

Rush Funds To Paterson Strike! Delay is Dangerous! Get Busy

THE WONDERFUL PATERSON STRIKE

How They Have Driven To Desperation The Miners of Kanawha, Who Have Been Left To Fight Their Battle Alone

MINERS CULTURES
IN W. VIRGINIA

With the last sparks of constitutional freedom stamped out, bull-pens full of miners, jails crowded with editors and agitators and with her mountains infested with power-drunk mine guards and militiamen; West Virginia, rotten with reaction and respectability, presents a spectacle to the world that would make Nicholas of the knout green with envy. In no place in the United States are the various elements of the class struggle more glaringly prominent or more significant than in the greed polluted section of the land. The strike of the fighting coal miners of Kanawha County has called forth all the forces of organized oppression that can possibly be used against the workers—the armed hired thugs, the murderous militiamen, capitalist courts, the labor fakir, the drum-head court martial, the palavering preacher, the policeman, the scab, protected by armored train, and privately owned Gatling guns, and last of all the whorish pen-pusher for the prostituted press. West Virginia is a volcano of discontent and rebellion, with Kanawha County as a seething center. Sooner later the great eruption is bound to come. More than anything else, at present, the state needs a few I. W. W. scappers who know the game and can take care of themselves, to go down there and mix up in the rumpus. For when the big fight starts, with either be a stubborn, hopeless, wretched civil war or it will be a short, quick and tremendously useful fight in which the winning tactics of the I. W. W. will try the day.

All over the state miners have been, and are, herded in "company" towns, living in miserable "company" shacks and in many places, paid only with "company" paper script good only at the "company" "pluck-me" store. And these men must work longer hours for less pay than miners in any other state in the union. They have endured so much and are so desperate, that they are eager and anxious to get out from under the hideous nightmare they live in. They are kept docile and intimidated only by means of hiring plug-uglies and spies who are ever ready to crush out with force the first sign of rebellion manifesting itself.

West Virginia today, represents the perfect type of a perfected industrial despotism. Scarcely an element is required to make the picture complete. And it is a black picture of capitalist grimy rotten rye for one of its final convulsions. The great grime hills, covered with gnarled trees and black rocks, around which the smoke of the endless coke ovens is always coiling, the squalid mining towns, the hidden armies of half paid, half organized or unorganized slaves, toiling ceaselessly at their hateful tasks in the many sooty hell-holes on the hillsides—waiting and waiting until they will be able to strike and strike hard at the system that is crushing them. In West Virginia the stage is all set for a great industrial drama—maybe a tragedy, possibly a farce, perhaps one of the greatest and most inspiring victories that has yet occurred. At all events, one is safe in predicting that what has already happened is but the prelude to the play.

Thus far the workers have used but one or two rather inefficient weapons, but they have used them well. And they will use other weapons, the irresistible weapons of modern industrial warfare just as well, when they learn them. We already know what weapons and methods the "invisible" operators and their hellions will use. They have played out their hand and we know just what to expect and how to prepare for it. A few I. W. W. boys, backed up "Solidarity," the "Industrial Worker" and the "Lumber Jack" could do wonders by working a quiet, systematic way, in "wiseing up" the workers of West Virginia.

The U. M. W. of A. has displayed none of the strength of an industrial union of all of the weaklings of a craft union in the strike. If it were not so, the long-drawn-out struggle of over a year would have been won months ago, supported as it was, by the unbreakable solidarity of the rank and file of the miners. The sacred contract system spiked one of the greatest gains this organization has made against the bosses, the state-wide strike. The well paid and atrociously corrupt "leaders" laden with a yellow cargo of compromise, reform politics, obsolete fighting tactics and contracts, have done everything but help the cause of the strikers, who, finally become so disgruntled that they took to the hills with rifles in their hands, leaving the fakirs to confer with the enemy alone about an eagerly sought settlement. Then came the socialists telling the miners on strike to vote the socialist ticket. This the miners of Kanawha County did and carried practically the entire county. Some of the men elected were counted out, many were magnified by mine-guards into unresisting passivity, some became prosperous and "played the game" but all were made practically helpless to assist the miners, by means of martial law. Mother Jones, Boswell and Brown are sturdy and vociferous fighters, but the miners were not afraid of his votes, or even dynamite—ONLY AN INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION THAT CAN ENFORCE ITS DEMANDS, so they threw these political revolutionists into jail and proceeded to send their own cut-throats out to browbeat the strikers back to the slavery of the mines. Came then a socialist lawyer to the rescue, Harold W. Houston, of Charleston. Houston asked the constitutions of both West Virginia and the United States guaranteed to its citizens, among

