



**SOLIDARITY**  
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**INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD**  
General Headquarters—Room 307—164 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Ill.  
**GENERAL OFFICERS:** W. D. Haywood, Gen. Sec'y-Treas.; J. Joe J. Ettor, Gen. Organizer  
**GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD:** F. H. Little, M. J. Walsh, A. C. Christ, Francis Miller, W. E. Mattingly

**Down With "Cheap Living"!**

Our readers must have taken note recently of the very considerable propaganda in capitalist papers, on "how to live more cheaply." These papers in particular which circulate largely among the workers, have been full of this kind of dope the last few months. "In view of the European war" (that great scapegoat for capitalist sins) "the cost of living is going up with six-cent bread already an actuality." At the same time, industrial depression with unemployment continue in exaggerated form. So the "experts" are brought on the job; some middle class guy with "a family of five" and "a wife" and "a child" and "a dog" and "a cat" and "a horse" showing how he feeds this large family "on a dollar a day." Housewives furnish numerous recipes for "cheap and wholesome dishes" to take the place of "expensive meats" and other table "delicacies." The implications, and often the statements itself, is that the workers are extravagant, and might easily adjust themselves to the increasing cost of necessities, by a little careful planning in connection with the larder of their households. Grandmothers of the town are also invited to open up sewing circles in public places, for example, for young married women who they may save expenses by doing their own sewing, etc. Banks are flashing electric signs, computing rates of interest on dollar savings, and showing how great capitalists were created in this way. The burden of this song is, "Save, economize; pare away your wants; resort to primitive methods, if necessary; to readjust yourselves to the higher cost of living."

Pray, what is the objective of all this. From a capitalist standpoint? Is it to help alleviate misery among the slaves? Hardly. The suggestions come primarily from the bankers and big capitalists, and without doubt have a most sinister purpose. The workers are to be prepared for a reduction of wages all the time. The bourgeoisie has taught the workers to be ready to way to prepare their slaves for a reduction, is "not to sully" make the reduction and use force to bring the workers into submission. On the contrary, make it appear that the workers are preparing themselves by the purchase of more and more cheap bread—that is, bread made of wheat flour. Let the workers learn to eat rye bread, as long as it is cheaper, and also substitute oleo for lard butter at somewhere near half the price. If that is still too costly, let the workers buy the "phosphoric granules" or "mother's" how to live on three cents' worth of rice per day, as the Chinaman is supposed to do. Maybe after awhile, all the European soldiers will be killed off, the demand for wheat will decline, and bread go back to five cents or less. Then, to avoid any possible demand of the workers for an increase in their standard of living, wages can safely be readjusted to the lower standard, without the danger of immediate and stubborn revolts.

In connection with this first objective, is another one, which makes lower wages imperative, from the bankers' and big capitalists' standpoint: That is the proposed conquest of foreign markets and industries by American capitalists. Here is the "new opportunity" brought to America by the European war. The capitalists by the European war. "We" must be prepared for "our manifest destiny." That means that the American working class must be "patriotic" and submit gladly to more work, greater efficiency, longer hours and lower wages, in order that America may conquer the world's commerce for a handful of parasites. He who runs should be able even to read these objectives in this prevalent capitalist propaganda for "cheap living."

What should we revolutionists do with regard to this sinister propaganda? We should be equally clever as the big capitalists and money lords, and wage a systematic campaign of education against it. We should employ ridicule as well as facts against cheap food, cheap clothing and crowded dwellings. Teach the workers not to worry over six-cent bread, but rather over their wages, which make it difficult to procure at any price. Get their minds centered upon the pay envelope and away from the grocery store and meat shop. Infill into them that the best they produce on the farms and in the workshops none too good for them. Seek to imbue them with the spirit of resistance and revolt against a lower standard of living and for a constantly higher standard. Show them that through industrial organization they can develop efficiency in the production and furtherance of their own interests and not those of their masters; that by means of One Big Union they can reduce hours, increase wages, eat better, wear better clothes, live in more comfortable and sanitary dwellings, have more time for education and recreation. Let them cry out: "To hell with the American and European commerce, if it must be purchased at the price of more work and more misery for us slaves." Let us go to it in a campaign for more pork shops!

**The European War And After**

The editor of Solidarity has for some time refrained from making any prophecies regarding the European war, or the possible changes it may make in the social lineup of that continent and of the world as a whole. We have been gazing at the conflict through the newspaper and magazine of course, and watching for the development of working class opinion and action, both of which appear somewhat meager and uncertain up to date. For the most part, Solidarity's columns have been devoted to the American labor movement and to such aspects and forecasts of the war as appear to have some relation to that movement. But some of our correspondents have been "rash" enough to continue bawling out the German socialists for not having tried to stop the war (a rather useless pastime, we will admit), and as a consequence we have lost a subscriber. An old timer, who says he has been a constant reader of Solidarity, see it continued, would have us believe he is a rebel. However, pro-German bias

is so strong that he insists that "while we abuse the German socialists, we have no words of condemnation for the French socialists, who acted just as bad." This, in fact, is the article appearing in No. 2492, in which the French syndicalist editor, Pierre Monatte, in which the author shows how completely the militant syndicalists as well as the rank and file were swept out of their feet by the war wave. Really, our German fellow workers must have been too preoccupied with "hunting heresies" through our columns to notice that and other articles of similar import.

