



### Railroad Union in Italy Ready to Run the Railroads.

The following is part of an article by Odor-Pere of Florence, Italy, in the September number of "Whistle Magazine":  
By the many representations organization of European railroad men is the Union of Italian Railroaders. I had been lately in Milan at the headquarters of the union for the purpose of studying its history, organization and tendencies, and will try to give here the broad outlines of my investigation.  
After many sterile struggles for improving their material conditions, the various craft unions of the Italian railroaders came to the conclusion that only a strong and unified movement could be victorious. So they called a joint congress, in 1909, where, burying the petty craft jealousies, they laid down the lines of future united action.

collects the dues and distributes the official paper of the union amongst the members free of charge. The trade groups communicate on craft questions with the Commission of Categories. These latter are consultative technical bodies. They study all the problems that concern their members in their professional faculty and pass their reports for approval or rejection, through the C. E. C., to the General Committee. There are eight Commissions of Categories within the union, each representing a group of the various crafts. Every such commission is composed of its members and has a secretary; its expenses are covered by the union and it regulates its functions by inner rules. Controversies between these commissions and the C. E. C. are settled by the General Committee.  
A referendum is ordered in case of important and immediate action to be taken by the organization and for the election of the various officers. The five auditors examine the books of the union and control the work of the C. E. C. They have the right to call a congress. The three arbitrators settle the conflicts between the various bodies and their members.

trackmen and has increased instead, to an unbearable degree, the work of all the railroad men. The politicians in charge of technical duties have bought useless and antiquated material, causing besides a great financial loss and even greater confusion of the service, so that, at present, experts declare the State railroad system quite impossible to continue.  
On the other hand, the industrially organized railroad men have learned through continuous discussion of the details of the system, the principles of organizing, managing and combining its factors. Their constructive and analytic criticism, checked all of the flaws of the railroad administration, proved that the State is an economic institution, and demonstrated all the detail necessary to a successful reorganization of the railroads.  
They indicated that they must get back, above all, their whole liberty, and that in order to secure from the railroads greater benefits for the public they must become personally interested in the enterprise. They demonstrated that this can be attained only by leaving the State railroads to the union of the Italian railroad men. This measure would allow them to organize the administration with more liberty and with economic instead of bureaucratic criteria. They would be free of all political obligations.

(Continued on Page Four.)

### THE WORLD OF LABOR

Strikes are still numerous, despite the industrial depression.  
About 550 machinists employed by the Mitchell-Lewis Motor Car Co., at Racine, Wis., have struck. Differences in wages, caused by changes in machinery, it said to be the reason.  
One hundred and twenty taxicab drivers, more than three-fourths of the entire number in the city, are on strike in Pittsburgh for better commissions, following an increase in rates by their employers. The strike may also extend to private auto drivers.

demand for \$2 a week increase. There has long been a movement among them for a raise, from \$10 to \$12 per week. The League was notified that the increase is to go into effect on October 30. The leaders are affiliated with the International Printing Pressmen's Union of North America. Their present move has the sanction of that body.

More than 400 custom tailors, employed in 150 stores on the lower east side of New York City are on strike for better conditions, shorter hours and better pay. They are winning in most of the shops.

About 75,000 engineers, trainmen and conductors on all railroad systems in the West are going to open negotiations with railroad managers for an increase of 15 per cent. The demands cover all railroad systems west of and including main line of the Illinois Central. The Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and the Order of Railway Conductors are leading parties. While the engineers are acting alone, the firemen on the same roads last spring presented demands, which were settled by arbitration, giving the men an increase of about 10 per cent in wages.

Eighty-four machinists at Bosch Magneto Co., New York City, went on strike because the company attempted to force a 30 per cent reduction in wages and refused to consider grievances of the men. It is practically a tie-up, as all but seven men walked out. The striking machinists are members of the Brotherhood of Machinists.

### IN MINE CENTERS

The Younghusband and Ohio Coal Co., of Cleveland, the largest company in eastern Ohio coal fields, with five large mines at Barton, Martin's Ferry and Bellare, O., is tied up with strikes. Three mines at Barron are idle as result of the refusal of the 800 men to work while coal is dumped over the friction screens, reducing their earning power. The 300 Florence miners near Martin's Ferry want \$2.70 a day for trappers, while the company refuses more than \$2.40. The Delow mine has trouble affecting 250 men.

Replying to a request of Pittsburgh business men trying to secure a settlement of the Irwin miners strike, John M. Jamison, president of the Jamison Coal and Coke Co., and Congressman George F. Huff, president of the Keystone Coal & Coke Co., refused to arbitrate the strike. Replies from other operators have not been received. The miners' favor arbitration. President Lewis, of the M. W. of A., will look over the situation.

New York City is the scene of many small conflicts at present. The copper workers, jewelers, automobile lamp workers and other trades have lockouts and strikes on hand, affecting scores of workmen and involving such issues as the right to organize, union recognition, higher wages, better conditions, etc. The number of minor strikes all over the country is remarkably large.

An election will be held on the second Tuesday in December that in all respects will be far more interesting than the political election in November. On that date a vote will be cast by members of the United Mine Workers of America, that will more than equal the vote cast in Chicago during a general election. The union has a membership of 300,000, and this year a greater majority of them will vote, due to the opposition against Thomas L. Lewis, than at any other annual election in the history of the organization.

The Slate Workers' Union of Arvonis, Va., is on strike for more pay, abolition of the company doctor, and journeymen's wages for apprentices who have served the allotted time. The bosses are determined to smash the union, which has done much to destroy enslaving conditions heretofore. One hundred and thirty-eight men are involved, 112 of whom are native Virginians. The headquarters of the National Union of Slate Makers is located at Penn Argy, Pa., where any material help for the Arvonis strikers may be sent.

Representatives of the miners in the Southwest have ratified the agreement made with the operators. Work will now be resumed. According to the new agreement the miners receive an increase of 5.85 per cent on a day's work, dead work and yardage. The miners also obtain an advance of 3c a ton on shooting coal and an increase of 5c a ton on long wall work. The arbitration clause was settled by an agreement to leave future differences to W. L. A. Long, mine inspector of Kansas. The penalization clause provides that when the operators close a mine they shall pay the men \$1 a day during the time it is shut down, and the miners agree to pay the operators 50c a day for the same time they cause a mine to be closed.