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 1 and 2)

ALL TOGETHER FOR LITTLE FALLS

What The Working Class Is Doing And Can Do To Make This The Greatest Victory Yet

By Justus Ebert

For twelve long weeks 25,000 silk workers have been out on strike in the city of Paterson. By a wonderful display of solidarity, including every degree of skill, every nationality, both sexes and all ages, they have paralyzed the silk industry in "the Lyons of America." They have defeated every civic, religious, commercial, political, legal and journalistic combination that was brought to bear against them. Police have clubbed and assaulted their pickets, intimidated hall proprietors against renting them meeting places, confiscated friendly socialist papers, and denied them the rights of free public assembly. The courts have severely fined and sentenced hundreds of their numbers arrested on trivial charges and permitted the indictment of many others by a grand jury consisting of interested silk manufacturers. They have openly and flagrantly permitted justice to become the handmaid of capitalists in an attempt to crush the workers. The press, backed by the clergy, has misrepresented and maligned the strikers, and has incited to violence against them, advocating the formation of vigilante committees—all without any legal restraint on the part of the prosecuting attorney or sheriff of the county, who have shown, on the other hand, an undue haste and zeal to punish every "agitator" among the strikers, who may, by hook or crook, by fair means or foul, be sent to prison for "preaching anarchy and violence." Attempts have been made to form rural organizations and stampede the workers back to work through them. All the foregoing have failed, the strikers are now charged (in the stupid press) with attempted railroad train wrecking; a plot, no doubt like that of the dynamite "plant" engineered in the Lawrence textile strike by Wm. M. Wood, president of the American Woolen Co., and other capitalists. BUT IN SPITE OF ALL THIS THE 25,000 STRIKERS STICK TOGETHER, DETERMINED TO FIGHT ALL SUMMER, IF NECESSARY, TO WIN THEIR DEMANDS.

In all the 12 long weeks of the strike, the Paterson silk workers have taken care of the needy and unfortunate among their number. They have opened relief stations, and sent over 300 children away to neighboring cities, to enable them to use their financial resources to the greatest advantage possible. Many Italian benevolent associations, workmen's sick benefit, and other societies have aided them financially. So have Socialist Party organizations, trades unions, and I. W. W. locals and public collections. The amount thus contributed has not been very great, especially when the large number on strike, or the thousands of families involved, is considered. These contributions must not cease; they must be increased.

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Rally then to the financial aid of the Paterson strike. Send in your nickels, dimes and dollars. Bring the subject before your local, or union, or society. Mention it at your agitation meetings. Secure donations of cash and clothing. Take up a public collection. Raise funds, by every and any means possible. THIS STRIKE MUST BE WON. IT WILL MEAN A CENTURY OF ADVANCEMENT FOR THE WORKING CLASS. It will give labor new hope in all the large industrial centers and prove of immeasurable benefit to the working class in every future conflict.

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Speaking of the stupid attempt of the Paterson silk bosses and their tools to discredit the I. W. W. strikers in that city, the New York Call editors in part as follows: "The industrial Workers of the World have every reason to congratulate themselves on the situation there. Whatever be the merits or demerits of their organization and methods, they have, at any rate, succeeded in placing their opponents in such ridiculous positions that even the capitalist press, which supports the donkeys seriously, as people of brains and judgment, their exploitation seemed at least partly justified; but when the discovery is made that they are really unmitigated asses

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EMANCIPATION

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Don't forget that now is the time to improve every opportunity for propaganda. Order a bundle of Solidarity and some literature today.