As a cold matter of fact, however, the editor himself hasn't any words of condemnation for the German socialists or the French syndicalists. He cannot speak for the correspondents, who may have a different opinion on that score. For him, however, the fact seems sufficiently established by now, that the European workers were willing, without, or least lacked the spirit of solidarity and the organization by which the war might have been prevented. So we may well wrangle over that fact, and try to get at the possible social changes that may grow out of the great conflict, which appears to be and to have been from the start completely under the domination of the ruling class. One thing is obvious to the rebel onlooker: In spite of their willingness to fight and die for their respective fatherlands, the workers of the different countries who escape death will come out of the war a bit wiser, with some necessary adjustments entered it—the necessity to rebuild their labor movement against the employing class. And we shall most likely find that the international labor movement has not broken down; but has only gone to sleep under the seductive influence of the war. The labor movement will recover its senses after the war, if not before. And it will find very much changed industrial conditions, demanding a corresponding realignment in the industrial organization of the workers. Should Europe rebuild rapidly, as is most likely, to go forward under the domination of big international financiers and capitalists. It will rebuild with the aid of the most up-to-date machinery and methods. Concentration and trustification will be the order of the day. In this process—marked development—to provide against a relative scarcity of labor for a quick and sure conquest of markets, the basis for the old-time craft union will be undermined even more quickly than it has been in this country. Unskilled, specialized, machine labor will rapidly become overwhelmingly dominant in industry. Women workers will increase in numbers by leaps and bounds. The mingling of races or nationalities, through immigration, especially from Russia, will proceed at an accelerated rate, helping to break down nationalist prejudices and to develop class spirit. The industrial union will soon find a more fertile field for operation, perhaps less hampered than it is in the United States. A real International of the Working Class will shape itself through the process—in due time learning to ignore national boundary lines and to adhere only to industrial and working class demarcations.

This, in brief, is how the thing appears to us just now. We are not concerned with "who is most to blame for starting the big fight" or with "how many slavers got killed by the war." The workers will increase in numbers as well as the German socialists, are getting decidedly tiresome to yours truly. As our German fellow worker suggests in his letter to us, "from our own past arguments we had no reason to expect them to act differently." Ditto, the French syndicalists whose nationalist conceit or prejudice was really thinly veiled, in spite of their revolutionary phrases. While French syndicalists have developed the theory and on a small scale the practice of "direct action," France itself has never impressed upon us sufficient confidence industrially to carry that theory and practice to its fullest development. We doubt if France of itself has the territory and resources to ever put it in the lead. Neither has Germany nor England. Russia seems to fit the bill; and it is idyllic for German or other "stams of condemnation as well as defense of the German socialists, the fact is that Russia has developed on account of the Czar and the Cossacks. A federation of European states would afford an ideal basis for development toward the new society. Whether or not that will result from the conflict, is a matter for speculation. But, the theory of development, which is the law of development, under modern conditions, and counteracting influences cannot forever hold it back. At any rate, the war, far from being reactionary, as many radical writers content, appears to be the writer as a great step forward in human history and development.

**To Harvest And Migratory Workers**

The Bureau of Migratory Workers has been established by the Industrial Workers of the World to meet the situation in the harvest fields and present a repetition of the outrages that prevailed during last season.

An organized effort will be made to circumvent the schemes of the labor bureau and employment sharks. The lying statements and advertisements of these agencies must be counteracted.

Every year the railroads, steamship companies, labor bureaus, commercial-clubs and newspapers send out wonderful stories of the bountiful crops to be harvested in the western parts of the United States and Canada. These notices read: "THOUSANDS OF MEN WANTED—PLEASANT HOMES—BIG WAGES."

The publicity agents flood the country with glowing tales of the golden opportunities throughout the West. Reduced rates are offered to colonizers, homesteaders and harvest hands, inducing the migration from the East that crowd the labor market of the West. Every ticket sold to the unwary adds to the dividends of railroad stockholders. Thousands of persons have come West with hopes of prosperity, only to find themselves stranded, friendless and homeless. Advertisements have even appeared in the "London Times," May, 1914, stating that 18,000 men were wanted in the Kansas wheat field at wages from \$3.00 to \$5.50 per day.

The employment agencies look upon this influx of humanity as their prey from whom they make profit by selling temporary jobs, to more applicants than there are jobs to be had. Last season the labor bureaus induced the U. S. Secretary of Labor to issue a call for one hundred thousand harvest hands for Kansas. This blunder on the part of government officials resulted in the loss of many applicants, who were left for weeks were fifty men for every job. This was just what the farmers wanted, to them it meant plenty of hands at the lowest wages and the longest hours. Conditions became so bad in the congested districts it was necessary to establish soup-kitchens and bread lines to keep those who were in search of work from actual starvation.

These harvest workers assemble at various shipping points, coming at great expense, hardship and privations to themselves. No provision whatever has been able to cope with conditions to provide food and shelter for them after their arrival. When they congregate in numbers greater than the jobs offered, they are met at the station by policemen, deputy sheriffs, constables or mobs of citizens, usually members of the commercial club, who refuse to allow them to leave the train, or if they get off they are marched out of town afoot.

The Industrial Workers of the World has helped to organize these migratory workers and has made some success. It is the only organization that has been able to cope with conditions. The opposition that has arisen among the workers is through ignorance and comes largely from the University students who have not intelligence enough to co-operate with the worker for better conditions. Then there is the homesteader who has made a deal with Uncle Sam that he can in five years on a piece of ground, build a house of certain dimension and cultivate a given amount.

**"Reformers" Get Stung**

It is rather difficult to say what the delegates to the convention of the National Child Labor Committee hoped to hear from David Clark; but certain it is they didn't expect what they got.