The Master Builders' Association of New York declared a general lockout of Bricklayers' Union Locals Nos. 3, 4, 9, 21, 29, 34, 37, 40, 41 and 94, because these locals had violated their trade agreements by persisting to strike on buildings of F. T. Nesbit & Co. Some 5,000 bricklayers are directly affected by the lockout, and about 25,000 men in other trades are thrown out of work by it. Bricklayers' Locals Nos. 1, 7 and 32 are not affected, they having voted not to strike on Nesbit & Co. jobs. The Nesbit Co. troubles with the ten striking unions began a month ago, when the quarrel of two plasterers' locals in Newark, as to which would handle the Nesbit contracts, forced the company to declare for the "open-shop." The lockout was to go into effect Tuesday, Sept. 27th.

### THE STEEL INDUSTRY

The budding dismantlement of the Wilkes Rolling Mill Co., at Sharon, Pa., has started on full time, after an idleness of two and a half months.

The northside works of the Carnegie Steel Co. at Sharon, Pa., has closed for an indefinite period, owing to lack of orders.  
A number of the railroad shops in the Pittsburgh district soon will increase their quota of employes and begin the work of getting their rolling stock to first-class condition for the winter work. More hauls will be put on at both the Erie and Pennsylvania shops, the former in McKees

### I. W. W. ACTIVITY

San Diego Local Union No. 13's still at it, holding street meetings every night and growing fast.

Local Union No. 13 is going to get a lot of Spanish literature printed. Locals wishing the same should communicate with the secretary.

The Tacoma locals report taking in new members right along. Street meetings nearly every night and fair sales of literature are also reported. The mill workers and logboymen are in a deplorable economic condition.

From San Pedro, Cal., comes a demand for I. W. W. organizers. The Southern Pacific railroad is taking the lead in suing the shipping and transportation lines against labor. Wage reductions are threatened among the longshoremen, sailors, engineers, firemen, cooks and waiters and others.

The Spokane locals have the same good tale to tell; they are still booming. Secretary Dixon's weekly report shows 41 new members initiated, 200 due stamps and \$28.60 worth of literature sold.

Franklin Jordan, the local organizer for Spokane, is delivering a series of lectures on the following subjects: "Some Recent Revolutionary Literature," "Craft Autonomy a Fatal Weakness," "All Conquering Industrialism," and "Social Emancipation." That ought to prove an interesting series.

In Manhattan, Bozeman and Belgrade, Montana, good work is being done for the I. W. W. in an educational line. Much is expected therefrom.

Fellow Worker E. S. Nelson reports holding three good meetings at Red Granite, Wis., on Labor Day, one in Swedish and two in English. A local of the I. W. W. is well under way there. Those addressed are stone quarry workers and of various nationalities, including Italians, Scots and Scandinavians.

Fellow Worker W. Z. Eoster writes to (Continued on Third Page.)

### Structure of Railway Workers' Union

All skilled or unskilled male and female railroad workers, belonging to any category, may become members of the union.  
The functions of the union are divided amongst the following bodies: The Congress of delegates, the General Committee (C. E. C.), the Sections, the Groups, the Commissions of Categories, the Auditors, the Arbitrators and the members voting by referendum.

Decisions of the congress are obligatory on all members. The congress discusses the questions on the order of the day and passes judgment upon the yearly reports of the officials. Its delegates are elected by referendum vote of the membership. The General Committee is the deliberative body of the union; it is composed of five members from the C. E. C. and the secretaries of the Commissions of Categories. Its chief duty is to examine national, accepted or proposed laws that refer to railroads or railroadmen; it studies the rules of the service and the conditions of the workers and publishes the results of its investigations in the official paper of the union. It further decides upon the reports of the commissions of the Categories and of the C. E. C.

The C. E. C. is composed of fifteen members, elected by referendum. It reports the desires of the individual members and of the sections and prepares the annual financial report and the report on the activity of the union; it edits and publishes the official paper of the union, organizes the propaganda and the movements for the defense of the acquired rights and for the conquering of other rights. It executes the decisions of the Congress and the General Committee and those passed by referendum vote of the rank and file. It coordinates the functions of the Sections and Groups and transmits all special, technical and craft questions to the Commission of Categories; it keeps in touch with the national and international labor organizations and, finally, attends to all work necessary for the advancement of the union.

Every locality, with at least 150 members, constitutes a Section. The Sections handle internal affairs affecting their members and the propositions which they desire to submit to the C. E. C. or other bodies of the union. They execute the orders of the C. E. C. and attend to the local propaganda. Their functions are regulated by internal rules. Their expenses of administration and propaganda are paid by the union. The members of each Section divide into Trade Groups. Each group elects its chief, who receives the requests for admission to the union,

That the problem of industrially organizing the railroad men was successfully solved in Italy is attested by the fact, that this organization, conscious of its collective efficiency and power, has set for itself a revolutionary scope. "The Railroads for the Railroad Men."  
This revolutionary ideal was inspired not only by the socialist ideal predominant amongst the Italian workers, but also by the actual conditions of the railroad system. The State which took over the railroads from the private corporations in 1905, at a tremendous cost (craft), in order to give better and cheaper service, has proved its utter incapacity for managing the railroads. The technical incompetency and deficiency of the bureaucratic administration called to run the enterprise has demoralized the whole passenger and freight traffic and caused a growing deficit in the treasury of the State. While the State has created thousands of new securities and highly paid offices, it has utterly neglected the technical part of the system. For instance, it failed to increase the number of

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SOLIDARITY

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

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INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD General Headquarters—518 Cambridge Building, Chicago, Illinois.

GENERAL OFFICERS: Vincent St. John, General Sec'y-Treas; W. R. Trautman, General Organizer

GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD: J. J. Ezzor, Chas. Scutlock, C. H. Axelson, Francis Miller, George Speed.

NOTICE

Owing to the necessity of Fellow Worker McCarty's securing employment out of town, the business affairs of Solidarity will be conducted for the time being by Fellow Worker Frank Morris, in the capacity of assistant manager.

FRENCH LABOR METHODS.

The Western Railway (L'Ouest) is a state-owned institution of France. It was unloaded onto the government of that country by private capitalists after they had allowed it to run down and wear out. In the process of running down and wearing out many employees were killed and maimed in its service. It is now owned by the government, whose unparliamentary employees threaten to close down the road along with others, by means of a general strike and, if necessary, starve the city of Paris in order to gain their demands. These demands include the improvement and re-equipment of the Western railway and its rolling stock.

