, with float containing machinery, from which carpenters on the float built a house as they passed through the streets.

"The rear guard of the parade consisted of a squad of little fellows who marched with a banner inscribed with the words: 'Newsboy's Union.'"
Commenting on this "safe, sane and conservative" demonstration, a fellow worker writes to Solidarity from Globe:
"This event took place in what was at one time considered a radical union camp, and where the company's stool pigeons were discarded to the Searap pool. But I am sorry to say that in the past two years Globe has become the hotbed of pure and simple unionism of the Moyer, O'Neill and Mahoney type."
"Think of it, fellow workers! A parade headed by mounted gun men and the Citizen's Alliance in autos, preceded by the president of Globe Miners' Union No. 60 as marshal, assisted by Chief Gun Man J. H. Thompson, the fellow who was so badly wounded by the firing of a banner Day that he caused our parade to be stopped and two of its members to be arrested."

So it goes. But the revolutionary wave that swept over Globe four years ago has not disappeared. It has moved on to other places and has gathered size and momentum as the years have flown. It will yet

subvert the web of conservatives and politicians. According to Kipling's poetical dictum, the East and the West are going to meet, and when they do, wage union capitalism and all its supporters.

Order St. John's leaflet, "Political Parties and the I. W. W." It is an eye-opener. Price 30 cents a hundred; \$1.50 a thousand. Box 622, New Castle, Pa.

OF THE COAL MINER

The Half Has Never Yet Been Told.

By Observer.

One might wonder what connection there is between the pluck-me store and the check-off. Now the check-off is the outcome of an agreement between the operators and the fakirs, whereby the operators become the collectors of the miners' dues. The dues to the union are held out of the miners' wages and remitted direct to the craft union—or its representative. This scheme sets as a drag-net to bring in the money, and is the only means that has, in many localities, saved the miners' union from total extinction.

One result of this scheme of blackmail is that many men are thereby taxed to sustain the craft union who regard its basic principles and inconsistent practices with contempt. They are only nominal members of the union, seldom, if ever, attend its meetings, despite its ignorant and crooked leaders, and submit to the imposition of the check-off because they cannot help themselves.

And nothing could more thoroughly demonstrate the total absence of the true spirit of unionism within the craft "union" than this same check-off. Here, then, is a craft "union," whose principles, practices and tactics have become so illogical, inconsistent, so agreeable to the operators' purposes; that, from the miners' point of view, it has lost all attractiveness, cohesive force, or benefit to the miners, as has been shown by the fact of robberies and abuses set forth in this write up.

And in passing, to sum up this part in the history of the U. M. W. of A., it is only one more illustration in the concrete, that the craft union must inevitably, in the development of its career, degenerate, abandon the principles and practices of true unionism, and finally become extinct or conspire with the capitalist to retain the fakir's job.

The Spirit of Revolt Personified.

By reason of the many villainous robberies and other scandalous abuses, that have always plagued the lives of the miners they are most persistent strikers the world has ever known. Their history proves conclusively that the more the workers are robbed and oppressed the more certainly they will revolt. Oppression of the workers does by no means subdue them; they may sullenly submit for the moment, but the inevitable final result is always the strike with its enormous and irreparable losses to both sides. And in passing, I wish to remark for the benefit of the craft unionist, imbued with his idiotic idea, that "the interests of capital and labor are identical." So long as the present industrial system based upon wage slavery endures, just so long will oppressions multiply, to be met by feeble craft strikes ending in so-called "Arbitrations" (mantraps) humiliating compromises, sell-outs, or outright defeats and surrenders. Again succeeded by the same old train of robberies and abuses intensified, against which the craft union is powerless to wage successful war; and finally the craft union only exists at all by some villainous bargain like the check-off.

About 30 years ago the graft of the pluck-me store was neither worse nor better than it is now. However, it suited the purposes of certain politicians to make a little political capital out of the pluck-me store. Accordingly they were seized with spasms of righteous indignation and proceeded to pass a law in the Pennsylvania Legislature banishing pluck-me stores from the State. All good enough for a little while. But the operators wept scalding tears over the loss of one of their means of robbery. But, in Ohio and other bituminous fields the pluck-me continued to flourish in all its glory, being an additional aggravation to the Pennsylvania operators.