NEW CANAL DISINFECTION Exposure of Filthy Conditions in Hotel And Restaurant Kitchens And In Packing Houses.

At a dinner of big capitalists held in New York a short time ago, Arthur Brisbane was asked if he thought Joseph P. Eator should not be jailed for some remark at a meeting, which the capitalist press "ought not to mention." Brisbane replied: "I have no objection to jailing Eator for his remarks at that meeting, but not until you jail the manufacturer who is poisoning the food of the nation." That Brisbane knew what he was talking about, is evident from his own articles, showing in part how the profit-hungry masters are poisoning the food of the people. (Editor Solidarity.)

THE SHAME OF HOTEL KITCHENS

In the glare of the electric lights, with the range burning at white heat, fifty men are at work under ground, some cleaning fowls, some hashing meat, some paring vegetables, some boiling dough, some mixing sauces, some flaking the roast out of the oven. Their activity is feverish, for hundreds of patrons are waiting more or less patiently for the dishes they ordered.

The thermometer registers from 100 to 140 degrees. From the eyes of every man, from the tip of his nose and the point of his chin, drops of perspiration trickle and every few seconds roll off into what?

Watch the men's arms, their wrists, their hands; their feet are running continually into and out of water. And the infernal heat drives them to drink quart after quart of water, and then they perspire some more—into your soup, into your bread or cake, on your steaks, on your cream—on everything which is served to you, dear, squeamish reader.

Some of these men are of cleanly habits; some only take a bath on Saturday night; some are young; some are old; some are healthy; some are not. Read the report of the Factory Investigation Commission relative to basement bakeries (every hotel has one, and the kitchen is hotter than the bakery). Some of the men were found to have boils, scabs, scalp diseases; the usual proportion suffered from venereal diseases with their concomitant skin manifestations. Many of the men working in overheated rooms, the report adds, are subject to "the head and do not carry bacilli." Tuberculosis and other diseases of kitchen workers.

To wipe their hands and mop their brows the cooks are given two towels a day. But then, your fish, your Did you order hashed brown potatoes? They will reach you shaped in a neat little mound. Your omelette will have an almost mathematical perfect contour. How is this done? The cook takes one of his two sweat-soaked towels, lays it out on the pot, and the omelette and paste the dish deftly into the required shape.

And then hygienists denounce the roller towel! And the odors that arise from that sweating group remind one of the hot rooms in a Turkish bath and of a menagerie. Look at the cooks' jackets. They are crumpled, they are soiled, they are dripping with sweat. At the end of the working day they will roll up those dripping garments and stow them away in their lockers. These are usually close to the engine room or the water closet. When they are moving the cooks will exchange their street clothes for those limp, damp, soapy rags.

In foundries the law demands that provision be made for drying the workers' clothes. . . . When the kitchen is a large one, the cooks hang their wet clothes in front of the range.

Some of the cooks change their jackets twice a week, some once a week. As blood, fat, gravies make short work of a clean jacket as fast as socks go, it is difficult to sell how long a cook has been wearing the same garment.

Not every hotel has a dressing room. The cooks employed at the Chamberlains Hotel in New York City, the kitchen, force of the Marlborough-Blenheim does its dressing and undressing in the bake-shop. During the day the coats are hung during the night the working clothes, are piled up, on a table.

How excited we were over the cellar bakeries! Barring three exceptions the cooking of every hotel is done in a dark cellar. At Eator's, where the basement is occupied by a cafe, the kitchen is relegated to a sub-basement.

Three exceptions are found—at the Grand Union, the McAlpin and the Mills Hotel. The kitchen of the Grand Union is a building by itself located above the ground, with windows and skylights. Food to be served in the McAlpin cafe is prepared in a small kitchen on the ground floor. The real kitchen, however, is underground. At the Mills Hotel, kitchen

is in a basement, it is well lighted and ventilated and undoubtedly the cleanest and most comfortable kitchen in New York, with the exception of many city kitchens which are above criticism.