As it known the N. C. L. C. (call it that for short) is organized to force child labor legislation in North Carolina investigations into industries where children are employed; it is particularly active in the Southern cotton mills.

Lewis W. Hine, staff photographer of the N. C. L. C., gave this choice bit of illustration of the "intensely American South": "I found that there has been a marked improvement in the general situation during the last five years, but very young children are working today in the North Carolina mills. I found two little sisters spinning whose grandmother told me they were only 6 and 7 years old. I found two boys under 12 whose hands are mutilated in the mill. And I found many more of 10 and 11-year-old children working an eleven-hour day (during the school term) at tasks involving eye strain and muscle strain. Is it any wonder, therefore, that I found a whole family, mother and five children, the oldest one 17 years old, of which not one could read his name?"

"Public opinion is pretty generally against children working in the mills, much more so than it used to be, and the bosses are suspicious of visitors and are loth to let any one see the children at the machines. Only one superintendent in North Carolina boasted openly that he had thirty children below the age limit. 'They all do,' he said."

But the N. C. L. C. also believes another thing, and that is, that the employers of child labor can be made to see the error of their ways, if only their hearts can be brought into social consciousness. Hence it numbers among its membership, not only sociologists and social workers, but also bankers, brokers, judges, the publisher of the New York Times (well-known for its love for child labor), two ex-presidents, Tarleton Woodruff, John G. Johnson, John Mitchell, and other eminent gentlemen, who are hard at work to put an end to child labor.

But it remained for an obscure editor (just now very popular in the South), one David Clark, editor of the Southern Textile Bulletin, to show the N. C. L. C. how the N. C. L. C. has been deceived. The Southern Textile Bulletin is a weekly issue; and so far as I can see, devoted to large advertisements of textile machinery, textile goods' reports and "personals."

The New York Times of January 7, says Clark "appeared and invited to speak by the N. C. L. C. and he did speak, too. Indeed, he spoke so well that the mill owners of the South are having his speech reprinted by the thousand to distribute among the operators. The speech is too long to print in full, but here are some choice bits:

"I do not believe that any other industry in this country can today boast of as much good feeling, confidence and co-operation between these two classes (the mill owners and the operatives) as exists in the textile industry in the South."

"I now wish to tell you what I stand for child labor. I have never advocated child labor and I have never believed that ANY CHILD OF LESS THAN 12 YEARS OF AGE SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO WORK. I do not believe that a girl under 14 years of age should be allowed to work, but I have never seen any evidence that a boy above 12 years was injured by cotton mill work."

"I can show you strong, healthy men, many of them filling high positions in the mills, whose appearance will compare favorably with any of the gentlemen before me. They began work as cotton mill doffer boys at eight or nine years of age. I can show you strong, healthy women in the cotton mill villages, mothers of large, healthy families who began work as spinners at the age of eight or nine years."

"In spite of all the pictures that your organization has printed and all the statements that have been made, I have failed to note where you have shown one man or woman whose health has been wrecked by early work."

"They (the doffer boys) are full-blooded American boys and boy for boy, I believe that THEY CAN LICK ANY OTHER CLASS OF BOYS IN THE COUNTRY."

"The trouble with your organization is that your representatives do not present the true facts. I do not believe the donors and patrons of this organization intended that their money should be used to misrepresent conditions. When your investigators go to the South they seem to be looking for unusual and exceptional cases, and to have no idea of giving a square deal to the cotton manufacturers."

"A mother, especially one who is working on the spoolers, where there is considerable space, OFTEN PREFERS TO TAKE HER CHILD TO THE MILL AND LET IT PLAY AROUND HER rather than leave it with neighbors."

"I do not think your organization has been granted any commission to enforce the laws in North Carolina, and coming from states whose violation of laws, including those of child labor, is in excess of those in my state. I SAY YOU SHOULD CLEAN UP YOUR OWN BACK YARDS BEFORE YOU ATTEND TO OURS."

"The fact that a boy of 13 works in North Carolina can in no way injure the citizens of New York and Massachusetts, and PLAINLY SPEAKING IT IS NONE OF THEIR BUSINESS."

"This spoke David. Whereupon letters of satisfaction with his services and congratulations came thick and fast from the cotton mill owners, supplemented, says the editor, by "a sudden increase in subscriptions." He also remarks modestly:

"We made the address in Washington without an idea of receiving any reward for same, but being in the publishing business we naturally appreciate the subscriptions."

Naturally, I hope that the reformers appreciate the situation as well as I. Who is it that said, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a reformer... But never mind; let's be charitable. The reformers have their troubles, too."  
M. G. R.

**PROPOSED WESTERN TOUR FOR ELIZABETH G. FLYNN**

- Fellow Worker Elizabeth Gurley Flynn will make an agitation tour through the West and to the Pacific Coast providing the number of dates applied for insure handling of mileage and expense for the trip.
- Below is a list of places for which dates should be arranged:
- New York, N. Y.
  - Pueblo, Colo.
  - Paterson, N. J.
  - Salt Lake City, Utah
  - Philadelphia, Pa.
  - Baltimore, Md.
  - Fremont, Cal.
  - New Castle, Pa.
  - Shannon, Pa.
  - Bradock, Pa.
  - Youngstown, O.
  - Albany, O.
  - Cleveland, O.
  - Columbus, O.
  - Cincinnati, O.
  - Portland, Ore.
  - Tacoma, Wash.
  - Seattle, Wash.
  - Toledo, O.
  - Victoria, B. C.
  - Detroit, Mich.
  - Spokane, Wash.
  - Chicago, Ill.
  - Pullman, Wash.
  - Rockford, Ill.
  - Butte, Mont.
  - Indianapolis, Ind.
  - Helena, Mont.
  - St. Louis, Mo.
  - Grand Falls, Ore.
  - Kansas City, Mo.
  - Minot, N. Dak.
  - Kansas City, Mo.
  - Minneapolis, Minn.
  - Denver, Colo.
  - Mian.
- Locals are requested to advise the General Office of their acceptance of date or dates at once, so that arrangements can be completed. Terms furnished on application.
- General Sec'y-Tre. v. Latin Branch No. 2, Local 178, I. W. W. of San Francisco, has just elected a secretary, J. E. Brown, 1157 Sanson St. Address of Branch is at 1406 Grant Ave.

