

"THE ILLUSTRIATED CASE" "PUT A CURSE ON THE COWS"

As Viewed by The New York Globe, and a Reply by Elizabeth Gurley Flynn.

(N. Y. Globe) In January, 1914, a burglar entered a grocery store in Salt Lake City and murdered the grocer. A son coming to his father's aid was also murdered, but not until he had shot the burglar, as a trail of blood disclosed.

The same night a Salt Lake physician was called to dress a wound for Joseph Hillstrom, a labor agitator, who has written many songs and poems for the I. W. W. organization. Hillstrom was arrested. His explanation of his wound was that it had been inflicted during a quarrel over a woman.

In the meantime the I. W. W. organization has sought to create the impression that Hillstrom is a victim of a capitalistic conspiracy. In the August number of his magazine W. D. Hayward wrote: "Fellow Workers—The exploding charge of Utah are determined that Joe Hill (+) intram shall be executed. Our fellow worker has made himself noxious to them."

Editor of The Globe, Sir—I am so strongly convinced that Joseph Hillstrom is an innocent man, the victim of: (1) A tangled mass of circumstantial evidence from which unwarranted inferences have been drawn; (2) His own sense of chivalry; (3) A local atmosphere charged with prejudice against him as an I. W. W. and a non-Mormon, that I request space to present the salient features of the case. Elaboration is impossible in the confines of a letter.

SOME I. W. W. POINTERS FOR WORKERS

- Our slogan—Solidarity. Our system—One Big Union of all the Workers. Our purpose—to place the control and the product of industry in the hands of the producers. Our method—Direct action on the job. Our goal—The emancipation of Labor.

Organization—Education—Emancipation. Without education organization is futile, without organization and education emancipation is impossible.

The I. W. W. is more a system of acting than it is a system of thinking. We differ from other "rebels" more in the things we say. Act more, talk less.

Organization spells solidarity; solidarity spells victory; victory spells emancipation. Stick together!

- Slaves need organizing. Masters need sabotaging. Joe Hill needs assisting. Solidarity needs selling. The organization needs 60 cents a month from every wobbly in the land. GET BUSY!

—BINGO

CHICAGO GARMENT WORKERS STRIKE BRINGS OUT THE USUAL LINE-UP OF SLUGGERS AND UNION SCABS AGAINST THOSE BATTLING FOR BETTER CONDITIONS.

An Amusing Story of An I.W.W. "Milkmaid" From the Jungles of California.

(Special to Solidarity) Denver, Calif., Oct. 28. I wish to inform your readers of a strange but true incident which happened to me a few days ago. A few weeks ago, I came down from Stockton to the Santa Fe. When I reached Denver, a small town about fifty miles from Stockton, I left the side-door Pullman and hiked out for a few hours. On my little trip through the country villages, I ran against a farmer who was looking for a milkmaid. Having followed that trail, he told me he had been doing the milking alone for nine years, and was complaining of being tired; thought he would either give up the business or hire a milkmaid.

Going out nearly one-half mile, we came to his dairy—a fine farm, good sanitary conditions, through a well-kept orchard. Also a new bunkhouse just completed a week before I arrived. We talked over the matter and finally, after my trying to get \$20 a month out of him, we agreed on \$50, milking, 10 head of cattle, and 10 hours a day. But he swore he would never hire an I. W. W., as he had heard so much of their destroying property and causing riotousness, and some talk of death of an I. W. W. The way he talked it seemed as if he thought they were vicious beasts or some kind of vaudeville artists.

After several days' work on his dairy, I found \$50 was not enough change for the work. Looking at his cream check alone, I found it averaged \$3.85 per day, and me getting a franchise over \$1.65 a day. So I refused. Then I began to preach to him about the I. W. W., and to my surprise, he did not know whether it was a wobbly or not; he did every thing but tumble.

Nothing more was said of the difference, but he was sort of shocked after following a few days, when his cream check dropped from \$3.85 to \$3.58 per day. Then Mr. Rubie went to the bank and was going to have the pull. I told him I had never heard of any lay against cream checks coming down. So he forgot about the pinching business, and started to search for the loss. He watched one milk, found that I milked the cows dry; next he watched the engine and the separator and also found them running just right.

But the worst is yet to come—the Rubie seemed to be afraid to fire me. So he says, "What in hell do you think you're doing? You're making me come down like that!" I replied: "My dear friend, have you not learned yet that the I. W. W. has placed a curse against your cows. And as long as you knock their One Big Union, and pay their milk small wages, your cows will never come up to their milk again."

This seemed to hit him hard; he thought it over for several days. In the meanwhile I sent in my subscription for Solidarity, from the Sacramento headquarters. When my first copy arrived, I read it over and over, and laid it on the bed where it could be plainly seen. Also I had marked just to the dot, to see if any one had touched it. On returning from town, I found it had been moved two or three inches from a patch on the quilt. I kept still about it, and the next morning Mr. Rubie said: "Slim (my nickname) if you bring my check back up, by God I will pay you \$60."

LOW WAGES OF OHIO WORKERS

Official Report of State Statistician, Presents Some Eloquent Figures for Year 1914.