Basements everywhere! That it means: no sunlight, no air, the foulness of dampness, cooking odors, heat and sweating bodies. And there are other nauseating details. The belief that no food should be kept in open preserve cans is not shared by hotel keepers. Even in up-to-date kitchens, like that of the Belmont, cans having contained tomatoes or peas are used instead of saucepans or jars to keep sauces or vegetables warm on the stove or the steam table. They are used until they become unadorned or leaky. Even if the dish washers tried their best, they could not keep these cans clean. Dirt needles securely under the jagged rim where the can and opener forced its way. On that sharp edge many a finger has been cut—but what does a drop of blood matter in a kitchen?

Credit is due to the Plaza for replacing preserve cans (at the end of the night) with tin cans. The tin cans were crocks and bowls.

Another ailment which hotel kitchens is the "stock pot." You order beef, consommé, potato. Your cook is poured off. The stock pot is stirred in the liquid thus obtained. You would dreadfully embarrass the head-waiter should you ask for a portion of soup meant. Once a week in summer dress the cellar, with iron or brass receptacle, containing from 10 to 20 gallons, is removed from the stove and cleaned. At the bottom of it there is some fat deep. When it is poured off, the stock pot is placed again on the fire, filled with water, and into that water there go scraps of meat and bones which are served in the dining room or which have returned to the kitchen. Scrape of stock, chicken heads, chop bones—anything. Every night more water is added. The stock pot and ends are thrown into it. It is always uncovered, and on cleaning day the water is always changed. Because the ooze's stench becomes almost unbearable by Friday night.

Into the deadly stock pot go all the lean and bones. The liquid is thrown into a tin tray about a foot deep. When the tray is full . . . but how long it remains in the tray? Sometimes a week. In summer, however, it is impossible to wait until the tray is full. The liquid is poured into the kitchen the staff soon begins to decay. In the winter, when the rash hour is past, the tray is shoved into the baking oven and left there until the steam and roaches are shooed off. The heat is expected to make maggots harmless. In the summer, when the tray is full, it is poured off into empty preserve cans. The tray is emptied and scraped at the end of the week.

Before plates are turned over to the dish washers they are carefully searched for scraps of butter. Some of the butter dishes may have been used as ash trays and may contain burnt-up matches or cigarette ends. Also, some of the butter may have come back from guest rooms. . . . Never mind. Those promiscuous dabs of butter are mixed kept in a tin can on the steam table. A kitchen helper, armed with a paint brush, dips the top of his trade in the butter and smears whatever is present on the ceiling, the floor, the coat, steaks, fish. From his tin can he also fills the little cups of drawn butter which accompany appetizers or certain orders of broiled fish.

Ask cooks and they will reveal to you the "Washers." These are clothes without wash bowls, ventilated through the backwash kitchen. They are not removed on Sundays; they are washed in the sink under the hot water faucet; one single water faucet for the whole Holland Kitchen. The washers are under the hot water faucet; one single water faucet for the whole Holland Kitchen. The washers are under the hot water faucet; one single water faucet for the whole Holland Kitchen.

Since Upon Sinclair wrote his "Jungle," a story woven around the packing district of Chicago, wherein he exposed the unspeakable filth surrounding these places and attacking the can industry, the meat packing foe profit, everything is supposed to have been "cleansed up." But the Cleveland packing workers' strike, which was called off last week after part of the men returned to work, brings to light the following facts, contained in a circular issued by the strikers and circulated throughout

By Andre Tridon In May "International"

Factory laws, labor laws. . . . No mention is made in them of hotel kitchens. Our "enational dojard, Gaynor, may declare a ten dance dangerous for the community, but the sanctity of kitchens shall not be violated.

When supplied with damaging evidence of the foul conditions prevailing in a leading Albany Hotel, the State Commissioner of Health declared that his department had no power to interfere. Thinks and persons lose their usual identity or definition when they are located in hotels or restaurants.