Three years later came a strike of the Pennsylvania miners in the bituminous field. At the same time the union was in a state of decline, and it was up to the craft union fakirs to get busy. After a good deal of the usual turmoil and controversy peculiar to strikes the operators and the fakirs got together as thick as thieves. About this time Mark Hanna began to speak of the fakirs as "My labor lieutenants," and simultaneously the operators discovered that they could control the miners better in the union than out of it. And it was control they were after. Here, then, was a splendid chance for the operators and the fakirs to swap favors. The operators missed the extortion profits of the pluck-me store, and the fakirs missed the dues which the miners would not pay. Finally, after many "conferences," the strike was settled on this basis: First, an

eight-hour day; second, the operators agreed to collect the check-off if the fakirs would agree to "Ohio conditions." Now, Pennsylvania conditions were the same as Ohio conditions, with the single exception of the infamous pluck-me stores. And so, with the connivance of the fakirs, the pluck-me was again forced upon the miners of Pennsylvania. As for the State law, the operators sidestepped the law by forming "trading companies" and "mercantile companies," "supply companies," etc.; but the same men are in all of them.

Here, then, is the connection between these twin villainies—the check-off and the pluck-me store. Each one exists because of the other. Each one is the outcome of as villainous a piece of bargaining as any bunch of craft union Judases ever conceived.

So, then, the three results of all this "arbitration" are: First, the re-establishment of the pluck-me with the connivance of the fakirs; second, the establishment of the check-off with the connivance of the operators; and, third, the "control" of the miners by the operators with the connivance of both.

All of all this shady history is but a part of the same old story of craft unionism, and for years the U. M. W. of A. only exists within Western Pennsylvania upon the sufferance of the operators, and by reason of the "control" of the organization that the operators openly stated they could get through the U. M. W. of A.

Previous to the establishment of the check-off system the fakirs' policy during strikes was altogether different. Strikes were more frequent, and we heard nothing about "arbitration" and "conciliation boards," both of which spell "knockout drops." To be sure there were "compromises," "sell-outs, treachery and grafting. But it was done by individuals in an unsystematic manner and without the color of "legality." Now the "compromises," "sell-outs and various other devices are all lumped together and wormed through under the high-sounding title of "arbitration." As for graft, it is systematically legalized and otherwise sanctified by the check-off.

And these are the much boasted of conditions that obtain in the "union" mines of Western Pennsylvania. I do not think that in all the history of American industry there has ever been the systematic robberies, the abhorrent conditions, the shameless outrages ever perpetrated against any other part of the working class. Summing it all up, the stores, the doctored scales, the pluck-me screens, the industrious docking boss, the mean shacks, the check-off, the crooked connivances of "labor leaders" (so-called), whom Mark Hanna and others of his ilk have owned, and down body, soul and breeches. All these things spell a slavery that makes the condition of the black chattel slave appear pleasant, by contrast.

I have been in the miners' camps when there was two inches of snow on the ground. Yet I saw the children going outdoors in their naked feet. They had no shoes to wear; their feet were swollen, blue, and in great cracks of raw flesh from the cold. I have been in miners' shacks where the only fire was made with coal that had fallen off the cars, and that the miners had carried a mile and a half on their backs, and not in an entire winter were they able to buy a pound of coal. I have seen miners go to work on an empty stomach; not a crumb in the house to eat, or if there was, it was reserved for the children; that father went into the mine carrying with him his dinner pail but water. Perhaps anywhere from 8 a. m. until 3 p. m. he would get a car to fill; it would be weighed and credited to him on the company's books. Then, and not until then, the wife could get some food sold to her at 60 per cent profit. After all of which the miner would get a mighty slim meal out of it.

No, of the miner, the half has never been told. Neither can language describe the endless chain of their wrongs. And all that I have here set down has occurred under the jurisdiction of the craft union. Many, and the principal ones, of these wrongs are still in evidence, and through the mutual connivance of the operators and the "labor lieutenants," they have become permanently fixed upon the lives of the unfortunate miners.

As for the craft union, it has accepted these conditions a finality. Does nothing about them. Does not expect to do anything about them. Neither can it. The craft union means the dividing of the workers into squads and corporals' guards, so that they can be easily licked. And never was such a fool policy more thoroughly damned than by the tragic his-

tory of the miners of Pennsylvania. And against this condition there remains but one remedy. And that is the formation of one big union on class lines.

