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THE MINERS MAGAZINE

INDEPENDENCE
EDUCATION ORGANIZATION

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WESTERN FEDERATION OF MINERS

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 Room 606, Railroad Building, Denver, Colo.

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Address of President Charles H. Moyer to the Delegates of the Seventeenth Annual Convention of the Western Federation of Miners.

Denver, Colorado, June 12, 1909.

To the Seventeenth Annual Convention, Western Federation of Miners.

Gentlemen:

IN CONFORMITY with the constitution it again becomes my duty to submit an annual report and in so doing I shall endeavor to confine myself to what I consider the most important matters which have transpired since the Sixteenth Annual Convention. Such suggestions and recommendations as I may make shall, I trust, receive careful consideration, and if they have merit, that they receive favorable action at your hands.

You are to be the sole judges of all questions coming before this convention and shall finally determine on what shall go before the general membership for their consideration. It may not be amiss for me to call your attention to the fact that the eyes of our enemies will be continuously upon you during this session. No opportunity will be overlooked by them to misrepresent your words and actions. They will not only take advantage of your mistakes in outlining their policy to meet you on the industrial field, but will go among those you represent exaggerating and distorting with the hope of creating dissension in our ranks. You would remember that not only those outside our organization will resort to these tactics, but on the inside there will be ever those found on the alert grasping every opportunity to poison the minds of our membership; therefore, it behooves the delegates in this convention, both individually and collectively, to guard well their utterances, and recognizing the great responsibility which rests upon them, present to our membership and the world at large an example of solidarity which will challenge the success of those whose every effort is exerted toward our disruption.

The year just past, in my opinion, has been one of the most remarkable in the history of the Western Federation of Miners. While true that almost continuously since the day we were organized we have been forced to engage in conflict with the employer in order to maintain some semblance of justice, still such conflicts were confined to certain parts of our jurisdiction and waged in an endeavor to regulate working conditions, but the battle during the year last past has been general, developing into a struggle for individual existence. Thousands of our brothers have been thrown out of employment, making it impossible for them to meet their financial obligations to their respective locals; the unorganized have been idle, making it difficult for them to affiliate with our organization; forces which I have referred to both within and outside of the organization have labored diligently to check our progress; still in the face of all opposition, as will be shown by the report of your Secretary-Treasurer, we come into the Seventeenth Annual Convention with an increase of several thousand of members. When the Sixteenth Annual Convention adjourned there was an outstanding indebtedness against your organization of more than seventy-five thousand of dollars; today the Western Federation of Miners owes no man a dollar, so that I again say that taking into consideration the multifarious obstacles with which we have had to contend, that the past twelve months stands unparalleled in our history, and I unhesitatingly say that those in our ranks who are today complaining have no foundation for their position and are only doing so to create strife and dissension to the end that their personal spite or ambitions may be gratified.

As for myself, I turn over to you the office which was entrusted

to me by the majority of the delegates in the Sixteenth Annual Convention conscious of having done my full duty as I was given to understand it, with no regrets or excuses to offer for a single act performed during the entire term. The Western Federation of Miners is now in your hands free from financial obligations and with a membership equal to that of any time in the past, and it is now for you to outline a policy and submit the same to our membership which will, in your opinion, be for the best interests not only of our membership, but the working class in general. I fully realize that there will be diverging ideas advanced by different delegates as to the position that our organization should occupy both on the industrial and political fields, and I trust that I may be excused if I again advise, as I did one year ago, that we take advantage of our years of experience. If we have made mistakes let us bear them in mind in outlining our plan for the future. If we have undertaken to do certain things in the interest of the working class and failed, but still believe that we were right, let us apply sound reasoning in order to determine the cause of such failure, and after so doing apply the remedy and unitedly push onward until we have reached the desired goal.