An employe of the road has written and circulated a pamphlet, which cost him his job, but which expresses the sentiment of his fellow workers. He says: "The body of resolute comrades, who know best the wheels of the service, will hold up trains and will strike with a sure hand a blow in the right place, and for the nonce, render the rolling stock of the railway useless. To those who beseech us not to starve Paris, who tell us it would be immoral to commit willful destruction, we will reply that we have had enough of the promises upon which you have fed us."

This idea of "starving Paris" is based upon the belief that every worker having to do with the food supply of the city would act in concert with the railway men. It means that the working class of France is organized with sufficient numbers and spirit to paralyze the industries of the country and city. And that they will not hesitate to make the attempt.

Our American craft union philistine with a capitalist-loving mind, will hold up his hands in horror at this proposed act of the French railway workers, and at their utter indifference to the interests of the "public." He will join in the wall of the capitalist editors who will draw lurid pictures of starvation and misery—of babes crying for milk and bread which union drivers refuse to deliver; of workmen tramping the streets; of business demoralized.

Isn't it really awful that workmen should be so hardened against "public welfare" as to strike against an employer who cooly allows them to be killed and injured daily on a "bum" railroad whose roadbed and rolling stock are worn out, and who only feeds them on "promises to fix 'em" which are never fulfilled? And especially when that employer is the gov-

ernment of France? Workingmen should show more respect for "law, order and their government!" (shakes)

But alas! all that are in "French labor methods," but a practical application of the very old maxim "Everything is fair in war." These French workmen understand that they are engaged in war with a resourceful enemy, and that only through organization, united action and the tactics that go with solidarity, can they hope to win. And those tactics have been tried by them in the past. They have learned by experience to "strike with a sure hand" when the enemy is least prepared for the blow. And they have learned, too, that ALL employers—private or public—are alike enemies of the working class.

In other words, these railway workers of France view their action as a movement of the working class against the employing class. They propose to "starve the city of Paris" with the aid of the other workers in that city. They know the workers will not starve in the few days the strike may last. They know the inconvenience and the loss will be on the side of the employers and the business interests. The workers will have a few days rest; the employers and cockroach business men will lose some millions of francs in profits. Hence the wisdom and sureness of their proposed move.

These tactics, which have been named "French labor methods" are by no means native to that country. They are a part of the general tactics called "direct action" which has been made use of in different forms in every capitalist country. As the working class organizes industrially, these methods will become general and effective throughout the world.

A KERNEL OF WHEAT.

The September number of the "Typographical Journal" justifies the famous saying of one of Shakespeare's characters, who describes his friend's conversation as "like a kernel of wheat in a bushel of chaff." But unlike the case in "The Merchant of Venice," the "kernel of wheat" in the Typographical Journal is "worth the search." It reads as follows:

"GOOD UNION MEN?"

"One of the incidents of the Philadelphia carmen's strike, the strike which spread so splendidly (even though ineffectively) to other trades, was the standing pat of the printers. In a sense, the printers were not to blame, as they were tied up by an agreement, but the union men and women of other crafts were not altogether unjustified in their bitter criticism of the printersmen.

"However, it is not the criticism that should alarm us so much as the praise and commendation we receive. The Journal reprinted some of it, by the way. The printers were characterized (almost without the stigmatism) as the only sane, level headed trade unionists in the country. They were assailed, by the very papers which ignore or misrepresent nearly every strike for decent working conditions and living wages in the building, transportation, clothing and other industries, of the deep regard in which the capitalist class holds the members of the typographical union. For why?"

"Because, forsooth, union printers never allow themselves to be induced by 'labor fakirs' and 'agitators' to join in sympathetic strikes. The printers are safe, sane and conservative.

"I wonder how many union printers possess ginger enough to feel ashamed of themselves when they read that stuff. What kind of unionists are we, anyway, to let ourselves be humbugged by such twaddle?"

"We call ourselves good union men, and I think it is safe to say that there is not a newspaper linotype operator in this town who has not, time and again, set 'Help Wanted' ads for some strike-breaking agency such as Waddell & Mahon, or ads calling for non-union shirtwaist makers during the recent great strike. And who of us has not seen ads, set up in union composing rooms, calling for non-union linotype operators?"

"Think of it! Union men cutting the copy sent in by a strike-breaking agency, union men at the keyboards setting it up, union men reading proof on it, union men on the stones—and so on, until the paper is on the street; union men doing everything to help that strike-breaking agency get professional seats who are to crowd union men out on the sidewalk for the state constabulary to bat up flies with."

"So we are 'good' union men. The great newspapers—whose policies are controlled by the very same capitalists who

are most active in smashing unionism in other cities—assure us that we are sane and level-headed.

"Why didn't they comment? We help procure seats to be taken by the unionists. We even help them to set up 'orderlies.' Then, consisting when we first need to strike, and want some moral or financial support from other unions, there will be no unions worthy the name that we will not appeal to. And then our beloved brothers, the employing printers and linotypers, will have us where they want us. They would not be human if they did not put the screws on us then."

"Sure, were 'good' union men—mighty good to the capitalist class. We are in grave danger of becoming the sort of union men all labor skimmers love—not because we are likely to desert our union, but because we help smash other unions. Then we have before us the cheerful prospect of being smashed ourselves at the sweet will of our employers. And that, mind you, as a reward for services rendered in the way of furthering this interesting work against other crafts."

"So, next time we have handed out to us some specious bit of soft solder about our sanity and conservatism, let us take thought and do a little a posteriori reasoning: 'Behold, we have been printed by a newspaper which is the organ, the tool, of a class as against the mass. What villainy have we committed against our brothers to merit this approval? Maybe we have helped get strikebreakers; maybe we have held aloof from other unionists who are striving for the sort of conditions we now enjoy. Whatever the reasons for our getting into the good graces of the journalistic representatives of the capitalist class, let us be sure those reasons do not, cannot, do us credit as union men."

"I have assumed, all through this screed, that our employers are our enemies. This, of course, is, in an economic sense. Most of us, I think, now disbelieve that hoary old notion that the interests of capital and labor are identical. An employer of labor, whether he hires butchers, or printers, or shirt-makers, or blacksmiths, pays only as much money as he must for the labor power he buys. The employe gets as much money as he can for the labor power he must sell. The two conflicting interests may come to more or less satisfactory terms, and avoid open warfare, but the antagonism is there, all the same, and no good man can deny it."

