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ONE OF US

Such is Alexander Aldamas, Strike Picket, Whom New York Shipowners Want to Jail for Fifty Years.

By Frank C. Pease

"We know not whether laws be right, Or whether laws be wrong; All that we know who lie in jail, Is that the walls are strong."

If, at the time the above was written, the author had been through the struggles that the working class has so successfully waged during the past five years, its note of pessimism might not have been. Had he witnessed the release from prison walls of men whose chances of future freedom seemed so small, he might have realized that even stone walls and steel bars can not hold a prisoner in the face of a greater power. While it is true that the battles of capitalism ARE as strong as the perverse egotism of capitalist minded mechanics can build them, yet there is a greater strength and a greater power OUTSIDE these walls than there is in the walls themselves or in the things they symbolize.

There is a greater power than the power of capitalist laws. Capitalist laws are but the reflexes of past and present economic relationships between the master class and the working class. They are reacting to themselves. When an opposing power of the correct kind and degree is brought to bear on them they are as asphat. Beyond the courts is a power greater than there is in them. There is a greater power than that of police, militia, jailors or shop foremen. It is a power that is growing more conscious of itself with every passing struggle. It is a power that affects and will more and more affect every human relationship. Each year its scope will be broader, its expression more tangible and its effects more lasting.

This power is the aggressive solidarity of the working class on the industrial field. This power of the working class has shown that prison doors can be flung open, that capitalist courts can be defied, that capitalist police are not all powerful. It has ably demonstrated that the capitalist class can not wreck the success of defending members of the working class. This power has already created a history

RETURN OF THE CHILDREN

(Special to Solidarity.)

Little Falls, N. Y., Jan. 11.—The children of the textile workers, whose strike ended on the first of the year, returned today from Schenectady, where they have been taken care of by the socialists there. They were met at the station by the strikers in a body, including the fathers and mothers of the babes, and joyfully escorted over to the "South Side," where parents took charge of their respective children and bore them off in triumph to their homes. There was no organized demonstration because of a misunderstanding as to the exact hour the train would arrive. The police were out in force and found nothing to do. The children all looked happy and well-cared-for. They had evidently enjoyed their stay, telling of warm houses and plenty to eat and pointing proudly to their new clothes.

Most of the tots were found to be suffering from all sorts of minor ailments, due mostly to "undernourishment" (medical term for starvation) and skin diseases due to overcrowding in their tenement homes. Skilled doctors took them in hand at the instance of the Schenectady socialists and saw that they received needed treatment.

Two strikers were released from Onondaga penitentiary today after being in jail for 75 days on a charge of participating in the

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

In Oregon Baiting For Better Conditions Against the Unlaid Opposition

(Special to Solidarity.)

Eugene, Ore., Jan. 8.

It seems peculiar with what tenacity the average contractor of a railroad construction will fight any advancement which the common laborers may attempt to make. Generally speaking, these laborers, owing to their disorganized state, are forced to stand for the most abominable conditions imaginable. It is a waste of words for us to here enumerate the number of wrongs which these workers have been forced to stand for in the past—the high cost of poor board; the high charge for commissary, the fake hospital fees, the long hours, the low wages—all these things are familiar to every man who has eyes to see or ears to hear.

But there are men who do not know that there are men, good workmen, who are at present fighting against these conditions which obtained on the construction work of P. E. & E. R. building out of Portland and Eugene: To resume the course of this struggle from December 1 to the present would take more of your time and space than you would probably care to give. Suffice to say that we are certainly holding our own. The contractors are up in the air and the S. P. R. R. corporation has extended the time of these contractors for the completion of their contracts.

The trunk laying of the road has been forced to suspend operations because they are now right on the heels of the incompleting grade. The contractors themselves are going to Portland in search of men who are willing to sell themselves for a two dollar a day wage and aid in the defeat of this strike, but their success can be best illustrated by the following anecdote:

On Thursday last a Mr. Tudor, one of the contractors, losing faith in the ability of the employment agents to secure men, hid himself off to Portland. He secured the town all day long and secured 18 men (?) who seemed willing to go on the job. He gathered them together and filled their hides full of bullock hoose and their heads full of cocaine all day long. Finally train time arrived and they were put on. It being about six hours' ride from Portland to Junction City, when the precious bundle of humanity arrived there they were somewhat sobered up.