There are few who take an active interest in the labor movement today but who realize that there is something defective in the plan or principles advocated by the majority of organizations, and I am pleased to find by coming in contact with many of those who have been honestly seeking to discover the weak points in their policy that they finally agree that the principles advocated by the Western Federation of Miners must become general if labor shall ever wrest from the employing class that which is rightfully theirs. Labor, as it is organized today, is not united. While the individual member may be what is known as a good union man, his card may show him at all times in good standing, he may respond to the strike order of his organization and witness the suffering of those who are dear to him, still, in spite of all this, he - with his organization - goes down to defeat, his name is placed on the black list and tramping the road or beating the train looking for an other master, he wonders why he and the other brothers who never faltered, who stood nobly by the banner of unionism until the last, should have failed in their efforts. He fails to realize that he and the few hundred or thousand of others were left to fight the battle alone. True, the man working beside him for the same employer, but belonging to a different craft or industry, was a good union man, although he would have struck if his individual interests, as he understood them, were at stake, he could see no reason why he should sacrifice his position in order that his fellow worker should secure justice. And here we have the defect in the construction of organized labor, the laws and rules adopted compelling one organization to assist the employer in defeating the other. Two wage workers may be employed on a locomotive engine, both members of organized labor. The conditions under which one is compelled to labor become unbearable, he rebels and discontinues work; a non union man is installed in his place. The other union man feels sorry, he trusts his fellow unionist may be successful in compelling the corporation to grant him better conditions, he may contribute financial support, but he remains at his post, he in many instances performs extra labor, he not only works with the non union man but assists him in becoming acquainted with his work, and by so doing furnishes the employer with the weapon that finally forces his brother unionist to his knees defeated and pleading to be permitted to return to work under such conditions as the employer may dictate. This is only one example, and is not confined to the engine, but to every other industry where labor is organized along craft lines and the

identity of interest of the working class is not recognized by the workers themselves. If "in union there is strength," then the working class must be brought to realize that only through the most complete unity can they expect to organize an industrial army that will prove invincible; they must be educated to understand that united action to be successful means the joining together in its fullest sense every man and woman whose condition in life compels them under the present system to sell their labor to another. When so united and realizing that regardless of what their position may be as wage workers, that they belong to that class and recognize that an injury to one is the concern of all, then, and then only, will organized labor be in a position to enforce its just demands. Labor, industrially organized, ready to fall in line when the order is given will serve notice on the employer that the day of his refusal to treat with his employes because they reserve the right to affiliate with organized labor is passed, and to refuse to do so will not only bring him face to face with every worker in his employ regardless of the occupation he may fill, but that organized labor in its entirety will rise up as one man, and in no uncertain way insist that he shall do so.

In my report to the Sixteenth Annual Convention I referred to the educational work in which your organization had taken an important part and advised that the same be continued, which has been done during the year, the Miners' Magazine, your official organ, having at all times advocated the principles of industrial unionism and independent political action of the working class, as have also the members of your Executive Board. Personally, I have overlooked no opportunity to present my views to workers when coming in contact with them as individuals or at gatherings when it has been my privilege to address them, and I feel confident that I make no mistake when I say to you that the efforts of your organization have not been in vain.

During the past year the foundation has been laid for the federation of many transportation organizations and the great army of workers in the building trades throughout the United States and Canada have come together and organized a department. There can be but one reason for this, and that is that they are coming to realize the impotency of the craft idea, and that they must recognize their identity of interest as does the employing class, if they expect to succeed. I am not one to argue that organized labor because it has pursued a different policy from that which I advocate has been of no benefit to the working class of this country and that it had best disband. The mere fact that a number of employes come together and agree to act collectively is a warning to the employer that they may rebel and should they do so, his profits would suffer. Organized labor has fought many determined battles and the result can best be determined by a comparison of conditions of the workers in organized and unorganized districts. We need but to visit the great northern mineral states where thousands of unorganized are toiling hundreds of feet below the surface for a mere pittance of thirty-five to forty dollars per month. Going from there into the state of Montana, we find the wage workers following the identical occupation receiving not less than three dollars and a half per day. This is not confined to the mining industry, but wherever the workers have been united and the employers compelled to treat with them collectively, we find a higher standard of conditions.

Many of our strongest advocates today for industrial organization have been determined workers and believers in the craft idea, but the great school of experience has taught them that there is something wanting, and that something, is the failure of the workers to recognize their class interests and that to successfully protect that interest they must unite both on the industrial and political field, strike as one man if to strike be necessary, and cast their ballots as they strike. But an economic or political movement can go no faster than those who must necessarily become a part of the same in order to secure its success are educated to understand its principles, and this should be one of the missions of the Western Federation of Miners in the future, as it has been in the past. Organize and educate, not vilify and disrupt. Converts are not made for a cause by force and abuse. It is much easier to educate your friends than your enemies, and if your principles are sound, they must and shall prevail, and in presenting them to others, we must always bear in mind that they may be honest in their convictions as we are in ours, and above all, are entitled to the same privileges as we reserve for ourselves.