The next chapter on this subject will show that the Irwin-Westmoreland miners stand to gain through the craft union.

(To be Continued.)

WALL STREET SURVEY

By JOHN D.

Wall street is in the dumps at present due in a great measure to the fact that the business of the railroad and industrial corporations has shown a falling off of from 25 to 35 per cent, as compared with the high levels early in the year. Bankers and brokers are discharging clerks at an alarming rate, one house last week letting out 40 clerks out of a total of 60 employes, and wages have been reduced anywhere from \$5 to \$15 weekly, and the end is not yet in sight.

The past two years have been the worst that the financial center of the country has yet gone through, and it will not surprise me if there are a number of failures between now and January 1 next, so rotten is the situation.

Automobile concerns have started to cut down production at an amazing rate. The General Motors Co. last week notified its agents that during 1911 the whole output would be 18,000 cars, as compared with 34,000 cars during 1910. This is a Morgan combination, and its business has been so bad that Sears, Roebuck & Co., of Chicago, were able to buy from them 1,000 cars recently at a figure said to be \$25 below actual cost of production. This is quite serious in its effect on the financial situation, since it means that the middle class have, too, felt the pinch of the high cost of food, etc., and have been forced to curtail at an alarming rate, in order to make the dollar buy actual wants.

The Standard Oil Co. admits that during July and August consumption declined from 15 to 18 per cent, as compared with the same months last year.

Then again, the Corn Products Co., which controls the glucose business of the United States, and which is controlled by the Oil Trust, admits a drop of 25 per cent during August, as against the same month 1909.

The United States Steel Corporation a year ago was operating 96 per cent of its furnace capacity. To-day it is down to 70 per cent, and the earnings have fallen below those prevailing during 1906 and 1907, when industrial conditions were very bad in the trade.

This slump in the steel business is all the more grave, when the production and deliveries of financial steel are taken into consideration. Present prices are much lower than they were in 1906 or 1907, due to the continued introduction of labor saving devices, etc.

About January 1 last the blast furnaces of the country were producing at the rate of 390,000,000 tons of pig iron a year, comparing with 24,000,000 tons at the present time. This is equal to a decline of 30 per cent. Quotations for pig iron at this time have reached the year's lowest figures.

Copper has also felt the depression, and trade authorities record a falling off averaging 15 per cent during July and August. The same ratio applies to the business now being transacted by the smelting and refining companies operating on copper ores.

The General Electric and Westinghouse companies report that a let-up in orders is at present in sight, as far as their business is concerned, and the incomes of these corporations are bound to be reduced within the next fortnight, unless a revival ensues in the meantime.

Gasoline and raw rubber have been affected by the reaction in the automobile trade and report a heavy falling off in business.

Railroad equipment companies have been hit hard as a result of the failure of railroads to enter the market as purchasers of steel and other equipment. The equipment companies are among the heaviest purchasers of steel in the country and the falling off in the demand for locomotives and cars will soon cut down the income of the various steel concerns.

As an illustration of just how poor business these companies is at present, equipment companies report that in the past two weeks the total of orders for equipment of all the railroads in the country has aggregated but ten locomotives and 2,800 freight cars. The engines ordered are all of small type and will be used for switching purposes.

Even the grocery business in New York City has felt the business depression to

I. W. W. PREAMBLE.

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 the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trades unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, 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 conditions can be changed and the interest 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 an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wages for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for the every-day struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

Knowing, therefore, that such an organization is absolutely necessary for our emancipation we unite under the following constitution.

INDUSTRIAL WORKER

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such an extent that a house whose name I cannot divulge states that since 1907 they have lost net between \$25,000 and \$50,000 yearly as compared with previous years.

Wall street advances as a reason for the falling off in business that consumers, on account of the high cost of living, are unable to buy life's necessities to an extent which compare unfavorably with other years, and their purchases are of a hand-to-mouth character, which has a reflex in the lessened demand for freight cars at the moment.

Financiers generally look for and predict a hard winter for the working class, unless a drastic change takes place immediately, and nothing of that kind is in sight, they state.