"Between, we must not lay the flattering unction to our souls that we are superior to union men and women in other industries, less skilled, perhaps. Their fights are our fights, and our fights are their fights. 'The good of one of us is the concern of all of us' is no less true of labor organizations than of the individuals who compose those organizations."

"Let us stop this evil business of conducting an auxiliary sew agency. We not only wrong our fellow workers in other crafts, but we put our own organized existence in jeopardy."

ARTHUR D. CHAPMAN, New York, N. Y."

COMBINATION OFFER.

"By arrangements with the publishers of the Industrial Worker that paper and Solidarity may now be had for \$1.50 a year. That is 75 cents a year for each paper. I. W. W. Local unions and supporters should now get to work in earnest and build up a good list of subs for both papers. Those in the west may send subs to the Industrial Worker and in the east to Solidarity and each paper will forward to the other. Push the combination."

NEXT WEEK! STEEL ISSUE!

We have so far received only a few additional bundle orders for the Special Steel Issue which appears next week. Unless orders come in meantime, it will hardly get in circulation the Textile edition of 9,000 copies.

We have some good copy for the coming number. There will be an appropriate cartoon by Williamson, and the way we mentioned last week, with an explanatory article showing the conquest of the metal industry by the steel trust; also wages and conditions in the mills.

A Manifesto by the Pittsburgh District Council of the I. W. W., calling upon the steel workers to organize industrially, will be a feature also. We hope to have something on Gary, and also on the profit sharing plan of the U. S. Steel Corporation. Order at once and give it a wide circulation. Bundles, one cent a copy.

Local 178, Oakland, Calif., would like to hear from F. J. Arnett, late financial secretary, and D. L. V. Please communicate with the recording secretary, C. J. Fels.

MY WAY OF COMMENT

Stumpers says of the A. F. of L.: "Our labor movement has no system to crush. It has nothing to return." Whereupon George G. ... ultra-revolutionary supporters proceed to prove the reverse. We prefer Gompers' blunt statement to their sophistical nonsense.

Gompers speaks truthfully also on "back to the farm." He declares a man can't give up a skilled trade to take up underpaid agricultural labor. But suppose the skilled trade gave up the man, by giving itself up to some machine! Suppose...!! What then? You two million farm laborers—a large proportion of whom are ex-mechanics—please don't all answer at once.

The revolt now manifesting itself in English labor circles recalls to mind "the practical Anglo-Saxon." This fragment of the imagination has long done the dirty work of the capitalist class. At every turn, the idealists have to contend against him. He is the sensible man who prefers small immediate results to remote millenniums; the model of concrete progress versus abstract delusions; the bulwark of human civilization against damnable foreign doctrine, and a lot of other slush too silly to swallow, in view of the steady decline in English working class conditions; a decline that for increase in unemployment, pauperism, destitution, prostitution, crime, insanity and racial physical deterioration is scarcely surpassed even in this country, with its predominant "practical Anglo-Saxon" traits and tendencies. "The practical Anglo-Saxon" is plainly a concealed fool, who is gulled by his own undoing. We used to swear by him, where now we swear at him. Is he continues to show some more spirit, we will forgive him and bestow upon him our former admiration. Here's wishing him a thorough re-awakening.

When he went abroad three months ago, Judge Elbert Gary, chairman Executive Board Steel Trust, was very optimistic regarding the industrial outlook. "He could see no clouds on the horizon. The steel trade was booming," etc. Now, his corporation is only running two-thirds of its capacity; hundreds of workmen are being laid off, and new business is not forthcoming in abundance. This condition of affairs denotes Gary to be a false prophet. Yet, it would be too much to expect otherwise from "our" "captains of industry." The present social situation shows them, once more, to be incompetent to manage the economic affairs of the nation; so that a lack of foresight on the part of the foremost one of them all, is neither unusual nor surprising. What is surprising, however, is the way that this mismanagement is tolerated in the name of all the leading virtues of mankind. It is time the humbug was exposed and "our" mismanagers given the grand bounce, once for all, by an industrially trained and organized working class. Speed the day!

Unusual events are transpiring abroad. In England the workers are in revolt against a form of unionism that enslaves instead of emancipating them. In Germany there is a harking back to ancient history that is in striking contrast to modern fact. While August Bebel is declaring in the Maderburg congress that Bismarck admitted that the present social policy of Germany was due to the Social Democrats, the Frankfurter "Zeitung," leading organ of the German financial and employing classes, declares that "government by capital" is slowly but surely establishing in Germany; while, at the same time, the Association of Metal Manufacturers announces its determination to lock out 440,000 metal workers for supporting the shipbuilding strikers. These latter facts indicate that Germany is entering on a new era, with a new social policy; a policy that is dictated not by the Social Democracy, but by the capitalist plutocracy, though by the power of concentrated capital, have become an extra-political force, in brief, a state within a state. Germany, in other words, is becoming Americanized; it is reaching the stage where the economic institutions dwarf and dominate the political institutions. We call attention to these facts because the American working class are continually being urged to aspire to the social policy which German capitalism is reaching in this country, with its 37th greater development, by any other than economic means—by industrial unionism.

THE COMMENTATOR. Join the I. W. W.

MADE TO ORDER RAZORS and Photo-Pocket Cutlery

Your own Photo. Lodge or other emblem, name and address or special designs lead in the handle of a high grade knife or razor. ... Write plain, legible, in black ink. Will send by reg. mail.

Grand Annual Outing AND PICNIC of the NEW YORK I. W. W. SUNDAY, OCT. 2, 1910. AT UNIONPORT PARK (Hoffman's) and CASINO, Corner Havermayr and Haviland Avenues, Unionport, New York. Prizes Games and Bowling. Grand Concert in Afternoon Ticket 10 Cts. At Gate 15 Cts. To reach the Park take Subway or El to 149th St. 3d Ave. Then take Westchester Ave. car past the door. Fare Five Cents.

NEGROS USE DIRECT ACTION.