And I again feel it my duty to warn the delegates in this convention and our general membership against undertaking the impossible. An effort to launch a general industrial movement at this time as proposed by some can, in my opinion, meet but one fate, that of complete failure, as has our former attempt. While, as I have said, the sentiment toward industrial unionism is rapidly crystalizing, yet it has not reached that proportions that it must to promise success, and I sincerely trust that our organization, profiting by past experiences will realize that it is doing its full duty to the working class should it be successful in organizing and educating the great army of unorganized in the mining industry and preparing them to take their places in the progressive army at the opportune time.

Seven years ago your delegates in convention declared for a policy of independent political action of the working class for which they were roundly condemned by the politicians and the idea of injecting politics in the organized labor movement menaced such disaster in the opinion of the so-called labor leaders that the warning went forth that to do so meant nothing less than disruption, but six years later we find President Samuel Gompers and many others prominent in the labor movement not only indorsing political action, but urging organized labor to march in one solid phalanx to the polls and cast their ballots to the end that the industrial rights and liberties of which labor has been shorn shall be restored and safe-guarded in the future. Mr. Gompers, in his report to the Twenty-eighth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor, calls attention to the fact that for years the toilers have asked legislation of Congress and the state legislatures which these law-making bodies could grant, and that each and

all of these requests have been denied. Mr. Gompers enumerates many of the laws prayed for and refused until finally labor is compelled by conditions which, using his own language "outlaws organized labor and lays the working class liable to prosecution and imprisonment if they even exercise their normal and natural functions to collectively secure their personal rights." Among the many abuses of the laws which are supposed to equally protect all citizens, he lays particular stress upon that of the injunction writ which he claims has been used to forbid the exercise of free speech, a free press, freedom of assembly and the right of petition. The interpretation of the law by the judiciary in the interest of the employing class is not limited to recent decisions such as Mr. Gompers has referred to, but has been going on for years, but finally striking close to home, has aroused brother Gompers and his associates, forcing them to acknowledge that their years of supplication for justice have been in vain, and that the only weapon which will force capitalism to surrender is the ballot in the hands of an aroused working class.

In passing I desire to call your attention to the decision of the United States Supreme Court in a case taken before that tribunal by your organization, entitled "Charles H. Moyer, Plaintiff in Error, versus James H. Peabody, Sherman M. Bell and Bulkley Wells." This action was brought by the plaintiff for the purpose of determining the right of a governor of the state to deprive a citizen of his liberty without due process of law. The court in passing says, first, that the governor has the power to declare the state or any part of it in a state of insurrection and after so doing, no court may inquire as to his acts. It matters not that the courts in the affected district may be performing their functions, it matters not that the constitution of the United States informs us that in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right of a speedy and impartial trial by an unprejudiced jury in the district and state wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation, be confronted with the witnesses against him, to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense. Regardless of these securities for personal liberties, the court says that one man in a state, simply because he has been selected by a majority of its citizens to represent them in an official capacity, may at his pleasure deprive them of their liberty; that he may confine them in such place as he may select and under such conditions as may satisfy him personally. This is not all, while we have been taught that the taking of human life is the most horrible crime that a man can commit against society, and that if found guilty beyond a question of doubt his life may pay the forfeit, yet the law is supposed to throw around him every safe-guard: in the eyes of the law he is innocent until found guilty by a fair and impartial jury; that he shall have his day in court, be confronted by his accuser, and that the evidence against him must satisfy the jury of his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt before he can be convicted, but the interpretation of the Constitution and law by our Supreme Court, in language that cannot be misunderstood, says that the Governor—one man in a state—may kill persons at his will, or in other words, that he may constitute himself the judge, jury and executioner and that no power on earth shall have the authority to inquire as to the justification of his acts. This gentleman is not only the law in Colorado today, but applies in every state, territory and district within the confines of the United States. One man holds the lives of thousands in his hands. He may with the power vested in him under this decision over the protest of the civil authorities, over the protest of the citizens of the country, and at the request of a few individuals or on his own initiative, declare any part of the state or territory in a state of insurrection. Under this declaration he may summarily execute those who stand in his way or in the way of those whom he may represent. He may cause to be dragged from their homes and families not only union men who may be on strike, but any citizens, and without charge, without trial, confine him in a dungeon for an indefinite length of time, laughing at the order of the court should they undertake an inquiry, for he is armed with the law and the power at his command to enforce it.