At Junction City the train was met by the pickets who are always on the job. Notwithstanding the appeals of the hinderer, contractor, paymaster and other lackies, they got just four snow-head skiners out of the bunch to go to work.

In the week before last, out of 120 men shipped, they secured just ten; which illustrates the persuasive powers of our pickets both in Portland and in Junction City, in fact the hard work of all the boys engaged in the struggle.

Since the beginning of this strike but two men have turned traitor to the cause, and right here we will let all of the fellow workers know who they are; Perry Goodwin, card No. 103,357, and Fred Manning, card No. 105,587. They have been expelled by order of Local No. 88. Manning has received a much needed dose of physical medicine at the hands of a fellow worker.

Flag and Standifer, the main contractors on this job, have tried to secure a compromise settlement of this strike, but we have maintained a solid front for our full demands.

This is a young local, having secured our charter Nov. 7, 1912. Over 185 paid up members are on the books at present, and we are taking them in at the rate of two a day. We are working in conjunction with Portland locals, maintaining a

(Continued on Page Four.)

LITTLE FALLS CASES

Must be Fought to a Finish Against a Court in a Brutally Hostile Community.

(Special to Solidarity.)

Little Falls, N. Y., Jan. 12.

The cases growing out of the textile strike here, which will probably come up in the county court at Herkimer some time this week, number exactly 15. The prisoners whom the authorities apparently most want to "get" is Filippo Bochino, against whom five different indictments have been returned, four of these being for assault in the first degree and one of participating in a riot. Bochino is a man of 27 years, well read and well informed, and a born fighter. He came here in the early days of the strike from Rochester, N. Y., as an Italian speaker and voluntary organizer. Since he has been in jail he has devoted much of his time to the study of English, which he could speak and understand only imperfectly before.

Benj. J. Legere's name appears in four indictments, three for assault and one for riot. Antonio Schietroma's case is the same. Four indictments also rest against Antonio Capasso, all for assault. Fred Hirsh, who is only 19 years old, must answer to two indictments, one for riot and one for "refusing to disperse from an assembly" charges, which were introduced by Sheriff Meun of Herkimer county, this being a public meeting in Clinton Park. Indicted on the same charges also are Orazio Morlando, Rocco Filomena, Carlo Furllo, Antonio Preta, Domenico Bianchi, Pietro Cornacchio and Robert A. Bakeman. All of the last named were members of the original strike committee, and that membership constituted their chief crime. Morlando must also answer to a separate charge of assaulting Chief of Police Long, who, after the attempt of the police to break up the "icket line on Oct. 30, got his brother and sought Morlando in the Phoenix mill whom they pulled into a corridor there and gave a terrible beating. The names of Louis Lesnicki, Robert A.

Bakeman, Harvey Simmons, socialist alderman, and Geo. E. Luna, socialist mayor of Schenectady, and Rosa DeGuerra, Fred Hirsh and John Leheny also figure in the charge of remaining in an unlawful assembly and insulting the sheriff. The only indictment for second degree assault is that of Samuel Myton, who is charged with slapping a policeman.

Women are not excepted. Helen Schloss, the young socialist nurse, who helped conduct the relief kitchen, is jointly charged with George H. Vaughan and Louis Lesnicki of "inciting to riot."

A Polish widow with a two-year-old child must also stand trial on two indictments, charging that she did wrongfully, wickedly and shamefully manhandle and assault a special officer, so-wit, John Kenney, a detective from the Central Agency of Albany. The guardian of law and order in Little Falls weighs 216 pounds to the Little Falls woman's 130. He was formerly in the U. S. army, retiring to become a cook and then a railroad "bull." He has been retired from active service on the Little Falls police force because he drew a revolver on a local man who accused him of making indecent remarks to his daughter.

Defending these prisoners is the huge task that confronts Lawyers Fred Moore of Los Angeles and Richard Harley of Little Falls, with the help of Lawyers Cooper and Barry, who will appear for the Schenectady defendants.

The working class must protest and raise money to fight these cases. Convictions will set dangerous precedents.

Send your protests to Governor William Sulzer, Albany, N. Y., and District Attorney William E. Farrell, Ironton, N. Y., and your money to the Little Falls Defense Committee, Box 455, Little Falls, N. Y.