The following clipping from the New Orleans Times-Democrat was sent us by a fellow worker in that city: "Monotony along the river front was disturbed for a time by a temporary strike among the 'rousters' of the steambost Wm. Garig. On account of a grievance against the second mate, Dave Chandler, they refused to hire for the trip to the Atchafalaya. Black and Ouachita rivers, and not until Chandler left the boat would they go aboard. The Garig was due to depart at noon, and although all was in readiness by that hour the blacks massed on the landing near foot of Canal street, and by refusing to work delayed the boat's leaving until 5 o'clock. Capt. W. B. Carter said arrangements were being made to secure Sam Cox as second mate. The Garig was well loaded, but carried few passengers. There were 36 roustabouts in the crew when the gang plank was finally raised."

"Commenting on the above, our correspondent writes: "It is worth noting for several reasons. It shows that direct action does more than petitioning. The men did not have to wait on the result of an election to obtain the goods. It shows in a small way what can be done on a large scale. It shows the capacity of the supposedly most ignorant of our class, the negroes, to understand and act in their own interests. Show me where any A. F. of L. union ever succeeded in firing the lackey of the boss, and in doing so refuse to recognize the authority of the boss. What in the world is going to happen? A bunch of 'ignorant roustabouts' telling the captain of a boat that he must get a new mate, and he does. I wonder what would happen if all the steel workers of the Federal Steel Company had as much sense as these negro roustabouts had regarding labor and capital. I am afraid some time that the capitalist will be told to get to hell off the job and go to work."

STIRTON'S DATES

- Ann Arbor, Mich., Oct. 1. Jackson, Mich., Oct. 2. Grand Rapids, Mich., Oct. 3 to 9. Harbor Springs and vicinity, Oct. 10, 11 and 12. Boyne City, Mich., Oct. 13, 14 and 15. Harbor Springs, Mich., Oct. 16. Chicago, Ill., Oct. 17.

Subscribe for Solidarity and push its circulation. Do it now.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM 313 IN SOUTH AFRICA

The "Industrial Workers' Union" is an organization recently formed in South Africa. It is a new link in the international chain that is forming the Industrial Workers of the World. From the "Voice of Labor" published at Johannesburg, we take the following, signed by "T. Glyn, General Secretary S. A. Industrial Workers' Union." It shows that they are getting on the right track down in the South end Hemisphere:

A speaker on the Market Square last Sunday week, defined what he conceived to be the difference between the socialism of the industrial unionist and other socialism. His explanation was good enough so far as it went, but as it does not altogether cover my views on the matter I should like to give them here.

Industrial unionism is, in my opinion, only another name for constructive socialism. I believe that even if every wage earner tomorrow, from the high salaried official down to the lowest paid wage slave was converted to a belief in socialist economics the wage labor system would still continue; if the workers were not systematically organized inside the industries so that order and method would prevail in the mode of production and distribution. And here rests the difference. The ordinary socialist aims solely at making converts to socialism, and there his work ends. Industrial unionism, on the other hand, aims not only at making the working class conscious of their common interests, but also at presenting and organizing them for intelligent co-operation when the time is ripe for the overthrow of the capitalist system. As the preamble to the Industrial Workers of the World truly says: "By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old."

But apart from the ultimate goal which all class conscious workers have in view, the industrial unionist believes in accomplishing something for his class here and now. To those socialists who raise the cry of "patience," I would state that economic relief, won by organization and agitation, can in no sense be described as palliating the present system.

Palliatives I look upon as those political sops from time to time thrown to the working class by bourgeois and parliaments in order to make them believe that the capitalist is the real benefactor, but which, experience has proved, leaves their pockets no better, if not worse, than it was before.

In this category may be placed all the "reforms" placed on the statute book with the aid and approval of so-called labor leaders by the first Triennial Parliament, including the Industrial Disputes Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act. The former is a piece of class legislation in the interests of the masters of the very first order; the latter, while it may be viewed with approval by a certain section of the workers who follow more or less dangerous occupations, does nothing of course to relieve the economic position of the working class as a whole.

Genuine industrial reforms, such as increased wage, better conditions of labor, etc., are the only reforms that directly affect the rent, interest and profit of capitalist society, and as the capitalist class have all the forces of the State at their disposal to protect the sanctity of this trinity, it follows that it is only by the workers organizing as a class that sufficient economic pressure can be brought to bear in order to make them disgorge. Appealing to their sense of justice will not make them do so, as the capitalist has no sense of justice where his pocket is concerned; windy labor politicians out for self-advertisement will not do so, as the capitalist can afford to ignore "oratory," and also pay for silence; the ballot box, in fact, cannot do so, as, whether the capitalist is boss in parliament or not he still rules on the economic field, and is therefore the wage slave's master.

Industrial organization, I repeat, and that in its strictly literal sense, is the only weapon by which he can be made to stand and deliver, and the working class will find that what was properly organized will mean threat to curtail profits by a well-aimed labor will have the desired effect.

"But," says the craft unionist, "that means strike; I have had enough of strikes." Probably too much. But in passing it may

be remarked that the average trade unionist when making this assertion seems to forget that for every time he has revolted against his masters he has scabbarded a dozen times on his class. However, this is a clear case of where the system, not the individual, must be held responsible.

The fault of the trade unions in this respect is that they refuse to recognize that the scab is none the less a scab though he may pay his monthly dues regularly and carry a banner taken in his breast pocket, if he goes to his work whilst his fellow workers employed in the same industry or in any industry directly related, are on strike for better conditions of labor.

The strike of the future will be as different from that with which we have been acquainted as cadet manoeuvres are from the battle of Waterloo. The strike of the near future will be the INDUSTRIAL strike, and if found to be ineffective, the national strike will no doubt be called to its aid. As time goes on the international strike will no doubt play a most important part in forging the final links in the golden chain of working class solidarity, and of driving the last nails into the coffin of the capitalist system.

I. W. W. ACTIVITY.

(Continued From Page One.)

The Industrial Worker from Paris as follows: "All over Paris on every wall are flaming syndicalist posters calling on the proletariat to unite, giving notices of strikes, lockouts, etc. Even I can detect that these posters are couched in real working class terms of revolt. The effect of these posters, thus widely advertising the activities and the fundamental principles of the revolutionary element of the working class, must be far reaching. It seems to me that the I. W. W. could adopt this method of publicity, much more extensively, to very good advantage, even if it necessitated the cutting down of the punk allowance of our too often ornamental speakers." The poster suggestion is a good one.