It is inconsistent to say the least to hear the working class condemning the courts, railing at the national and state administrations when they, by their ballots have placed them in power, knowing full well that to do so means a perpetuation of the same conditions. The great army of wage workers in this country have it in their power, not by physical force, but by united exercise of their franchise, to bury forever a system under which one man under the guise of law may take human life, under which a judge on the bench may issue an order such as Mr. Gompers says deprives labor of its rights to even ask for justice. Labor must be aroused to realize this power and it is encouraging indeed to know that the United Mine Workers of America, one of the most powerful organizations of labor in this country, through the following resolution adopted by their Twentieth Annual Convention, have taken a progressive stand and declare in no uncertain way that labor is entitled to the full social value of that which it produces:

Whereas, In the light of industrial depression that has haunted America for more than a year, millions of willing workers have been forced into involuntary idleness, thereby denied access to the means of life, and

Whereas, Many of those who are victims of this industrial depression have, in self-preservation, become infractors of law, and

Whereas, a class of profligate rich who scarcely know the limits of their wealth, are co-existent with the countless thousands whose poverty is directly attributed to their failure to find some owner of the means of production to employ them, and

Whereas, The denial of the opportunity to the willing workers to engage in useful labor springs from the fact that the means with which the necessities of life are produced are owned and controlled by private individuals who are not necessarily factors in the field of wealth production, but whose only functions are to profit by the activ-

ity of the working class so long as the market can be found where the product of the worker can be disposed of, and

Whereas, The workers receive in the form of wages only a small share of what their labor power, with the aid of machinery, create, thus preventing them from buying back out of the market the equivalent of what they have produced, necessarily causing a glutted market, therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the United Mine Workers of America in annual convention assembled, recognize and declare for the necessity of a public ownership and operation and a democratic management of all those means of production and exchange that are collectively used that every man and woman willing and able to work can have free access to the means of life and get the full social value of that they produce.

The above resolution shows that within the ranks of the organized workers the seed is being sown that is arousing the workers from their lethargy, and bringing them to realize that the boasted liberty of the American citizen is a thing of the past and that they alone can reclaim it. The United Mine Workers will fall in line; let the Western Federation of Miners take no backward step, but re-affirm their policy of education and an aggressive campaign along the lines of independent political action and industrial unionism.

I would also recommend that your incoming Executive Board, whenever the revenue will permit, place men in the field who are well informed on these vital questions and in addition to your official organ, that all literature possible bearing on the same be distributed among the workers.

ORGANIZATION.

The work of organizing during the term has been difficult owing to the fact that in many parts of our jurisdiction the mines have failed to operate and locals forced to disband, but taking into consideration the condition of the industry, the results from the efforts of your Executive Board and the organizers have not been discouraging, there having been granted more than thirty charters during the year. The problem of organizing the workers in the northern and southern mineral states has ever been before your organization, and at times has seemed a hopeless task, but I have always contended that these men could be brought into our organization if we were in a position to finance an aggressive campaign among them. The importance of organizing the miners of Michigan, Minnesota, and Missouri must be apparent to all, and while our resources have been limited during the year we have put forth such efforts as were possible with the results that the foundation has been laid in the state of Michigan which promises success, several charters have been placed and a live sentiment aroused, which must be taken advantage of to the end that a proximate of twenty thousand workers employed in the mining industry of that state may be enrolled under the banner of our organization. Owing to the fact that these men have been dormant for years, making no effort to better their condition, a lack of knowledge of the labor movement is found which can only be overcome by a persistent policy of education. It is useless to organize a small number of these men and leave them alone, as they are not familiar with the work, and the union becomes defunct, those who took part are discouraged, lose interest and generally refuse to make any further effort. Therefore, if we ever expect to succeed in these districts, we must have able representatives continuously among them; we must distribute literature in the different languages so that the objects and policies of our organization may be understood, and I earnestly recommend that this convention provide ways and means to carry on this work. This policy must be applied in other districts I have mentioned, and if successful, fifty thousand members should be added to our ranks.

It is strange, yet encouraging to see the unorganized workers striking to enforce better conditions, as they have lately in the state of Missouri. As I expected, their efforts resulted in complete failure, still it has shown them how helpless they are in their unorganized condition, and the lesson taught is already evident in the southeastern part of that state.

It is not pleasant to report failure or to point out defects in our organization, yet I feel it my duty to call your attention to the unorganized condition in many of the districts where we have been established for years in order that they may receive your serious consideration. In various places the opposition of the employers have made progress difficult, while in some, after diligent inquiry, I find other reasons which can and must be remedied, prominent among them is the prejudice existing among the different nationalities. In the mine, mill and smelter are found working side by side from all parts of the world, speaking many different languages their interest as wage workers identical, yet when it comes to joining together in an organization for the purpose of protecting that interest, the question of race or tongue spoken is permitted to creep in with the result that concerted action becomes impossible. This must be overcome and the workers taught to realize that regardless of country, regardless of the language spoken, they must stand shoulder to shoulder in the economic and political movement of their class, and that failure to do so only perpetuates their servitude.