Earnings of United States Railroads.

Poor's Manual of Railroads for 1910 (43rd annual number) is issued. It is devoted exclusively to statements of the railroads and street railways, the statements of industrial corporations having been incorporated in a new work, "Poor's Manual of Industries," 1 of 4,000 pages, published last May.

The total mileage of steam railroads on December 31, 1909 was 237,356 miles, as against 232,046 miles on December 31, 1908; showing an increase of 6,310 miles. Gross earnings for 1909 were \$2,515,314,763 as against \$2,407,019,810 in 1908; showing an increase of \$108,294,953

or 4.41 per cent. The net earnings for 1909 were \$652,153,280 as against \$717,802,167, in 1908; showing an increase of \$134,551,113 or 18.72 per cent.

The capital stock was \$8,050,680,963 as against \$7,641,914,586; showing an increase of \$388,767,377 or 5.09 per cent.

The funded debt was \$9,118,103,813 as against \$8,788,518,045; showing an increase of \$329,585,768 or 3.75 per cent.

The revenue per ton was 0.757 cent as against 0.707 per cent in 1908.

The revenue per passenger mile was 1.954 cents as against 1.964 cents in 1908.

STIRTAN'S DATES

- Buffalo, N. Y., Sept. 25.
- Dunkirk, N. Y., Sept. 24.
- Erie, Pa., Sept. 25-26.
- Cleveland, O., Sept. 27.
- Detroit, Mich., Sept. 28-30.
- Pontiac, Mich., Sept. 30.
- Ann Arbor, Mich., Oct. 1.
- Indian, Mich., Oct. 1.
- Grand Rapids, Mich., Oct. 3 to 9.
- Harbor Springs and vicinity, Oct. 10, 11 and 12.
- Boyer City, Mich., Oct. 13, 14 and 15.
- Harbor Springs, Mich., Oct. 16.
- Chicago, Ill., Oct. 17.

Join the I. W. W.

The North Eastern Strike

How the English Railway Workers Surprised their Masters and Leaders.

(From the Industrialist, London, England.)
The spirit of unrest is once again entering the breasts of the railway men, that spirit of dissatisfaction which a few years ago was diverted into safe channels by a statute more on the part of a wily Welsh lawyer, assisted by men who were nominally the railway men's leaders, but actually their betrayers.

These channels, once believed to be deep and straight, were soon discovered to be shallow and crooked and full of dangerous shoals upon which the men's ships were continually being wrecked. These channels are named compromise, arbitration and agreements, and the men have found to their cost what it means to enter them.

The recent strike on the North-Eastern Railway was but a little of that effervescent spirit of discontent overflowing a little quickly some might say, nevertheless a sure indication of the bubbling below which has not yet come to a head.

To those who have not troubled to follow the progress, or rather retrogression of the now famous Railway Conciliation Boards, the strike burst with rather startling suddenness and for no intelligible reason, but to us Industrialists it demonstrated nothing but what must be the outcome of the present working of the Arbitration Boards and the existing condition of things as a whole. Whatever else it was, it was a splendid object lesson to the working class upon the advantage of spontaneous action against the employers, over sectional bickering and long drawn-out conferences and discussions as to what action should be taken, if any at all. The swiftness of the action, and the rapidity with which the strike began to develop, knocked the employers, as it were, "all of a heap," and they were at their wits ends to know what to do. Passenger and goods traffic was completely disorganized or suspended, and trade in the districts round the affected area was partially, if not wholly, paralyzed. Steamers in the docks were laid up through lack of coal, ironworks were closed, and, generally speaking, from the employers' point of view, to things were assuming a very serious aspect.

It is not our intention to give a detailed account of the strike, for the tale, garbled and otherwise, has been told a number of times, and almost everybody must be acquainted with it by this time; but to give a general summary, and draw our conclusions therefrom.