# SOME MORE OPTIMISM— OTHER NEWS and VIEWS

Well, there are still a few optimists left. Horace Traubel, in his February Conservator, declares: "There's only one thing worth coming out of this war, and that is nationalism. More anti-patriotism." This is dogma that accords with the drift of things."

Says the Wall Street Journal: "Mr. Rockefeller is convicted out of his own mouth of insufficient knowledge as the trustee of a great industrial organization." The Rockefeller have been so convicted often enough before. But, up to date, nobody has proven strong enough to pass sentence on them. That is the task of the working class, industrially organized.

According to Wm. Bonn, writing in the February International Socialist Review, the German workmen are already experiencing "the morning after" feeling. When they sober up they'll find that their socialist hopes have been adulterated with nationalistic glucose; and that they have, accordingly, been drinking the wrong brand of beer.

It is the peculiarity of an investigation that it finds out what is already known. The Federal Children's Bureau's study of infant mortality finds that poor children are handicapped. Five die to one in the families of the well-to-do at Johnston, Pa., than in the families of the poor. Now that the investigation has reported the facts, will that change them?

Statistics showing that from 1896 to the present time the balance of prices and wages has left the average worker 14 per cent behind were presented by Prof. Fisher of Yale University at a recent arbitration hearing in Boston. The purchasing power of a wage earner now according to the professor is only 84 per cent as compared with prevailing prices. This percentage was lowered 1 per cent last year, but so far this year has shown a tendency to rise, says the professor. We doubt the accuracy of this last statement. The rate of wages shows a tendency to reduction. In the steel and iron industry, for instance, wages are down 10 per cent in some departments, since the new year.

Talking about "statistics showing the balance of prices and wages," there are other factors that should be considered in wage demands. First and foremost should be the relative amount of work and output. The tendency is for labor to produce more and get relatively less of the product. Henry Ford, for instance, now pays a day for a greater output than \$9 and a 7 day man turned out in the early days of the auto industry. (See article, "Auto Car Making," January International Socialist Review.) Not only does labor lose because of increased prices, but also because of increased output, which reduces the aggregate amount of employment.

The revolt against charity in New York City has exercised the pens of editorial writers, it seemed to them both new and old. Suicide, starvation, desertion and crime should be preferred to either public or private aid. But the Charity Organization report of 1914, just published, explains much. \$150,000 in round numbers, were spent in salaries and expenses; while \$95,000 went to relief. That is, public charity consists in underpaying degrading rat tap in order to receive the scant leanings of parasitical officials. Who blames self-respecting men and women for declining such "noble aid"?

The history of monopolies and trusts prove the belief that they are creatures of the law to be defeated. Anti-trust legislation, designed to curb and control them, is futile and reflective of their economic origin and superiority. But President Wilson after the war, with the oil, steel, harvester, ship, and other trusts factors in international trade, he expressed a willingness before the United States Chamber of Commerce to see the anti-trust law so amended as to permit the formation of combinations in foreign commerce. He will then do only what other nations and statesmen have done before him, namely, legalize tendencies once regarded as criminal.

The capitalist class is utilizing the depression to destroy all laws favorable to labor. In New York state, having done away with the anti-trust law, and brought the workmen's compensation act into disrepair, they are now preparing to repeal the full crew train law. That is, having had a fight with the law, with success, they are now going after

the independent railroad brotherhoods. Of course, when better times come round once more, the conservative labor organizations will resist any such progress. But they will never again be the political and economic factors that they were a year ago. A new era is dawning for labor.

Bradstreet's Journal says that the failure record of last year was the largest in the country's history, "with liabilities exceeded only twice before and then in panic years like 1893 and 1907." That would figure didn't result was due to "modern methods of dealing with crises," which obviated some of the sureties. These included rehabilitation in the "largest embarrassments" and the avoidance of "much useless slaughter of good assets." The capitalists couldn't proceed too figuratively, or they bring the temple down on their own heads, like another Samson. Still the slaughter was awful. Listen to this: "The wage 16,769 business failures or suspensions reported to Bradstreet's Journal in the year 1914, an increase of 15.2 per cent over the preceding year, and the latest of the progressive increases since 1910; an increase of 19.4 per cent over 1908, of 78 per cent over the year 1906, the record low year in failures for a generation, and an 8 per cent over 1893, the record high year since Bradstreet's first began to compile these indices of business strain."

January, according to the National City Bank of New York, "has witnessed a decided recovery of confidence in the position of the United States with regard to the present world-crisis." No doubt there has been an improvement in financial conditions that furnishes satisfaction to the big bankers. But what of the other classes in society? January also witnessed a business mortality far in excess of normal," to quote the report of the Dunn commercial agency. "The total insolvencies last month reached the unprecedented number of 2,848," with an aggregate indebtedness of \$49,640,575, comparing with 1,857 suspensions for \$39,274,707 in the same month of the preceding year." January, further, witnessed an increase in the price of wheat such as had not been known in this country since the war. The price of wheat, such as is destined among the working class. All of the foregoing salient facts indicate the relative effects of the war on the big capitalists, the middle, and the working classes respectively. The position of the first improves while that of the others grows weaker and more miserable.