"FRENCH SYNDICALISM"

For some months, in the socialist press, and in some capitalist magazines, the claim has been made that the C. G. T. of France was declining in numbers and influence. At the same, all sorts of contradictory statements have been made by politicians, regarding the French organization's forms, methods and tactics. In order to get at the exact facts, if possible, at the request of one of our readers, the editor of Solidarity wrote to Christian Cornelissen, editor of the "Bulletin International" of the syndicalist movement, in Paris, requesting an article on this subject. Our request was turned over to Felix Weisler, Leon Jouhaux, general secretary of the C. G. T., and we now have the manuscript of an address delivered at a conference in Brussels, Belgium, by Jouhaux, bearing the title, "French Syndicalism," and conveying the desired information. We have just received a translation of the same from Fellow Worker Weisler, of Balneville, O. It is positively the best thing on this subject yet appearing in America, and will be published first in installments in Solidarity in a later issue in pamphlet form. The address by Jouhaux deals with the origin, present membership, structural form, attitude toward political action, militarism, patriotism, etc., and the direct action tactics and goal of the C. G. T. It will dispel many illusions carefully fostered by the politicians. First installment will appear in No. 168 of Solidarity. Subscribe now so as not to miss an issue. We can not guarantee to furnish many back numbers.

A TERRIBLE LITTLE STRIKE

The victorious strike of the textile workers of Little Falls, N. Y., which came to an end on the first day of the new year, was comparatively small with respect to the number of people involved, but stands

almost unparalleled as regards the ferocity and bitterness which it evoked.

It was the strike of a body of men and women made desperate by hunger and misery and lasted 18 weeks. About 1,800 people took part in the original walkout, but these dwindled, because of the moving from town to many families and the finding of other jobs by strikers, until at one time less than 800 were left.

More than 75 arrests were made and at one time the number of strike prisoners in jail numbered 45, including one woman with a two-year-old child. The number of strikers kicked, beaten, clubbed or otherwise assaulted by special and regular policemen, but not arrested, of which there is record, were exactly 50—12 of whom were women. These were many more injured strikers who never reported the assaults made on them, but named their wounds in silence.

About a dozen men were sentenced to jail terms from 10 days to 90 days. Others were confined for several days and then released for no apparent reason. In one case three strikers were kept 31 days in jail without trial and then released with no explanation.

Eighteen men now remain in jail under charges varying from "inciting to riot" to "assault with intent to kill." They have already been punished by more than two months' confinement in a crowded jail and several of them have been additionally punished by policemen who beat them in the cells, while supposed to be under the protection of the law, and the blood came. A few of them were compelled to wear the shirts, stained with blood, which they wore on the day they were taken to jail. They must pay penalties, if convicted, as high as 10 years in the penitentiary.

In the free speech fight which made Little Falls notorious, speakers were arrested for quoting from the Constitution, the Declaration of Independence and the Bible and even for making signs on the hands.

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Each subscriber will find a number opposite his name on the wrapper enclosing Solidarity. For instance 159. That means that your sub expired last week, and you should renew. **160**
This is NUMBER

WILSON'S PREJUDICEMENT
Woodrow Wilson stood before a select crowd of leading business men in Chicago last Saturday, ostensibly to outline his "policy" as president of these United States (geographically speaking) towards them and the other elements of our population (economically and socially speaking). The Chicago "Examiner" of the 12th inst. reports Wilson's speech in detail. We quote in part from the Examiner's report:

Woodrow Wilson, president-elect, standing before the Commercial Club at New Castle last night in the Blackstone Hotel, invited those men representing billions in resources to join hands with him in conducting his administration. John later told them what was the matter with business methods in general and intimated some things which might happen if big business men did not begin to see things from the standpoint of the common people.

This first discussion of national issues since his election was in the nature of a warning to the business interests of the country. For the most part his warnings were taken with an air of uncertainty and possible dread by his auditors. "You must put the credit of this country on an equal basis, so that it will be open to all on the same terms," he told the bankers. "Do not think that I had to mind any indictment of our banking system. It has already been indicted and convicted."