It appeared at one time as if the strike was going to assume national proportions, for all over the country meetings of all-workmen were being held as to whether they should shelve the conciliation scheme overboard, and come out in support of their fellow workers on strike. Westward to Carlisle, and southward as far as York the movement spread, and the general opinion was that we were in for something big; when, to its eternal degradation, Trade Unionism—in its most obsolete and reactionary form—began to gain the ascendancy. Two labor M. P.'s, Walter Hudson and J. H. Thomas, were sent to the scene of the strike, to endeavor to persuade the men to return to work and discuss their grievances later with their employers, and Williams, the general secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, declared the strike to be illegal. These efforts were not wholly successful, for the men refused to return to work without some sort of an agreement being come to—but it was the beginning of the end. Brought up in the old school of craft unionism, the men allowed themselves to be enticed back to work without the vital joint being conceded. The back of what at first appeared to be a sound strike was broken.

In the meeting that was held to decide whether work should be resumed, Walter Hudson executed a rather artificial manoeuvre. Himself being refused a hearing, he called upon a man named Scott, who worked in the same yard as shunter Goodchild, to speak; "a very moderate man," he was described by the capitalist daily press—evidently a reactionary trade unionist! This man, as Hudson must have known, had considerable influence with the men, and it was mainly due to him that the balance was turned on the side of returning to work, and a motion was carried to go back to work on the terms offered by the company. The action of Williams, in declaring the strike to be illegal, was positively disgusting. For a man, the leader of the men's union, to declare a strike which he knew to be perfectly justifiable, and being aware of the state of affairs that

obtained on the North-Eastern system (and, for that matter, any other) to be illegal, no words of condemnation are too strong. It was dastardly! We can make a fairly shrewd guess in assuming that one reason for his action was that his "high and mightiness" had been ignored by the men. Other reasons we may infer, but cannot state for want of evidence; but it looks very much as if he is going to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor, R. Bell. A good thing for the employers if the men allow themselves to be influenced by him. Let us hope they will learn wisdom in time.

We come now to the attitude of the capitalist daily press toward the strikers. To read a leading article that appeared in the Daily Telegraph the morning after the strike terminated makes one shudder. Every word of invective, calumny and slander that the mind of a man could conjure up was hurled at the heads of the men who had been on strike. They were anything and everything but decent men. It would, perhaps, not be inappropriate to give a few phrases used, just to illustrate the hatred of the employing class towards the North-Eastern men, and the manner in which the strike was carried out:

"An astonishing outrage upon the spirit of good citizenship." "A piece of wicked and criminal folly, which in any civilized country ought to be crushed without compunction." "An abuse as gross and barbarous as private war in the Middle Ages." "The huge outrage of the thing is that this was done by the men without consulting their leaders, without holding a properly representative meeting, without taking a ballot, without giving public notice such as might have reduced to a minimum the measureless inconvenience caused to travelers and business firms, not to speak of the dead loss inflicted upon the owners of perishable goods."

"The men had torn up in a moment a recently treyed peace, shattered without notice the working organization of a great railway, trampled all public and private interests under foot, and behaved not only with passionate unreason, but with a moral callousness hardly distinguishable from treachery."

It is impossible to conceive of a more vicious and vindictive summary of the case than this article. I would like to give the whole of it, but lack of space forbids. All these outpourings of rage and execration become a few thousand men, who had been led into a cul de sac, had dared to turn and attempt to fight their way out. Their hands went up in pious horror because the men had had the audacity to cease work till a little of the load of oppression under which they were crushed was removed. They nearly fainted at the thought of workers going on strike without the merit or demerits of the case—thereby frittering away any possible chance of success—or consulting their responsible leaders. At the risk of still more disturbing their equanimity, let us add that this will be the manner in which all strikes will be carried out in the near future, or as soon as the workers embrace Industrial Unionism.

Relative to a statement that the strike was not paid last week, this is true, but the treasurer was on hand yesterday with the money, but owing to the absence from the city of the secretary payment was deferred until later.

1017 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford, Mass.
Fellow Worker:
Appended is the list of contributions from locals and friends to the striking Slasher Tenders of No. 157. Will you kindly publish the same in your next issue and tender the contributors our thanks.