Until the Attorney-General of Massachusetts rendered an opinion, according to which zoning ordinances of cities may be assimilated to ordinary labor laws, as far as the duration of working hours is concerned, kitchen workers were not considered as workers in the State of Massachusetts.

In Washington, D. C., where there is no factory inspection, the attempt was made to compel hotels to have their own inspectors. The Chicago Bakery ordinance goes so far as to specify that a bake-shop located in a hotel is not a bakery.

The Factory Investigating Commission, presided by Charles F. Wagner, exposed the filth of the bakeries, the dangerous conditions prevailing in chemical factories, over-crowding in manufacturing lots, etc., and drafted a few little resolutions, bills, relative to fire drills, sprinkler, fire escapes, limitation of number of occupants, unclear regulations of factories, washing facilities, water closets, ventilation, etc. etc. etc. Not one of the improvements suggested is to be applied to hotels and restaurants.

When is a factory not a factory? In a hotel kitchen, a meat room, a basement bakery, not a basement bakery? When located in a hotel, a restaurant, a hotel, a meat room, ice cream not ice cream? When prepared in a hotel.

Man working in hotels are not working men. Women working in hotels are not working women. Law could prevent a hotel keeper from employing children of 5, or working them 20 hours a day.

At the time of the cooks' strike the public assumed that the men only struck for a little more pay. There was another side to the strike which the papers overlooked. The cooks, or most of them, are foreigners, but not all deserve the adjectives which the native press attaches to the word "foreigner" and under which they work are inexcusable, that their employment is dangerous to their health and generally, for the public's health. They are generally satisfied with their salaries and always ready to accept a lower salary, when to that lower salary corresponds a lower condition of life.

Legislators might in a few days reform in favor of muckrakers and labor agitators. In the meantime let us mention that the most up-to-date hospital in New York City, the Polyclinic Hospital, housed in a skyscraper, has its kitchen on the top floor. White coats and builders with an ounce of brains might have thought of the kitchen as a combination and placed the worst source of odors, smoke and dirt, where necessary, as it could be most easily allowed to escape into the atmosphere.

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112 HAMILTON AVENUE CLEVELAND, O.

A STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC
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You are startled by big headlines in the daily papers announcing some terrible case of murder or suicide. But of the fact that you are being murdered by inches with poison and rotten meat from the Packing Houses of the city you are unaware. To make your short life as long and pleasant as possible you certainly do not want these conditions to continue. You must protest.

In one plant the pork trimmings such as chucks, meat, ham and fat are thrown in a box where rats feed and nest and then ground up for sausage without washing.

Old stale sausage is worked over with casing, and slime and dirt.

Sour pork trimmings and fresh shoulders worked up in Polish and Greek sausage. A large amount of garlic is used in this to kill the bad taste and smell. Refuse that was thrown in garbage barrel has been worked up by the city you are unaware. To make your short life as long and pleasant as possible you certainly do not want these conditions to continue. You must protest.

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Solidarity is in receipt of a pamphlet in Bohemian, entitled, "Stavka v Paterson" (The Paterson Strike), which is published for the benefit of the strike fund of that great struggle. Fellow Worker Václav Cokovský, of New Castle, Pa., who has read the same, says it is a fine statement of the Paterson situation, and should be given a wide circulation. It is written by Jos. Kucera, sells at 5 cents per copy, and all orders should be addressed to Jos. Mueller, 606 E. 70th St., New York City.

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Between those who clean a street, organize as an union, and those who own the street, there is no common ground. The workers of the world, therefore, must unite, and must, by the force of their numbers, overthrow the existing government, and establish in its place a government of the workers, for the benefit and interest of the workers of the world.

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SOLIDARITY

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THE SHAME OF PACKING HOUSES

Since Upon Sinclair wrote his "Jungle," a story woven around the packing district of Chicago, wherein he exposed the unspeakable filth surrounding these places and attacking the can industry, the meat packing foe profit, everything is supposed to have been "cleansed up." But the Cleveland packing workers' strike, which was called off last week after part of the men returned to work, brings to light the following facts, contained in a circular issued by the strikers and circulated throughout