As he said he looked into the face of James E. Foyen, president of the First National Bank, and smiled. It was almost a minute before the first sound of applause was heard. J. Ogden Armour, the Swifts, Harold E. McCormick, John J. Mitchell and the rest of the wealthiest of the bankers and bank directors of the West were waiting for the next broadside. And it was this:

"We must see that the business of the United States is set free from every form of monopoly." The silence was tense. I notice that you do not applaud that sentiment," suggested the next president. "That suggests my message," added Governor Wilson. "It is YOUR PART in the program. I am somewhat disappointed that you do not applaud, because UNLESS YOU FEEL THAT WAY THE THING IS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN except by direct means the way in which to bring anything about."

The president-elect pledged the business men that he considered it his highest aim to do away with all prejudices, especially the prejudices existing between those who have and those who have not.

Those who persist in ignoring the existence of an industrial organization of the masters more powerful than the political state, may attribute those remarks to per-

sonal weakness on the part of Wilson. But those who are acquainted with the social status of affairs in this country will thank "our" worthy president-elect for his announcement as to the working class. "Monopoly" of the economic resources on the part of a few capitalists constitutes the supreme governing power of the nation. In order to destroy that power and to restore the much-talked-of "free competition" (the ideal of the middle class), monopoly must be done away with, according to W. Wilson. At the same time, by a strange perversion of logic, Wilson is forced to admit that the only people to do away with monopoly are the monopolists themselves. He said further on this point, in his speech: "The business future of this country does not depend upon the government of the United States. It depends upon the business men of the United States. The government cannot breed a temper in men; the government cannot generate thought and purpose, and only the temper and the thought and the purpose of business men in America are going to determine what the future of business shall be." The thing which is done only under the whip of law, is done imperfectly, reluctantly, sometimes sullenly and NEVER SUCCESSFULLY.

In other words, as has been contended always by industrial unionists, "the law" of the political state is powerless to change the fundamentals of economic control, or to divert the course of economic evolution. Any attempt to "use the whip of the law" to do so can never be successful. THE POLITICAL STATE IS SUBORDINATE TO THE ECONOMIC CONTROL OF THE MASTER CLASS. In performing its alleged function of "preserving order" between different elements of the capitalist class, and of coercing the whole working class, the state must recognize its subordination to the interests of the "monopolists." Hence the predicament of our president-elect. Assailed by the middle class with its clamor against monopoly and the trusts, and noting the increasing menace of working class unrest, Wilson (entrusted with "preserving order" in the nation) appeals to the MONOPOLISTS TO THEMSELVES DO AWAY WITH MONOPOLY—the source of their own power. No wonder the monopolists failed to applaud such nonsense.

Still, "our" president-elect's language is the language of sincerity. He wishes to "preserve order" in a social vacuum of opposing economic interests. Wilson may not be "scholar" enough to know that that is impossible. He will find out from practical experience before his term expires. Whether Wilson's policy shall be coercion or conciliation, "monopolists" will be more firmly entrenched in the economic saddle four years hence than at present. And "monopolists" will control the political state, also, willy or nilly.

Why? Because the "monopolists" control the "bread basket" of the nation, and all the "requirements of civilized society" contained therein. In other words, they dominate the industrial life of the country, and must per force control its "politics." The middle class has no remedy for this state of affairs, except "governmental coercion" to force the trusts to dissolve. That is reactionary, and Wilson is right in saying that it cannot be successful. "Monopoly" represents a higher form of industrial development—based upon perfected machinery of production; and cannot give way to middle class supremacy—based upon less highly developed machinery.

The problem of "monopoly," then, can not be solved through "political control." It resolves itself into a question of ECONOMIC CONTROL. The "monopolists" have it; the middle class has irrevocably lost it. Who is to regain economic control for the people? Economic control means simply the control of the processes of production and exchange of wealth. That, in turn, resolves itself down to the question of CONTROLLING THE PRODUCERS OF WEALTH. The "monopolists" rule, socially, because they control the social production of wealth by the working class. They control the very whole situation; the "control" by the ruling class of the social labor power of the slaves in mill, mine, factory, railroad, and in all other industrial processes, together with the product flowing therefrom.