"All the world is borrowing money of bankers here," says a Wall Street financial reviewer. This explains why so many of us are also "broke" here. With Russia, Norway, Sweden and other European countries, together with Argentine and Canada, absorbing domestic capital, in line left for constructive work, giving employment to millions and setting immense sums in circulation among the middle class. It is more profitable at present for the big financiers to invest abroad at high rates of interest, than to improve the economic and political power of the middle class and labor at home.

The inquiry into the Rockefeller and other foundations, conducted in New York City by the Industrial Relations Commission, must make apparent to intelligent workers the presence of an industrial absolutism in this country, that rules through executive appointment, with the aid of a paralyzing philanthropy, and with a superiority that defies present political regulation and trade union restraints. This inquiry must have made obvious the cunning hypocrisy of the Rockefeller and the contemptuous indifference of the Morgans, while impressing the thoughtful with their far-reaching and transcendent power. It also shows how brought home to the workers their own lack of strength and the corresponding necessity for an improved and superior rule of organization. The superior rule of industrial absolutism depends primarily on the lack of solidarity and common interests existing among the workers, without whom no industrial enterprise can endure. The Industrial Relations Commission will not have been in vain, if its New York inquiry has made this lesson evident to labor.

It is not often that we venture into the field of religious criticism. But when devout churchmen are trying to find a cause for the revolution with the idea that with success, they are now going after

to break a rule and help matters along some. Ex-President of Harvard University, Chas. W. Eliot, addressing the Boston Unitarians, attributes the present plight of Christianity to outworn religious dogmas and the Christian support of militarism. No doubt these are contributory factors. But what is more important is the complete identity of Christianity with capitalism. Christianity is as capitalist as capitalism is Christian. It is not a matter of policies which its support and maintenance involves. Christianity cannot uphold all men as brothers, because it upholds a property-system which compels it to treat them as material for plunder and war. What Christian policy is not so much a moral regeneration as a new economic basis.

A friend criticizes Solidarity for dealing too exclusively with the hard, gruesome facts of working class existence. He believes that we should draw optimistic pictures of a possible future and thereby stimulate a desire for a change. The criticism is well made and the suggestion worth following. In justification for our own particular course, we can only say that we still find too many workers living in the past ideal of their daddies to be affected by pictures of the future. We are trying to instill into their minds some conception of the present and its tendencies, in order that they may share the irretrievable, and hasten on the splendid society that is coming through the co-operation of economic forces and the conscious aspirations of their more progressive fellow workers.

Imagination is a powerful, optimistic, revolutionary agent. "The scientific use of the imagination," well indulged in by the scientist, Tynndall, gives to reason a quality close to akin to divination and prophecy, evoking an ardor and enthusiasm amounting almost to fanaticism, and transforming reality into idealism. Edward Bellamy's forecast of a future state of society, entitled "Looking Backward," did much, in that it afforded a plausible, advanced revolutionary thought in this country. Bellamy foresaw many things that are today commonplace realities, that exist in more highly-developed embryo on all sides; and he created a body of enthusiasts, who were at the same time, and are even to this day, an influence at the time and times need another Edward Bellamy—a wise and gentle soul, with great prescience and imagination, coupled with an idealism and idealism rarely found in modern American writers and leaders; a man whom one could love and admire, while at the same time disagreeing with many of the features of his world-dream.

Imagination is the one redeeming feature of the present war, and widespread disaster. Despite its destructive and narrowing influences, imagination looks ahead and dares to constructively in advance of actual conditions. Most of its products breathe with hope; scope, breadth and co-operation on a scale that present conditions seem to make impossible of future realization, and abound among them. Some foresee an ideal United States of Europe, with the complete disarmament of the nations. The dream of a Russia, free from absolutism, and free classes on the road to modern industrial and syndicalist movements, inspires others. In still a third set, imagination provisions a world working class sobers by the awful cost of war to its real capitalist and imperialist purposes more. When men dare to dream of a European United States amid rampant disunity, or see a Russian en route for progress when revolutionary movements are suppressed, or hope for an internationalist at a time when Liebknecht is being disciplined—when men can defy beneath the detailed and superficial to the general and fundamental facts and possibilities, then imagination is indeed stimulating and hopeful, stimulating and revivifying, in the great and ever human pursuit of the ideal. Under such circumstances such men can recall what E. P. Whipple, the literary critic, writes of Ralph Waldo Emerson:

"He (Emerson) declared, even when current events appeared ugliest to the philanthropist, that 'the highest thought and the deepest love is born with victory at its head.'"

Victory for the workers, is the thought that inspires them!

Geo. D. Bradley would like to hear from Tom Rogers, or gain information as to his whereabouts. Rogers was deported from Tacoma, in Sept. 1915 and has not been heard from since. Anyone having knowledge of his present address, communicate with Geo. D. Bradley, Box 85, Nippon St., Seattle, Wash.

# One Picture Of "Home Colony"

Home Colony, Wash., Jan. 23. Editor "Solidarity," Cleveland, O.: "Fellow Workers—In Solidarity of January 18th issue, under the caption of News and Views, J. E. writes as follows: "Why don't they (the anarchists) revolutionize society from within all its existing institutions instead of starting outside co-operative colonies in the back yards of the State of Washington. . . . from which I infer that this place (Home Colony) is meant."