In other places we find the foreman or shift boss active in the affairs of the local, and in certain places, serving as officers. The rule that a man cannot serve two masters generally applies, and wherever I have found these influences at work in the union it had as well not exist. Your organization cannot afford to spend time and money in building up unions to be turned over to the employer in this manner, and while it may be argued that it is a question to be handled by the locals, the fact that they fail to do so makes it imperative, in my opinion that a provision be placed in the general constitution governing the same, and I so recommend.

Another matter along this line which I have been requested by a number of members to bring to your attention is the question of members holding office in our locals who have discontinued work in the industry and engaged in business. While your constitution provides that members who permanently retire from employment in the in-

dustry may be granted a withdrawal card, it is not compulsory, therefore, we find that they continue their membership, and being elected as secretary or president, the question is raised that as they are not wage workers as provided in Article I, Section I, of the Constitution, they are not eligible. The result is a division of the membership and the purposes for which they are organized are forgotten. While this may appear to be a trifling matter, it has proven to be of great consequence in certain parts of your jurisdiction, and I advise that it receive your careful consideration.

In addition to this, during the year while those selected by the majority of the Sixteenth Annual Convention have been putting forth every effort in their power to organize and strengthen your organization, there has been those on the inside who have been as diligent in their determination to disorganize and disrupt. Not satisfied with the decision of the majority of the delegates in convention or of your membership, they have been faithful to their promise to tear down and hesitate at nothing to poison the minds of our membership against your representatives, resorting to tactics which would bring the blush of shame to the face of the most depraved creature on earth, boasting that their ideas must prevail or they would continue until the W. F. M. was landed on the rocks of destruction. It is almost beyond belief that men can be found who will so prostitute their honor, who think so little of their obligations as to lend their support to a movement to assassinate an organization which has fought the battles for the working class as has ours, whose members have suffered the tortures of Hell, many giving their lives that the W. F. M. might live, and I sincerely trust that the adjournment of this convention shall mark the parting of the ways between those who are true to their obligation and desire to perpetuate this organization and those who use their membership as a cloak to conceal their treachery. A man who violates his oath in the Western Federation of Miners, which is as binding as man can take, should be branded as a traitor and banished from the society of honorable men. These are some of the obstacles which have stood in the way of progress during the term and which must be eliminated if our organization expects to carry on its work of organization and education, which are necessary to establish independence. We have among us the Judas who for a few pieces of silver sells his honor to the detective agency. We have the scab who assists the employer in defeating us in our efforts to secure better conditions. The first only reports to his master what he has heard; the latter fights you in the open, but the man posing as a member of your organization who is found at a late hour of the night plotting your destruction, who through misrepresentation poisons the minds of your membership to the end that he may use them to advance his individual ambitions or satiate his spite is in a class of his own and should be reckoned with in no uncertain way. I mention these things because they are facts and enter into the possibilities of organization, and taken in conjunction with the opposition of the employer, they assist materially in impeding our progress.

After going into the states of California, Utah and Colorado, to say nothing of the northern and southern mineral states, to which I have referred, and seeing the unorganized in our industry, the duty of every true member should be apparent. These three states in which are found thousands of unorganized mill and smeltermen affords a field which may well occupy the time and brain of our aggressive brethren, for to bring them into our ranks is a herculean task and one which requires your most earnest consideration. Your Executive Board, being continuously in the field have been able to devote some time to unorganized districts, but as the constitution provides that they shall make an investigation pertaining to the conditions of each local and be ready at all times to answer their summons, their time has been mostly consumed in this work. I feel it unnecessary for me to go into further detail as to the many other unorganized districts in our jurisdiction, suffice to say that the organizing of the workers in the metalliferous mining milling and smelting industry has just begun, and to carry it to a successful conclusion, ways and means must be devised to the end that a corps of representatives may be kept in the field who are well equipped to render the service they are expected to perform. If this can be done for a period of one year, the Western Federation of Miners, by the addition to their numerical strength, unitedly adhering to an aggressive policy, will become one of the most powerful factors on the industrial and political field.

Your organization has been fortunate in having but few strikes during the year, for had those who were able to secure employment been forced to discontinue, the result would have been disastrous.