The I. W. W. is growing in the state of Washington. Skagit county is reported ripe for organization. Organizer Fred W. Heslowood is on the ground; new members are being added, and taking it all in all, there is a favorable awakening among the wage slaves of this section of the state.

Fellow Worker John Panzer is still laboring to make his efforts at organizing the lumbermen of Eureka, Cal., a success. He reports a strong undercurrent of discontent among the many thousands employed by the lumber companies in this district. A local union is needed and Panzer declares he will stick until one is organized.

Don't forget the bazaar and outing of the New York locals at Hofman's Park and Casino, Unionport, N. Y., on Sunday, October 2d. The Westchester avenue car, which can be boarded at the subway station One Hundred and Forty-ninth street and Third avenue, passes the park; fare five cents.

STIRTON IN NEW YORK.

Several correspondents in New York, Brooklyn, and Yonkers, have sent in good reports of A. M. Stirton's meetings in those cities. Hall meetings were not large, but showed much interest on the part of the workers in attendance. Big crowds were at some of the street meetings, where several hundred copies of Solidarity were sold and a number of subscriptions taken.

One correspondent writes that Stirton has broken ground and paved the way for other speakers on the Eastern Circuit, and hopes the I. W. W. will be able right away to follow up his good work. Stirton is now in Michigan again.

CHILD LABOR IN UTAH.

(Special to Solidarity.)

Provo, Utah, Sept. 20.

One does not have to go East to find child slavery. It is here in raw bunches. A man very often cannot get a job in the harvest fields, and the fruit is packed mostly by children who ought to be in school. If one gets a job it is at the same rate as that paid the child slaves. Mostly contract work. Apple picking pays three cents per box, or \$1.30 a day and board one's self.

There is a woollen mill here employing about 300 hands and some of them are mere school children, working 12-hour shifts. Wages range from \$1.30 to \$2.50 with an average of \$1.25. It takes from

two to three weeks to learn to run the machines, and this labor costs the boss nothing.

Jesse Knight owns the factory, and he is also a mine owner. His slave pen factory had only run a short time when the workers struck, but lost out, and went back to work.

I am not a speaker or I would try to start something. While most of the workers here are "home guards" I have hopes that quite a number of them will support an effort to start an I. W. W. local here. If my soap box comes some time, you will hear of two or three days. It won't cost you a cent for a place to eat and sleep. My address is

LEE PRATT,

463 N. 2 West, Provo, Utah.

VISION OF THE SLAVES

BY LOUIS DUCHEZ.

A year ago during the McKees Rocks strike we wrote in the International Socialist Review:

The writer predicts that within a few months severe mills and mines in this part of the country will be out on strike and in open revolt against the master class. The winning of the McKees Rocks strike will be the spark.

It is now seen how correct we were. And there was little of the gift of prophecy attached to that prediction. Any one in close touch with the spirit and tendencies among the workers could have done the same thing. In fact, there were hundreds of others who expressed the same view that the writer did. And the end is not yet!

It is not necessary to review the many strikes tremendous significance that have taken place since that time. Why, the thought of the entire working class of America has changed because of these great strikes. Their psychological importance is incalculable.

We are now, just now, passing through one of those periods when the import of big facts in the social world begins to crystallize the thought of the social elements whose eyes are turned toward the future, whose backs are turned upon the past, and who begin to feel a new power germinating within them.

As I read the accounts of the Irwin coal miners' strike I am more and more impressed with the fact that the slaves of capitalism have caught a new vision. A few months before that strike if some one had said that 20,000 men, mostly unorganized, would come out and put up such a battle as they have done, he would have been called a fool. He would have been told that all the fighting spirit had left them because of the hard work, the poor food and short pay.

But the facts upset all the philosophizing of those who are so prone to pilgrimage into the past for "proof" of their conservatism.

The other day thousands of these men who live the greater part of their lives in the dark, tramped for miles in their bare feet—yes, in their bare feet—to prove their SOLIDARITY.

There is much to criticize on the part of the United Mine Workers because of its division of the workers, which is so detrimental to the spirit and strength of the workers.

Through it all there is one thing that stands out clear as a crystal. The slaves of capitalism have received a vision. Without this vision there would not have been the mighty manifestation that there has been.

Capitalism, it is true, grinds down the workers, but it also stirs up that militant spirit, that tremendous class idealism, that revolutionary passion, which is the essence of the future.

All the strikes of the past few months have been but rehearsals of the Social Revolution. The rank and file is awakening mighty fast. Momentum is gathering. The spirit and intelligence is solidifying, crystallizing.

The individual worker is losing himself, his hope, his ideals, in the hope and the ideals of his class.

The germs of Social Consciousness are being prepared in the ground of working class solidarity. It is the Social Vision, grasping as it does the minds of the most militant and intelligent of the workers, that spurs the slothful ones, the less aspiring ones, on and on to more aggressive action.

What is needed now, more than anything else, in this country is a strong revolutionary union press to crystallize the spirit and assist in organizing the working class action which is everywhere manifesting itself.

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 fear 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 war. 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.

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ITY. The victory may not at once fall to the I. W. W. We may not get the credit for what we've done as soon as a temporary settlement has been made. But ultimately our own will come to us. As sure as the night follows the day—and sooner than many think—the Industrial Workers of the World will be known the world over as the dominating factor in American industrial and political life. Economic pressure, mass spirit, collective action, are furnishing us the material to work with. Let us embrace the opportunities presented to us. Indeed, the slaves of capitalism have caught a vision of their social and historical mission! The working class is making more progress today in a year than it did in a quarter of a century a half century ago. The future is ours.

Stirton in Buffalo. In our report of Stirton's meeting we have two surprises for you. First, only about 50 workers gathered despite the fact that it was advertised; so few showed early in the evening probably acted as setback. The second surprise is that the meeting, taking into consideration the number of those present—with the results obtained and comparing same with other meetings, was a success. The crowd wasn't there, but the spirit was. Six subscribers were secured for Solidarity.

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to deviate from the subject, I may have something to tell about Solidarnosc in a near issue of this paper; so watch for it. A. A. ZIELINSKI.
Subscribe for Solidarity.

TEXTILE CONVENTION

WORLD OF LABOR

Continued From Page One.

The third annual convention of the National Industrial Union of Textile Workers of the I. W. W. was held in Lawrence, Mass., September 4 and 5. Sixteen delegates were in attendance. In addition to these, three fraternal delegates from the French Federation of the I. W. W. textile locals, and one from the Clothing Workers of Providence, R. I., were seated with one vote each in the convention.