I have no quarrel with J. E.'s argument, but wish to correct the impression that words co-operative colony might imply to the readers of "Solidarity." This place has been too often, directly and indirectly, advertised as a co-operative colony, which it is not in any way, shape or form. It is a place of laundry, bakery, bath house, or other enterprise, either privately or co-operatively owned. The stores are corporation owned. The school (public not Freezer) sports "Old Glory" and the children are taught that George Wash never told a lie.

The dance hall, a diapaused structure full of broken windows (Anarchist idea of freedom), was the community's one claim to co-operation, but that is now leased out to private parties who charge rent for its use.

Incidentally we have landlords and tenants (all of this I understand is perfectly correct, also interest and profit, according to our Anarchist friends, who seem to me as I understand is government which has the gall to take part of the foresaid rent interest and profit in the form of taxes.)

Home is generally referred to as the Anarchist Colony; however the ideas represented here are various, there are Anarchists (philosophical), Socialists (political), Theosophists, Bull Moozers, Holy Rollers, Yogi Philosophers, Republicans, Single Taxers, Reincarnationists and one Democrat (not a vehicle). Also, least of all, there are Anarchists and others from within," in the peas best known as weevils.

Amongst such a motley assembly it is not surprising that there are no factions and there is no turn-frowns among the various groups. The larger parties, the usual radical and conservative groups with their constant quarrels and bickering which are usually the result of open warfare, but generally end in court. For Anarchists (?) they are well informed people on the questions of law and as wire pullers and parliamentarians they are unsurpassed. As usual the Conservatives are direct actionists and saboteurs, who object to the use of proxies, courts and juries (as opposed to their own) retaliation by cutting down fruit trees, physical force and other like stunts. At present the radicals (?) are at the helm having elected their Justice of the Peace and Scholastic Board by a large majority on the Socialist ticket. Oh! Yes. Home has an S. P. local, said local having been expropriated from the Conservatives (what a joke!) by the usual points of order and parliamentary juggling. After having stolen or shall we say confiscated the local and its effects insult was added to the injury by expelling the charter members and founders.

Home Colony's one never failing claim to fame is that it is the residence of Jay Fox, well known editor and writer and entitled undying fame as part founder of the "Swindecialist" League of North America. The exponent of Anarchism, trade unionism, industrialism (discarded), and syndicalism, whose wide knowledge and broad ideas range from "no due in unions" (as an Anarchist to "high dues in unions" (as a trade unionist) is the one co-operative (vari-colored) light in this community. The inhabitants listen to his discourses on the different issues and the "length of shingleboots" with awe, respect, not communal—without, to hasten the Social Revolution by raising "spuds" and "hen fruit."

The only excuse for mentioning Home Colony in Solidarity is for the benefit of some fellow worker who in the field, factory or mine, having accumulated a small amount of money, takes the idea into his head to come here and thus enjoy Capitalism and all its evils and enjoy the pleasures of co-operation. Don't do it. The co-operative colony idea has been exploded often enough to the point that it is no remedy for existing conditions. To sell real estate is the only remedy for a co-operative co-operation, etc., being used in Home. A word to the wise is sufficient. In place of co-operation is on the job. So looking forward to the coming year, the best investment is no longer to be a healthier or profitable place for real estate sharks, mental prostitutes, and other parasites and bribe-takers, I remain, yours for industrial freedom with co-operation on the job. C. H. HARRISON

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AWAKENING OF MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS

(Continued From Page 1)

breaking out while the men are at sea. They just left this task in the hands of the other syndicalist organizations of the various seaports, an hitherto unexampled proof of confidence in and solidarity between workers, almost touching in its childlike simplicity.

The new organizations start with about 2700 men, who are all affected by the new form of settlement, which has nothing back of it except the will of the men to enforce it.

This is fact No. 8. Other facts of a similar character may be added, but the above should be sufficient to warrant the statement that there is a general awakening going on among the marine transport workers and that the principles and tactics of the old "International" craft unions are losing ground.

If we now ask ourselves, what has been the cause of this awakening, we have no answer to give but—ACITATION AND EDUCATION, that agitation which sometimes looks so hopeless and useless. It is bearing fruit in the most surprising manner.

In fact the time seems to be ripe to establish formal relations between all these progressive bodies of marine transport workers, with a view to the formation in the near future of a new and real "INTERNATIONAL UNION OF MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS OF THE WORLD" on the basis of INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION AND DIRECT ACTION.

That seems to be the only rational way of focusing the tendencies exemplified by the above mentioned facts.

JOHN SANDGREN.

TO HARVEST AND MIGRATORY WORKERS

(Continued From Page 2)

of land. The homesteader feels that he has no time to lose; every day must be made to count to the end that he, too, may get into the employing class. The suit-case stiffer who has only cut loose from mamma's apron is about the same stripe as the student. It is his first job and he is anxious to get to it, no matter what the pay or hours may be.

The I. W. W. forms in groups and establish what might be called community life in the jungles. When a crowd of members of this organization leave a train near the station, they go to the outskirts of the town on the bank of a stream if convenient. There a meeting is called, a Camp Committee is elected, the function of which is to see that the camp is kept clean and sanitary; a Job Committee is selected to rustle the town for work. Such pay as is received for work by any member of the group goes into a common fund. A treasurer is elected and an itemized account kept of all receipts and expenses. These accounts are audited every night. A cook and assistants are appointed, who in addition to preparing the food, furnish the cans in which to cook it.