The strike of the Douglas Island Local against the Treadwell Mining Company, which was declared March 21st, 1908, has been continued and the exact status of conditions there at this time will be laid before you by Executive Board member Terzieh.

On August 12th I left headquarters for Douglas for the purpose of more fully familiarizing myself with the situation and endeavor to bring about an adjustment if possible. To this end, before my departure I addressed a letter to Mr. F. W. Bradley, general manager of the Treadwell Mining Company, notifying him of my intended visit and soliciting a conference. This letter was mailed to Mr. Bradley's address at Wardner, Idaho, with the request that it be forwarded to his San Francisco office if he was not there. I stated to Mr. Bradley that if it was the desire of his company to arrive at an amicable settlement of the trouble, that it might be accomplished through such conference, and that in my opinion, the conditions were such as to at least warrant the effort. This gentleman, who is a representative of those who are continuously crying that the Western Federation of Miners are at all times seeking trouble and therefore make no effort to adjust differences between its members and their employers, by his silence serves notice that he has no desire for peace, and regardless of the fact that hundreds of wage workers in his employ, sincere in their belief that they have been unfairly dealt with by his representatives, refused to longer submit to the conditions imposed, says there is nothing to settle.

I arrived in Douglas, August 24th, remaining there until Septem-

ber 2nd, during which time I made a further effort toward bringing about a settlement by communicating with Mr. Robert A. Kinzie, local superintendent, but was also informed by him that there was no answer to my request for a conference. After making a thorough investigation and believing that the position of the men in their demands for recognition of their union or rather that discrimination cease against their membership was fully justified, it was decided to continue the strike, which has been made as effective as possible under the conditions. If the Treadwell Mining Company was unfair to organized labor on the 21st of March, 1908, it is unfair today, and I recommend that this convention so declare in order that their attitude may kept fresh in the minds of all those who believe in justice. The Sixteenth Annual Convention recommended that your organization take the proper steps to secure a government inspection of the Treadwell Mines and pursuant to the same, the following petition was forwarded by all of our locals and many of the United Mine Workers to their representatives in both House and Senate:

PETITION.

Hon., House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: We submit for your perusal and respectfully ask your serious consideration of the following, firmly believing as we do, the vital importance of the matter herein contained, not only to the mining industry of our state and nation, but the social welfare of those who brave dangers untold in delving in the bowels of the earth for the precious metals, that life, that priceless gift, may not be needlessly sacrificed for the enrichment of mining corporations.

In presenting this, our petition to you as one of our representatives in Congress, we will be as brief as possible in covering so important a matter as protecting those ignorant of the dangers which surround the miner from being a victim of mining companies, which, by their acts, believe (as has been stated by some mine operators), that "men are cheaper than timbers."

On Douglas Island, Alaska, the Treadwell Mining Company, which, under normal conditions, employ on an average of fifteen hundred men, have for years lost sight of the necessary precautions to insure the safety of human life. Many of the men recruited by employment agents for this company in the Pacific Coast towns are, it is true, aliens in our land, and not only unable to speak our language, but know absolutely nothing about the dangers to themselves, and to their fellow workmen as well, of mining. An investigation will prove that mines on Douglas Island operated by the Treadwell Mining Company are extremely dangerous, made so through the culpable negligence of this company through a failure to supply the necessary timbers and safety appliances which have resulted in the loss of hundreds of lives.

Thousands of men who are mining for a vocation do, from time to time, move or migrate from one mining camp to another, regardless of state or national lines, and each and every miner who assumes the ordinary risks of an underground worker, should be protected in his life and limb by the Federal government, if necessary, from the extraordinary risks imposed on him in unsafe mines, whether that unsafe condition be due to incompetent workers or dearth of proper timbering, safety appliances, or any other cause which can be removed.

We are advised that there is no statutory law under which proceedings will lie for relief in this particular case, but we submit that the relation of the Treadwell Mining Company, and the miner in this case properly comes under the relation defined by law as "master and servant," and we find in Bigelow on Torts, seventh edition, chapter XVIII, paragraph 754, in part:

"To have and keep his premises in safe condition for the servant, and according to the employment, to provide and keep constantly for him safe ways, works, machinery, tackle, appliances, and the like and competent men, and none but competent men, to carry on the service with him. And this duty cannot be delegated, so as to exempt the master; it is personal."

In other authorities we find the duty of master to servant defined as follows:

"In general, the master must use reasonable care in (1) providing and maintaining suitable appliances, machinery, and place to work; (2) providing proper fellow servants in sufficient number; (3) making and promulgating rules for the regulation of servants and giving warning and instructions, especially to *youthful* and *inexperienced* employes, with reference to danger; (4) inspecting appliances, machinery and place to work, supervising fellow servants and securing the observance of rules."