Local 431, St. Louis	\$ 1.00
Local 118, St. Louis	10 00
175, Seattle, Wash.	12 00
178, Seattle, Wash.	10 00
85, Br. 1, Chicago	10 00
85, Br. 2, par Mrs. T. Meyer	5 00
85, Br. 1, Chicago	10 00
178, San Francisco	5 00
86, Fresno, Cal.	5 25
67, Canton, N. C.	5 00
68, Duluth, Minn.	11 65
Gen. Exp. Com. Spokane, W. W. Dixon	17 50
40, Minnison, Mont.	18 00
Per Vincent St. John, O. K. Freese	\$140. C.
11, Philadelphia	2 00
518, Woonsocket, R. I.	20 00
185, Phoenix, Ariz.	7 00
425, Philadelphia	5 00
Local 6, Chicago	2 00
64, J. S. Clemons	5 00
29, Chicago	2 00
20, col. at entertain ment	11 08
178, Oakland, Cal.	16 00
100, Los Angeles, Cal.	5 20
600, Chicago	5 75
Gen. Exp. Com. Los Angeles	4 00
141, Portland, Ore.	6 00
San Diego, Cal.	3 00
Vincent St. John, W. Francis Scott's	5 00
Bluff, Neb.	5 00
105, Anasandora, Mont.	10 00
187, Minneapolis, Minn.	6 00
Total	\$ 258 98

WM. YATES, Sec. - Lab.

WORLD OF LABOR

Continued From Page One.
George Falls, the prosecutor.

According to information given out from the headquarters of the United Mine Workers of America, President James McCrea, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, is to be asked to act as arbitrator of the Irwin field coal strike. It is said that McCrea is to be asked to meet President Lewis, of the United Mine Workers, to consult on the matter.

The Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor, representing 3,400 locals, has endorsed the coal miners' strike in the Irwin field. Letters are being sent to each local asking that the members contribute liberally to the miners' aid.

Organizers Thomas Llewellyn, Nicholas Burke and Martin Menolo of the United Mine Workers of America were relieved from duty in the Seranton district by President Lewis. There is no national organizer in that district now. The other eight were relieved from duty several weeks ago.

Notice has been posted at the Kathryn colliery, an individual operation, near Trevoort, Pa., that, beginning Monday, the 19th, the plant will work full time until further notice. This is the first colliery to be out on full time in the Shamokin region for some months.

The production of the Pittsburgh Coal Company during August totaled 1,900,000 tons of bituminous coal, the largest production for any month in the company's history, and it is stated that the September tonnage will equal that of August.

NEW BEDFORD STRIKE OFF

Slasher Tenders Return to Work After Six Weeks of Battle.

The strike of slasher tenders in the textile mills of New Bedford, Mass., involving many I. W. W. members of Local 157, was declared off on Sept. 4. The below statement of the ending of the strike is from the New Bedford "Morning Mercury" of Sept. 5:

"The strike of the slasher tenders was declared off yesterday. The men have been on strike for six weeks, and the manufacturers, as a body would not make any concessions to the strikers. Individually the strikers report that some of the mill men have offered the slasher tenders an advance of one and two dollars a week to return to work. Several of the men went to work, the main part of the strikers stuck together very well, about 30 securing work out of town. The men saw that the non-union slasher tenders were doing them a good deal of harm, and rather than disrupt the union, it was voted at a largely attended meeting of the union in Phipps' Hall yesterday morning to return to work."

The strikers do not anticipate much trouble in securing work, as at the best the men that the mills are using as slasher tenders are inexperienced and the idea prevails that the mills will be glad to get the old men back. Relative to a statement that the strike was not paid last week, this is true,

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LABOR ABROAD

The candy workers of Paris are out on a strike. Nearly all girls. They are waging a militant class conscious struggle against union pay and overwork, and for the right to organize.

The drivers in Paris threaten a general strike if the Eno traffic system is continued. The men declare the system is useless and absurd.

Spanish dispatches state that another general strike will be attempted, despite the failure of the two previous ones. At this distance, the general strike in Spain appears to be continuous and unflagging.

A strike in the Welsh coal mines was voted at Cardiff by delegates to the miners' conference, but before it can be operative it will be submitted to a vote of the 200,000 miners. It is practically certain that the miners will uphold the delegates.

The trade union congress in Sheffield, representing 1,750,000 workers, has taken steps to inquire into the practicability of a proposal that the workers in the whole of the country should be compelled under one supreme control.

The votes of nearly 2,000,000 English laborers are raised in a demand for the repeal of the Osborne decision, by which labor unions are forbidden to levy taxes for the support of the representatives in Parliament.