In the matter of enlarging the scope of the organization so as to include clothing workers, a clause was added to the constitution to "make it embrace 'local unions composed of wage workers employed in the making up and finishing of textile fabrics.'" A change in the constitution relating to "individual members" was changed to read "members-at-large," who are defined by "their actual wage workers employed in the textile industry, who, in isolated positions, desire to attach themselves to the National Industrial Union of Textile Workers until such time as a local of this organization shall be formed in their locality." The initiation fee for members-at-large was fixed at \$1.00 and dues \$4.00 per year, payable quarterly.

At the conclusion of the international affiliation, the following resolution was adopted:

"Whereas, The first convention of the National Industrial Union of Textile Workers put in effect a program of working affiliation with the International Federation of Textile Workers' associations, by adopting a resolution which ended as follows: 'Therefore, be it resolved, That our hope and desire to be represented at the I. W. W. International Convention of Textile Workers,' and this resolution was addressed to the congress of textile workers held in Vienna, Austria, (1908), and

"Whereas, The Executive Board of the National Industrial Union of Textile Workers has applied for affiliation with the International Federation of Textile Workers' associations;

Resolved, That this convention endorses the action of the Executive Board.

The foregoing resolution was referred to the Executive Board for transmission to the members of the International Committee.

A resolution was passed to advise all local unions to advise their local textile unions to strike benefits to read as follows:

"That strikers benefit by the aid accorded to the state of the treasury, local and national, and according to the needs of the members involved."

A resolution requesting locals to investigate and collect all information possible regarding the adulteration of textile fibers, a resolution calling upon the organization to carry on an active educational campaign against militarism, and another urging local unions to do their utmost to support the I. W. W. press, were adopted.

The Auditing committee reported all books correct.

A lengthy discussion took place on the question of language federations and the work done by the French Federation. The Executive Board was instructed to draw up a circular urging support for French organ, "L'Emancipation."

The convention acted upon the recommendation of the secretary regarding a permanent secretary and organizer, and left the details to be worked out by the Executive Board.

A motion was carried instructing the Executive Board to have special letters printed, covering the silk, woolen and cotton branches of the industry.

In the matter of fines imposed upon the workers by the bosses, the convention decided that "the only way to stop the fining abuse is to build up a strong industrial organization in the textile industry."

Nominees for National Secretary-Treasurer—William Yates, Ewald Koettgen and Adolph Lessig.

Nominees for the Executive Board were apportioned among the different subdivisions of the textile industry as follows:

Cotton—Vasco Pamplona, C. Vander-velde, Gustave Coppens, Tomlinson.

Wool—A. Detollenaere, T. Powers, Alphonse Debagne.

Silk—Paul Colditz, William Halsbach.

Ewald Koettgen, William Yates and A. Lessig were nominated as delegate to represent the N. I. U. at the next general convention of the I. W. W.

New Bedford was chosen as the place for the next convention.

Rocky, and the latter in the lower North Side district. Five hundred more workers will be employed.

It is announced that the Delaware & Hudson R. R. Co. is planning to build a road south, with a capacity of 30 engines, and shops at Carbondale, Pa., at a cost of \$850,000. When completed, the new works will employ 1,300 men, and all the repair work of the Penna. division will be done at that plant.

At the Sharon works of the American Sheet & Tube Co., there has been a decided falling off in orders for tinplate in the last three weeks. At present the company is rolling tinplate for stock. This plant has worked steadily and at full capacity for nearly two years. That a decrease in demand for tinplate comes at this time when the mills should be working full an ominous fall in orders from the east and west, is a big surprise.

At present the leading steel interest is opening up the market in the country, the largest number operated was 202, and this was the maximum until the middle of last week. Tinplate demand from regular all-year-round consumers is not as great as it was, because buyers realize it is no longer necessary to make contracts for far ahead.

The tinplate production of the American Sheet and Tin Plate Co. from Jan. 1 to date is only a few thousand tons below that in the corresponding period last year. The company has started one more plant at Martin's Ferry, O.

TEXTILE OUTLOOK

President Franklin W. Hobbs of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers speaking at the 10th International Convention of the association, says that "it is a slight improvement in both demand and price for some goods, and it will undoubtedly extend throughout the land."

An official of the American Woolen Co. (the woolen trust) is very optimistic. "So profitable is the company's exploitation of the woolen operatives that its securities are selling readily despite the somewhat confined business outlook."

The American Woolen Co. recently began operations at its various mills throughout Rhode Island and Connecticut which had been shut down for some time. The company also expects to begin operations in its new mill at Ayer, Mass., some time next month. This mill cost approximately \$4,000,000.

Certainty still continues in the South. One week's shut down in October is the heaviest in the South Carolina textile manufacturers' association says prices are below cost of production.

LABOR ABROAD

The miners' strike at Balko, Spain, which has been on for months, has been ended and work resumed.

Four hundred Parisian striking candy girls and dressmakers' helpers had a clash with the police on the Boulevard Sebastopol, that resulted in a dozen or more injured on both sides. The girls were dispersed, but not the plaudits of several thousand spectators.

Twelve thousand miners employed in the Cambrian colliery trust went on strike, forcing the temporary closing of the mines that supply practically all of the coal for the English navy.

Owing to the fact that the strike is in violation of orders of the miners' leaders, the Federation of Mine Owners is considering on the proposal to lock out 200,000 Welsh miners. The leaders favored the strike, but decided to leave its declaration to a vote of all the miners. The strikers

The Federation of Master Cotton Spinners met at Manchester, Eng., and decided on a general lockout on October 1, unless the Fern mill dispute at Oldham is settled before that date. In event of a lockout 150,000 operatives will be affected directly.

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Sept. 22nd cablegrams from Berlin state that the lockout on October 1 of 400,000 metal workers has been decided on by the Association of Metal Manufacturers, as a result of the workers' financial support of the shipbuilding strike. The bosses desire that to show their approval of the shipbuilders' attitude.

Sept. 22nd cablegrams from the leading German city state that "German capital is seriously menaced by strikes and lockouts. Unless these disputes can be ended within a few days, 700,000 workmen will be unemployed."

RAILROAD UNION IN ITALY.