The report recently completed by the Department of Investigation and Statistics of the Industrial Commission of Ohio, includes returns from 14,776 establishments and covers 779,229 employees. Mining and some quarrying are not included in this report, but will be covered in a later bulletin.

The report, prepared by Fred C. Croton, Chief Statistician of the Industrial Commission, is one of the most thorough State reports on wages and fluctuation of employment that has ever been prepared. It shows rates of wages for one out of every three of the total adult male population in Ohio and in almost all industries of the total adult female population of the State.

The workers are divided into three general occupation groups: (1) wage earners, (2) male bookkeepers, stenographers and office clerks, and (3) salaried people (not traveling). More than one-half (64.9 per cent) of the 573,245 adult male wage earners receive less than the clothing per cent, and more than one-third (36.4 per cent) of the 15,169 adult salaried (not traveling) work for less than \$18 per year.

Male bookkeepers, stenographers, and office clerks and salaried people receive a much higher rate of pay than male wage earners. Eighteen dollars or over per week is the rate of pay for almost one-half of the adult salaried and male office workers, and for only one out of four of the adult male wage earners. More than one-half (58.4 per cent) of the 56,421 adult female wage earners, approximately one-fourth (24.1 per cent) of the 24,042 adult female bookkeepers, stenographers, and office clerks, and more than one-half (55.3 per cent) of the 12,225 adult salaried women work for less than \$8 per week.

These facts reflect a general increase of wages for women as of particular interest as a recent very careful study of wages for women of the Bureau of Labor and Statistics shows an average cost of living of \$7.94 per week for four working women living away from home in Ohio.

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NOVEMBER THE NINETEENTH!

Chill winds will blow across the Great Salt Lake on November the 19th. Winds moaning solemn anthems—winds bespeaking death. Upon the Utah State Prison the sun will shine. But e'er the beams of that giant orb have kissed the prison's cold gray walls, a man will have risen and looked upon the way—perhaps for the last time. And the man will walk to the great door and peer through—out into the faces of other men, sent to watch him.

He will smile—this man—he will sing. He will sing songs of the workers—songs from his own pen—a pen that is soon to rust. He will be startled from his song by a coarse-mouthed jailer who will read to him in ominous monotone—a message of death—written by men, who, too, are dead.

He will be led from his cell, his feet will be bound with the cold stone, with head erect, with eyes clear and unflinching, he will await the end. There will be a tense moment; the air will close thick, like the grip of death, a hidden hand will let a handkerchief drop—a flash from a firing squad—a man will quiver, reach for his tip-toe and pitch headlong; his blood, bright red will splash the flagstones. Prejudice and injustice will have triumphed—a man will have died.

This man is a poet and a dreamer. His dream is of Labor's emancipation, a dangerous dream. And so his written in the "law" of the men who rule—that he must die; somehow—anyhow! Nail him—charge him with anything—frame him up—but get him, and get him good.

Such is the fate of the man who is to die. Who is to die—IF—mark you—IF YOU DO NOT ACT!

You who love this man, you who love liberty and justice—take heed. Let the time that still remains e'er come the end, be crowded with heroic effort. Let the existing ripples of protest widen into a stream and the stream expand into a river and the river into a torrent; let it descend upon the bulwark of prejudice and batter it as a flood-tide batters a wreck in a gale; let there be no cessation until we have established the justice that ought to be!

You love this man; you admire his indomitable will; his courage; and his stoicism. You revere his silence and respect the trust he keeps—yet from out the stillness you can hear the clarion call of the poet ring out:

"Life—give me life until the end, That the very top of being— The battle-spirit shouting in my blood, Out of the reddest hell of the fight, I may be snatched and flung— Into the evening—into the night, The immortal, incommunicable dream."

Fellow Workers, you who know the man, you who dream the immortal dream, hear the call of life and in one last tremendous effort, agitate as never before, for Justice, and—Merrill V. L. B.

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RAIL VICTIMS IN NORTH DAKOTA

(Special to Solidarity) Whapton, N. D., Oct. 27. I have just read a visit to fellow workers in the county jail. D. Bates, who are in the county jail were charged with highway robbery.

McCarthy and his associates, and this is a false charge against I. W. W., and in particular a delegate of the A. W. O. About nine of us members were here, and I took up a collection and bought tobacco, papers and fruit for the boys in jail.

Other fellow workers passing through Whapton should not forget to see the judge and ask all details concerning the case of McCarthy and Bates, as the judge said he was order Joe Hill to be shot. He said get near the jail he went through my pockets for "dynamite" and a member of the A. W. O. name Harry Henderson, who testified against McCarthy and Bates. He is a stool knock out for him and take his card when found.

JOE FOX

If you want to see capitalist rule in full bloom just look at Europe.

"Preparedness?" By all means! That's why we are so strenuously advised by the Union of all American workers.

The authorities of Utah have ordered that one blank cartridge be issued to each of the men who are to be fired upon by the firing squad will be to murder Joe Hill, to ease the conscience of the military and assassins. Wonder where the authorities come in on this "conscience" business? They've got Joe to be shot, and leave the job to some one else. In the interest of social justice, every judge ought to be made to execute his own victims.

Los Angeles, Calif., wants two student speakers to carry on the work of education and organization.