And the Supreme Court of Illinois has said:

"If for any reason the servant did not fully appreciate the danger as far for instance, from mental deficiency or from *inexperience* he has not consented." (173 Ill. 264).

And even as long ago as the dawn of the seventeenth century, Grotius, a Dutch jurist, defined "equity" as "the correction of that wherein the law (by reason of its universality) is deficient."

You may say to us that we should apply to the courts for relief, and if the courts of law do not supply an adequate remedy, the courts of Equity are still open. To that we reply, true, if an evil affects one individual or a few individuals only, it would be a private wrong, and we could not expect the state to be actively interested therein; but where an evil or wrong affects thousands of people directly, and we might say the whole nation to some extent, we submit that the effect is too far reaching to be considered a private wrong. Hence, we ask for Federal interference, and we respectfully suggest that in case the courts of equity are unable to render relief in the premises, that Congress shall take such steps as will create an industrial investigation committee, with powers to investigate the conditions in the mines operated by the Treadwell Mining Company, on Douglas Island, Alaska, and that such committee shall have power to compel the attendance of witnesses, with power to appoint inspectors to make personal investigations of underground mines, mining machinery, etc., and such other

investigations as are deemed necessary to the end that, in the interest of life and limb, laws may be presented for passage by Congress, to meet the needs of justice in this or like cases.

Although two sessions of Congress have passed since the above appeal for the protection of human life was submitted to them, no action has been taken, although in their power to enact and enforce laws in the district of Alaska which would put a stop to this terrible sacrifice of life. The Treadwell Mining Company is permitted to continue its slaughter of our fellow workers, leaving hundreds of husbandless wives and fatherless children to do battle for existence under a system which forced their loved ones to give their lives to a soulless corporation in order that they might be provided with the meager necessities of life. Again Labor has pleaded in vain to those whom they have voted into power.

STRIKE AND CONDITIONS IN FAIRBANKS, ALASKA.

On August 12th your Vice President left headquarters for Fairbanks and the following are extracts from his report to me as to the conditions which he found in that part of the jurisdiction:

"Reviewing the organization of the miners of the Tanana Valley from the beginning, I find that they organized on March 1st, 1907, at Cleary City, and were known as the United Mine Workers of the Tanana District. Organization was brought about in the Tanana District through the intolerable conditions which the miners were forced to work under, and not through the efforts of any one going as an organizer. They had no affiliation and were merely a local union, and in a short time had a membership of about thirteen hundred members. Shortly after organizing they declared a strike for the enforcement of the eight-hour day. Prior to this time the hours had been ten hours up and the wages five dollars per day and board. At the time the strike was called, the demands were to be five dollars a day and board for eight hours. While at the same time a number of the operators were paying six dollars a day and picking their men, and at a general meeting of the union those who were getting six dollars entered a protest to the five dollar wage being made part of the demand, fearing that it would reduce their wages from six to five dollars, but were in favor of striking for six dollars a day and board, and a vote being taken, the same was passed, and became the demand of the union and was so submitted to the operators and on their refusing it the strike was called. The operators organized and began recruiting men from the coast towns, but met with little success, however, as the striking miners had no backing outside of their own resources, in about ninety days practically called the strike off and returned to work. Shortly afterwards a discussion arose among the members of the Tanana Miners' Union as to the advisability of apply to the Western Federation of Miners for charter, and as a result of the same, communications were sent to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Western Federation of Miners and Thomas Steffenson, who had been selected as organizer for the Western Federation of Miners by the Fifteenth Annual Convention, was sent to Fairbanks, Alaska, to install the new organization and assist in organizing the district. The organization took on new life after receiving the charter of the Western Federation of Miners and built up to some extent."

"On February 1st, 1908, the strike was renewed against the operators by the miners' union. The operators immediately opened up an employment office in Seattle and employed a number of Greeks and Turks, shipped them to Valdez and took them in over the winter trail."

After several months, owing to the depressed condition throughout the country, the union decided that it was wise for their members to return to work, which was done, and they have since devoted their energies to strengthening their organization.