The "spud" Standard oil cans, vegetable cans, etc., are found all over these camps for cooking utensils, plates and cups. A Spud and Camp Committee forage around the farms for vegetables and other eatables, while the Buying Committee visit the town to purchase such supplies as are necessary and the Camp Treasury can afford. Every man is expected to do some work around the camp, though there are some of parasitic nature who accept service without giving service; these are called "Jungle Buzzards." But they are not tolerated for long by the I. W. W. Gamblers and "stick ups" infest all harvest gangs, but in the I. W. W. Camps the rule No Gambling is strictly observed.

In these Jungle Locals discussion has a wide range and plans are laid for organization. The I. W. W. song book is always in evidence. Singing is one of the chief amusements. Sleeping quarters are usually box cars, clumps of bushes, hay stacks or piles of straw. No bedding—the canopy of heaven is their blanket. If there is no work in sight you will find these men at some time of the day at the public library, if the town affords such a thing.

This is the way that most of the harvest gangs exist. What a reward for the reapers of the golden harvest—meager food, cooked and eaten out of tin cans; sleeping in filthy box cars, wearing dirty and ragged clothes, denied most of the necessities and all of the comforts and luxuries of life, denied the company of women, denied life itself.

These conditions can and will be changed. It can be accomplished only by the workers themselves through organization. In fact, through the activity of the I. W. W. some improvements have already been made. Increase of wages, reduction of hours and better working conditions. To extend this work the Bureau of Migratory Workers has been started, covering the Grain Belts, Fruit Sections, Lumber Districts and Cotton Zone, for the purpose of getting united action among the membership of the local unions in the several districts. This bureau will gather and compile information as to crop conditions, the time the harvests begin, the probable number of men needed in each locality, the railroad connections. The Job Committee of the Jungle will function to put the employment shark out of business. In addition to keeping the men informed about working conditions a bulletin will be issued to give facts in connection with the harvest work and refute the lies of the newspapers and commercial clubs.

On April 15th a Delegate Conference, representing locals at shipping points, will be held in Kansas City. About the middle of May the harvest workers will congregate in Kansas City for a mass meeting. At this conference and mass meeting wages and hours for the harvest work of the coming season will be determined, also arrangements made for camp delegates or district secretaries, so that a line of communication can be established between the harvest crews and different districts. Organization and job control will mean better conditions in the harvest fields. A duty to yourself is to become a member of the Industrial Workers of the World. Look up the local at any shipping point or address headquarters. Wm. D. Hayward, General Secretary, Treasurer, 164 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Ill.

If YOU receive copies of this paper by mail they are paid for and no bills will follow. Some friend has taken advantage of our Special Five Week Introductory Subscription Offer, and has paid for sending you the paper for this period.

AN IMPROMPTU REMEMBER THE REBELS IN JAIL

I. W. W. MEETING

(Special to Solidarity)

A few weeks ago Sixty City Propaganda League held an unemployed meeting and banquet at the Commercial Club. Last evening they, equally uninvited, took charge of a meeting at the Socialist Hall, elected an I. W. W. chairman, featured I. W. W. speakers and took up a collection for Ford and Suhr.

W. K. Snow, the socialist speaker billed to speak on war, was rebuffed and did not arrive in time to fill his date. The snow, however, did not hold back the membership of the Propaganda League, who went up to the Socialist Hall over thirty strong to hear the apostle of ballot-box redemption.

Secretary Sinclair, finding the speaker had not arrived, went to look for a comrade—any comrade would do—to offer him an I. W. W. speaker. There were none present in the hall, which would seem to show that Mr. Snow, had he arrived, would have had a rather snowy reception. The situation with its tragic and comic side-effects was called to the attention of those who had arrived to hear a lecture on war. It was moved, seconded and carried, that an I. W. W. meeting be held, as it was Feb. 5th, the anniversary of the conviction of Ford and Suhr. Fellow Workers Sinclair, Rice, Moertl, Van Wormer, and Macdonald were the speakers.

The case in all its conspiracy against labor and its importance as part of a gigantic world struggle, was treated vividly and exhaustively. It was moved and seconded that we take a collection for Ford and Suhr. The chairman called for the "eyes" and immediately declared the motion carried. No one wished to vote no, nor were they given the opportunity. Two fellow workers then made a direct action walk to the tune of two dollars.

With a twinkle in his eye, a fellow worker moved that if the Secretary of the Propaganda League was able, within two weeks to locate one of the Sixty City comrades, he tender him our vote of thanks. Motion was carried, after which the meeting was adjourned.

Secretary Sinclair is still looking for a comrade—any comrade—to thank for our using direct action on the Socialist Hall.

PRESS COMMITTEE

OLD CHARITY SOUP IS HERE

AGAIN

By Seldom Good.

(Air—When Johnny Comes Marching Home) Old charity soup is here again, Yum, yum, hee-haw! To pother the hovels of workin'men. Hee-haw, hurrah! The same old beverage, rank and slim. He knows us well and we all know him; Yet he'll thank God, For dear old charity soup. Old charity soup, is a rare food, Oh, psahw, hurrah! That nobody would eat, if he but could. Hee-roop, hurrah! It takes a militant stomach stout, To hold it down so it won't run out, So we all thank God, For dear old charity soup. Old charity soup we welcome thee, Hurrah, hurrah! With lusty lungs in a three-time three, Hurrah, hurrah! Your qualities very well, We also know that you stink like hell, So we all thank God, For dear old charity soup. Old charity soup we hail thee, King, Oh, psahw, hee-haw! For working folks you are just the thing. Whoop-pee, hee-haw! We sing thy benisons as we stoop, And ask for nothing but thee, dear soup. And we thank our God, For thee, old charity soup. (For refrain repeat last two lines of each verse)

The editor of the "Miners' Magazine," commenting on the recent arrest of Etor at Dillonville, Ohio, remarks "It will be interesting to hear what the 'fellow workers' who have just returned from their disposition of Assistant Secretary and General Organizer of the World's Workers, will say when the editor, had he heard any such thing, which you only heard through the capitalist papers. But as Joseph J. Etor spoke at a public meeting in Toledo, Ohio, Feb. 15, a report of which from the Toledo Times will be found elsewhere in this number, he didn't make any such promise.