The working class alone has the key to the situation. Not through the "whip of state law" applied by "workers' representatives in Congress enabled," but by ORGANIZING THE SOCIAL LABOR POWER OF THE WORKING CLASS

TO BE CONTROLLED DIRECTLY FOR ITSELF in the processes of wealth production. The "monopolists" can not turn a wheel in a factory, or add a penny of wealth to their holdings without the consent of the working class. The working class consents thus because it is unorganized, and, therefore, at the mercy of the monopolists' control. Let the workers start conscientiously to organize industrially, and they at once begin laying the foundation of the new society within the shell of capitalism. The "monopolists" will find themselves attacked at their only vulnerable point. They will be forced to yield concessions to the workers in the form of more wages, a shorter workday, and other things that constitute portions of their social plunder heretofore wristed from the slaves in the industries. Through this process the working class will gain increased intelligence, class spirit and consciousness, and the necessary social training to enable it eventually to assume complete control of industry—in short, to gain COMPLETE ECONOMIC CONTROL, thereby abolishing "monopoly," and all the political paraphernalia attached to it. With the passing of economic control from the hands of the capitalists to those of the working class, will appear in complete form a CLASSLESS INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY, requiring no "political state" to attempt the impossible task of preserving order in a social volcano.

The I. W. W. is the only organization in America pointing the way out of the social predicament which President-elect Wilson confesses he finds himself in on the eve of his administration. We do not ask the "monopolists" to surrender their industrial control to working class. We appeal only to the working class to organize its One Big Union of all wage workers, for the purpose of seizing that economic power through that one big union of the workers. Our position is not that of a suppliant, but of a David going boldly forth to battle with a Goliath, and knowing that the weapons of our own choosing and which we have "proven," will be effective in laying low the giant.

WHERE EXTREMES DO NOT MEET

In a report of Spargo's lecture on "Syndicalism," in the New York Call of Dec. 7, he is made to say: "The old-fashioned pure and simple trade unionist and modern industrialist and syndicalist, all reach the same practical point. This is a case where extremes meet."

Spargo is wrong; this is NOT a case where extremes meet. In 27 years the old-fashioned pure and simple trade unionist did not increase wages in the textile industry. In nine weeks modern industrialism increased them \$15,000,000 annually by means of the Lawrence strike. How, then, if Spargo is right, do both of them reach "the same practical point"? Or is "the same practical point" reached when wages tend to decline under the other method, and go up under the one?

We might rest our analysis of Spargo's superfluous right here, but as he states, "The point about the extremes of craft unionism and syndicalism meeting is the one used frequently by so-called 'scientific' socialists, permit us to pursue it a little further, as follows:

The A. F. of L., or craft unionist, is at war with the I. W. W., or industrial unionist. The A. F. of L. opposes the I. W. W., scabs on it, and lines up with the reactionary forces of clericalism and capitalism against it. Where is "the meeting of extremes" here? Or is the collision resulting from opposing principles a "meeting of extremes"? Such it must be, if the sophistry of Spargo and the so-called "scientific" socialists is to be believed.

The fact of the matter is that craft unionism and industrial unionism are not extremes. Industrial unionism is a creature of industrial evolution. The latter has given rise to automatic machine production and the unskilled worker. The A. F. of L. is the unionism of the skilled worker, and is, as such, being relegated to the rear, and superseded by the new unionism. Now, this new unionism is precisely socialistic, in that, being the representative of the mass of the workers under modern industrial conditions, it strikes the CLASS note. Its cry is "class unionism vs. craft unionism." And it declares its aim to be not "a fair day's wage for a fair day's work," but the abolition of the wage system." District Attorney Atwill, in

the trial at Salem, showed that he understands this better than Spargo and his whole school of dunderheads, called "scientific" socialists. Read his terrific onslaught on the I. W. W., as representative of a new social order, and be convinced.

But, let us not digress! Let us pursue the matter a little further still. Lab'ring, as it does, for the abolition of the wages system, the I. W. W. takes an altogether different political attitude than the A. F. of L., showing again that these extremes do not meet. The A. F. of L. rewards the political "friends of labor." THE I. W. W. KNOWS NO POLITICAL FRIENDS. The I. W. W. declares political power is based on the economic power of labor, and declares that labor's only political friend is that power so organized as to dominate the capitalist state and overthrow it. In other words, the I. W. W. finds the political exercise of economic power in the acts of the industrially organized workers against the entire capitalist system, and not in the election of Democrats, Republicans or other alleged "friends of labor," pledged to maintain and support that system.