(Continued From Page One.)

tion and could, therefore, suppress thousands of useless clerical jobs and increase the number of productive employes, securing thus a prompter, safer and cheaper service, while their duty would be to pay a certain rent for the railroads to the State, and to guarantee a regular service. The State would retain for itself, in some simple form, the right of supervising the administration of the railroad, without, however, directly interfering with the administration itself. The workers would draw a certain minimum wage, would participate in the net profits of the enterprise and subscribe the necessary cash for its running expenses.

By this system each employe would realize that the more conscientiously he applied his energies, the better would be his personal income. This state of things would

awake in employes the liveliest sense of responsibility and would, at the same time, give them liberty of initiative, which is the most important psychological factor of production.

While a few years ago Italian railroad men met from all sides with opposition, and their enslavement to the State was greeted by the majority of the nation with great rejoicing, today, in view of the fact that the State has not made good its special-ly because railroad men have proved their technical efficiency, moral seriousness and social consciousness; in short, because they proved responsible enough to be entrusted with the most important industry of a nation—today public opinion is mostly on their side. And even conservative economists of great fame, and experts in the matter like Vilfredo Pareto have publicly declared that the only possible practical solution of the situation is—inasmuch as private ownership of railroads is a veritable disaster—the giving up of the State, railroads to the co-operative enterprise of the organized railroad men, and that, with some sense and prudence this could be realized at a small risk and surely with no such financial loss as that menacing the country at present. And Mr. Ferraris, ex-Minister of Commerce, a universally recognized authority in the matter, went even so far as stating that not only railroads, but all State services including the postal and telegraph services, could be safely entrusted to the organized workers and employes of these services.

Through concentrated technical experience and discussion and reciprocal moral support, the Italian railroad men have formed a strong organization that, in addition to secondary problems, the Italian railroad men have created with the organization itself a force that logically drove them upon the road of practical, essentially economic,

revolutionary action. Thus the proletarian organization, arriving at the summit of its perfection, demonstrates its profound economic, nature, and social usefulness and proves itself capable to succeed the bourgeois private and state institutions of production and exchange. "The Railroads for the Railroad Men." This utopia of yesterday has become a practical, reliable demand.

SUGAR STRIKE

(Special to Solidarity.)

Tally clerks, weighers, drivers, longshoremen and boilers went on strike some time ago at the sugar houses in this vicinity. The boilers were sent back by an A. F. of L. organizer to draw the sugar from the vats at the start of the strike. Two men killed, strike lost, and a number of the active workers chased off the job.

At the time the strike started the men were advised to form craft unions, the tally clerks and weighers being ordered to join a local then in existence, but they refused to do so. Drivers belonged to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. A couple of weeks ago the latter called on the National office for help. One organizer showed up, promised to get a number of the laborers work the next morning, but failed to appear. He also told the clerks they were in the wrong local; that they should have joined the one in existence.

A vice president showed up; sent for the International Longshoremen's Association organizers in the field, heard what they had to say, took a train for Boston and back to Canada, with his home town. The result of his trip was a bill of \$200 expense, and the strikers getting sick, sore and tired, and going back to work.

The sugar workers belonged to the International Longshoremen's Association, an A. F. of L. concern. Longshoremen are badly in need of an up-to-date organization here, but it is very hard to get them together on account of race prejudice.

FIRST BLOOD FOR NEW LOCAL

Following is a copy of settlement of the first strike of Public Service Workers' Local 379, I. W. W., Providence, R. I.

Most of the members are engaged in window and office cleaning. After organizing the local some of the more active men were discharged. It was plainly discrimination, and after consulting with some of the active members of the other locals here, they decided to call a strike in the three most important concerns. The workers had the bosses on the hip, and it is the rush season, and as the workers responded with one or two exceptions, the employers started at once to dick for a settlement.

After being on strike less than a week the New England Window and House Cleaning Company sent its manager to the meeting of the local. When the strikers heard this their secretary called at the writer's house to have him attend the meeting. The manager had a lawyer to help out, but did not get much, as the workers were willing to do business with the boss, but nothing doing with the lawyer.

Public Service Workers' Local No. 379, I. W. W., Providence, R. I.

1. All workers employed on going out to return to their positions; no discrimination.

2. All receiving \$10 per week or under to get a 10 per cent increase.

3. All receiving over \$10 per week to get a 5 per cent increase.

4. None but members of the union to be employed.

5. The union to make this condition general in the trade if possible.

The other concerns, have since settled up. It is the intention of the majority of the local to go after more next season, in the shape of shorter hours and a standard scale.

F. MILLER, Providence, R. I.

NOTICE, PITTSBURGH DISTRICT.

Organizer Joseph J. Sator of the I. W. W. District Council, is available for speaking dates at present on any day of the week except Tuesday, within a radius of one hundred miles from Pittsburgh. Terms on application. Organizations wishing to send the thousands of industrial unionism, and who want a clear and vigorous exposition of the principles of the I. W. W., should write to Fellow Worker Editor. His address is 243 Olivia Street, McKees Rocks, Pa.

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Wages of Irwin Miners.

Despatches from Greensburg, Pa., Sept. 17, quote a prominent official of the miners' union there as giving out a statement regarding the wages that have been paid of the strike district. It is asserted that during the last ten years the wages of the miners have been reduced 50 per cent, while the cost of living has increased a like amount in the same period.

Instead of working by the ton, the miners in the Irwin field have been working by the wagon, which holds 3,000 pounds, and this, it is alleged, for half the wages paid in the Pittsburgh district.

The union official said:

"In 1904 the miners were paid 69 1/2c a wagon, and up till the first of this year we were working for 56c a wagon. At the beginning of this year it was said the miners were being advanced 10 per cent. We got an advance of 5 per cent on wagon, which is not quite 10 per cent, and with the advance the company introduced safety lamps and new explosives, and the supposed advance really amounted to a 15 per cent reduction. It was introduction of the safety lamps and new explosives that caused the revolt of the men, and the operators know this."

"In summing up the miners have suffered near 50 per cent of a reduction in wages, while groceries have risen almost 50 per cent in the same time. In the last 10 years wages of day workers have been reduced from \$2.75 to \$1.70 at the beginning of this year. Without going into details, there has been at the very least 50 per cent reduction of wages, while coal has been rising 30 per cent in the past ten years. In other parts of Pennsylvania the miners' wages have been advanced 90 per cent."

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