The question was raised in the Sheffield Labor Congress, and by a vote of 1,700,000

to 15,000, which included protest, the decision was denounced and all unions in Great Britain were urged to bring every pressure to bear upon the government for the repeal of the law.

According to Vienna dispatches, a campaign of "passive resistance," the Austrian equivalent of a strike, went into effect throughout the Southern Railroad system at midnight on Sept. 15, in consequence of a wage dispute. The men did not quit work, but, on the contrary, are following the exact letter of the rules and regulation of the antiquated charters of the lines, with the result of delaying traffic so that by afternoon the system was almost tied up.

Prospects of an early settlement of the bolshemakers' lockout and the Lancashire cotton strike were nullified by the refusal of the cotton workers to treat with the operators and the promise of financial support for the bolshemakers throughout England. A mass meeting of unionists was held on Sunday.

TEXTILE SITUATION

Curtailed is decreasing. Fall River reports less curtailment for week ending Sept. 17 than for any week since May. New Orleans reports cotton market conditions that will lessen organized curtailment.

Meanwhile agents of the Canadian Pacific Railroad are inducing hundreds of idle New England textile workers to migrate to farms along its route. The exodus is going on continuously. The South is in the same boat. From Wesson, Miss., comes reports of an exodus there, owing to the shut-down of mills.

An inspection of the factories in Texas secretly conducted by the State Labor Commissioner's department, shows 50 mills and cotton mills, mostly cotton mills, are working many children under 12 and 14 years of age, contrary to law.

PROTECTING SCABS

A. F. L. Chief of Police in Trenton Responds to Call of Master to Aid in Breaking Strike.

(Special to Solidarity.)
Trenton, N. J., Sept. 15.
The molders of the Malleable Iron Co. have been on strike for the last three weeks for an increase of wages amounting to 10 per cent for piece work and 25 cents per day for day work. The machinists are working, as is usually the case with the A. F. of L.

The strikers have a picket near the shop, and some riots have taken place. Policemen are on the job. The Trenton Evening Times of Sept. 8 published the following: "More police are likely." The finance committee of Common Council has promised to take some action tonight on the request of Police Commissioner Hutchings on behalf of the police board for an increased appropriation to permit the employment of more men in the department.

Complaints for more policemen by Commissioner Hutchings was published in the same paper when the laborers were on a strike in Mott's plant, and policemen were there to protect scabs.

Now, this Hutchings is the National Vice President of the Brotherhood of Operative Potters, an organization that pays him \$1,400 a year to defend the interests of union men.

This, also, is the policy of the A. F. of L. O. M.

Tin Trade Reported Good.

The Pittsburgh Leader thus sums up the situation in the sheet and tin plate industry:

"With the resumption of operations at 13 mills of the American Sheet and Tin Plate company that has been closed a year the tin plate business of the Pittsburgh district has received an added impetus that has put it in line for a much heavier output. The calling off of the strike of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers against the tin plate company was at first thought would not have any direct bearing upon the tin plate output, as the company expressed no intentions of opening any of the idle plants, but confined operations to those being operated all through the strike, but President Pargoy has ordered started eight mills of the Lehigh plant and five mills of the Etas-Standard, all at Martin's Ferry, O., and, incidentally, caused no little fustage in the tin market."

"The tin trade is more brisk than it has been for many months and the shading of prices has practically been stopped. Corrugated and black sheets are still being shaded, but it is said this is being done only on desirable business."

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NOTICE, PITTSBURGH DISTRICT.

Organizer Joseph J. Ector of the I. W. W. District Council, is available for speaking dates at present on any day of week except Tuesday, within a radius of one hundred miles from Pittsburgh. Terms on application. Organizations wishing to aid in the propaganda of industrial unionism, and who want a clear and vigorous exposition of the principles of the I. W. W., should write to Fellow Worker Ector. His address is 348 Olivia Street, McKees Rocks, Pa.

Read what "The Communist" say in this issue about the new pamphlet, "The Farm Laborer and the City Worker." Then get busy at once and write to the publishers for a quantity of this pamphlet. It will sell anywhere and everywhere among workers. Single copy, 5 cents; in quantities, 2-15 cents per copy postpaid.

Address Solidarity Literature Bureau, Box 622, New Castle, Pa.