Locals 9, M. T. Workers, and 147, Construction Workers, of San Francisco, have moved to 3545 17th St. This is also the address of 178.

Fred Golden wishes to communicate with Lewis Gaybrick. Address letter to Broadus, Mont., in care of L. Wilson.

Circulation Statement

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Rows include: Previously reported gain, Subs expiring this week, Subs received during week, Loss for the week, Total gain to date.

Well, the Little "Green Book" is getting in its work, the subs have been coming in at an encouraging rate, and with more of these books in the hands of subscription agents in other sections of the country not touched yet, Solidarity should be assured of quite a respectable showing in the circulation statement each week.

Every agent we have heard from has voted this "Little Green Book" plan the best method they have ever run across for getting subscriptions. Fellow Worker Alexander who continues week after week to average four new subs says, "John D's pocket book is not in it with the 'Little Green Book'." This agent has built up a good circulation in his community, all by his lonesome, so he should be able to judge its merit.

Why not have a Subscription Agent elected by each Local Union? Some one other than the Secretary who could take care of this work, and be responsible to the Local for his activity. Pick out the most likely member for this job and arm him with a Green Book, see that he gets busy, and induces other members to help him out. We yet have some 250 of these books to distribute. Get your copy now.

BELMONT ON THE SUBWAY STRIKE

The question, "Who killed the N. Y. subway strike?" has been often asked and often answered. The latest answer is given by the one most vitally concerned, viz.: August Belmont, President of the Inhabitable, which operates the subway, and President of the Civic Federation at the time of the strike. Belmont testified before the Industrial Relations Committee, now sitting in New York, on the strike. Here's what he said, as reported in the World of Jan. 21:

Q. Have the employees the right to unionize? A. I can't answer that question put in that way. I should have to tell you what led up to the present policy. At the time of the strike some 4000 of our labor was unionized. I believed, and so did my associates, in having trade agreements. I still believe in that method where it is practicable. The outcome was this: We had two companies at that time—the subway and the elevated—and the agreements with the men on them were not exactly the same. In addition the men made a second agreement that in the event of trouble with the company they would support each other. That in itself was a violation of the agreement with us and when the trouble came the men were told that there would be no negotiations until this second agreement was broken off. This they refused to do, although their national organization upheld our view that it was a violation of our agreement.

Q. The men have the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees was it not? A. I believe that was the name. Our men refused to obey the association and they lost their membership. They were obliged by contract to give the city control of the subway. Any sort of lasting agreement could be reached. It was indispensable for the proper conduct of transportation not to have a union, since it might at any time bring transportation to a standstill.

Need more be said? Here is testimony which shows that a strike of organized workmen was defeated by their national organizations. Why? Because they insisted on so organizing as to make their strike most unfavorable to the city. They involved. The testimony simply proves the I. W. W. claim, that "organized labor is the enemy of the organized scabbery; and that labor is defeated not by capital, but by labor; organized in the wrong way and according to principles that are dictated by, and favorable to, capital." This lesson goes home to labor Belmont will have testified, better than he knew.

Fred Ashley, J. Kennedy, and O'Rourke (initials not given), are seeking to communicate with Chas. Romanus, 3545 17th St., San Francisco.

Join the One Big Union.

I. W. W. Preamble

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There are no bonds of sympathy between the two. The interests of the two classes are antagonistic to each other. The millions of the working people and the few, who own the means of production, have nothing in common.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, to abolish the wage system. The workers of the world have no country, no religion, no race, no language, no color, no sex, no creed, no politics. They are all united in their common interest.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way as to include in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, case work wherever 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 wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Solidarity is the basis of the new society."

It is the historic mission of the working class to abolish the wage system. The struggle is not for the abolition of the wage system, but to abolish it. The struggle is not for the abolition of the wage system, but to abolish it.

"BERMUNKS" (The Wage Worker) Hungarian. Monthly, \$1.00 per year. 350 East 81st St., New York, N. Y.

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"HET LICHT" (The Light) Flemish. Monthly, 50 cents per year. Franco-Belgian Hall, 9 Mason St., Lawrence, Mass.

"IL PROLETARIO" (The Worker) Italian. Weekly, \$1.00 per year. 150 W. Fourth St., New York, N. Y.

AUSTRALIAN ADMINISTRATION "Direct Action" (English) Semi-Monthly, \$1.00 per year. 229 Castle Street, Sydney, N. S. W., Australia.

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"GOLDS TRUDA" (Voice of Labor) Russian. Weekly, \$0.50 per year. Publish 105 E. 42nd St., New York, N. Y. East 14th St., New York, N. Y.

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Any of the above papers may be obtained through the I. W. W., and also in combination with Solidarity.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE LITERATURE BOHEMIAN "The I. W. W. Its History, Structure and Methods" (English) Organized Propaganda Society. Single copy 10 cents. 100 East 14th St., New York, N. Y.

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