Spargo can point to millions of acts of political corruption on the part of the A. F. of L. But we defy him and his whole school of superficial sophists to point to one act of political corruption on the part of the I. W. W. "There's a reason," and a very profound economic one.

The politicians of all schools—including the Spargo school—hate the I. W. W. Its friends and disciples love it for the enemies it has made, and those enemies are intensely capitalist, every time.

Do the extremes of the A. F. of L. and I. W. W. meet? Not if fact is fact, and the writer can recognize a fact when he sees it.

JUSTUS BREBET.

THE CITY OF A DREAM.

Can we never reach that city?
Can we never see its gate?
Slaves and outcasts seeking pity
From the wealthy and the great.
Are the poor forever wretched?
Are we destined to our fate?
Have we raised the mighty temple
For the angels lonely tread?
That his voice should praise vengeance
Of his God upon our head,
God of sorrow—immolated,
Should we dare to strike for bread?
Have we woven silken fabrics
On the looms of soft disease?
Colored them with selfish blushes
On our child's innocent face—
Have we vowed a mighty vengeance
When no food its cries appease?
When emotions, scarce consistent
With our character of brute
Forced us to demand a penalty
With the masters of the loom.
To our beggary entreaties
Was their "Gillen answer" shot?
Did they murder child and woman
In their sneaking bourgeois way—
Hiring mercenary bloodhounds
To attack, and then to say
Their defenseless fellow workers
To perpetrate their away.

Are we doomed, condemned forever
To our lives of ceaseless pain?
Anguished, downcast, broken hearted
Are we powerless to fail?
Those who fatten off our bodies
Lords of city and of soil?
We, the makers, the creators
Of the richest and the rare,
Of the palace and the temple
Must we never make share
Straw and shelter with the oxen
In the oxen's stable barn?
But the ox is of the oxen
And it knows its heaviest load,
Nor will it take a harder burden
On its spacious back be stowed.
Though its master whip and threaten
Through its driver use the goad.
Shall we never be as subtle
As the beast we all despise?
Will our brains no longer function?
Have we still our hands and eyes?
Have we hopes, ideals, ideals?
If we have, let us arise.

Let us waken from our slumber
Armed with knowledge of the might
That the working class possesses,
When its members all unite.
In our huge and valiant army
Eager, thirsting for the fight.
We will summon all to duty
We will sound the tocsin bell
We'll thrust our sacred cry
Slay its guardian sentinel.
Hurl the iron-holding sugar
From the bastioned citadel,
Swing the gates ajar for entry
To the victims overcast
Bid each child of sorrow enter
To his heritage at last.
Once there "City of the Future"
JOSEPH O'CARROLL.

Organize into One Big Union and put a crimp in the pocketbook of the master class. You slaves can do that through the I. W. W., and get the goods for yourselves.

the trial at Salem, showed that he understands this better than Spargo and his whole school of dunderheads, called "scientific" socialists. Read his terrific onslaught on the I. W. W., as representative of a new social order, and be convinced.

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Are we doomed, condemned forever
To our lives of ceaseless pain?
Anguished, downcast, broken hearted
Are we powerless to fail?
Those who fatten off our bodies
Lords of city and of soil?
We, the makers, the creators
Of the richest and the rare,
Of the palace and the temple
Must we never make share
Straw and shelter with the oxen
In the oxen's stable barn?
But the ox is of the oxen
And it knows its heaviest load,
Nor will it take a harder burden
On its spacious back be stowed.
Though its master whip and threaten
Through its driver use the goad.
Shall we never be as subtle
As the beast we all despise?
Will our brains no longer function?
Have we still our hands and eyes?
Have we hopes, ideals, ideals?
If we have, let us arise.

Let us waken from our slumber
Armed with knowledge of the might
That the working class possesses,
When its members all unite.
In our huge and valiant army
Eager, thirsting for the fight.
We will summon all to duty
We will sound the tocsin bell
We'll thrust our sacred cry
Slay its guardian sentinel.
Hurl the iron-holding sugar
From the bastioned citadel,
Swing the gates ajar for entry
To the victims overcast
Bid each child of sorrow enter
To his heritage at last.
Once there "City of the Future"
JOSEPH O'CARROLL.

Organize into One Big Union and put a crimp in the pocketbook of the master class. You slaves can do that through the I. W. W., and get the goods for yourselves.

THE ECON

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