January 12th a wire was received from Nome, Alaska, notifying us that the members of that local were locked out on refusal to accept a reduction of wages of one dollar per day. This was followed by letter stating that on November 1st, the union had set the winter scale at \$4.00 and board, which was the wage paid last winter, but that the Pioneer Mining Company, which had always been unfair, started winter work paying \$3.00, and that the union was doing its utmost to maintain the \$4.00 scale. I am sorry to say that your officers are not familiar with the exact status of affairs in Nome at this time owing to the difficulty in transmitting mail, and the last official information having been a letter dated March 8th from secretary Corrigan acknowledging receipt of relief, which had been forwarded on March 5th, and stating that the strike or lockout had been left to a committee of ten members, and as but few of their members were working their treasury was about depleted, and they had been forced to ask for assistance, the receipt of which was greatly appreciated by the members and would be used to the very best advantage. The delegates will get a better idea of the situation in Nome from the following reports submitted to me by Vice President Mahoney, who stopped there on his return from Fairbanks.

Brother Mahoney says that after reviewing the conditions in Nome in a general way, it would appear that the Nome Miners' Union has a hard up-hill fight, and especially during the winter months. The system employed by the Union in that district is rather a peculiar one. They run what they term an open shop in the summer months, or what is known as the open season. During this season, wages are five dollars a day and board, and there has apparently been no question raised at any time on the part of the operators as to the payment of the scale during the open season. During the winter season, or what is known as the closed season, which is generally from the first of November to the first of May, the union scale is four dollars per day and board, and they declared for a closed shop during this season and hold all operators as unfair who refuse to pay the winter wages. The Pioneer Mining Company which is the largest in the district, gives the union no recognition whatever outside of paying the summer scale during the open season, while during the closed season, they employ men for three dollars per day and absolutely refuse to deal with the organization at all. The reason given by the union for endeavoring to enforce the closed shop during the winter months is that it is almost impossible for

the operators to recruit men in there during the season of the year, while during the summer season they can easily flood the camp by recruiting men from the coast towns. I advised them to make an effort to organize the men employed by the Pioneer Company, as they have absolutely no power so far as the company is concerned at the present time, as its employees are unorganized and many of them have remained in the employ of the company for a long period of time and have never been members of the organization. The company is controlled by Laplanders and the majority of the employees are of the same nationality and the local union has never been able to make any headway in organizing the Laps who are employed in this company. As near as I could learn there are quite a number of the Laplanders who are working for the Pioneer Company who have been given a few shares of stock by the company and then educated to the standard of believing that the more they produce the more their stock was worth, and naturally, being stockholders of the company, they could not very well organize and go on strike against themselves. This company, however, is spreading out and assuming many of the mining concerns in the district, and it appears to me that the fighting forces against the local, at that point will continue to increase rather than diminish unless they are successful in organizing the employees of this company and forcing them to terms with the organization.

You will note by the above that this local in Nome has indeed an uphill fight, and we have rendered them such assistance as the condition of the organization has permitted. The mining industry in the district of Alaska is in its infancy but promises to be one of the greatest mineral producing territories in this country in which will be employed thousands of workers. It is imperative that your organization keep fully in touch with the situation there, not only rendering every assistance possible to the present locals, but being prepared at all times to organize as the industry develops.

On May 9th an unofficial strike was declared in Jackson, California, which involved both union and non-union men. This strike was an effort to compel the employers to comply with the law—not a union-made law, but a statutory law of the state of California passed by the last general assembly providing that eight hours should constitute a days' work in mines, mills and smelters. On the 10th, Executive Board member Hutchinson arrived in Jackson and in conjunction with Brother Tom Corra, who is working as an organizer in that district, the membership of the Jackson local was increased in three days from one hundred to more than three hundred members, and the strike was declared official, which resulted in the mine being completely closed, but in four days' time the men broke ranks, a sufficient number returning to work to discourage the others, which in the opinion of your representatives on the ground, left no other recourse but to declare the strike off, which was done, and the opportunity to establish the eight-hour day was lost.

I have referred to various causes responsible for unsuccessful organization in parts of our jurisdiction, and some of these were prominent in Jackson, especially the race prejudice and the influence in the union of representatives of the employers. Had the workers in Jackson been organized as they should have been, recognizing their class interests and working in harmony, there would have been recorded a different conclusion, but this is only another example of our weakness and proves that the men in the mining industry have not as yet arrived at that stage of perfection when they can be trusted to not scab on each other and that we have a field for education at home that may well require our most earnest efforts.

Your attention will be called to the conditions confronting a number of our locals at this particular time which are of vital importance and will require your most careful thought. Local No. 22, of Greenwood, British Columbia, has had to contend with a vicious policy of discrimination against their members on the part of the B. C. Copper Company, until, in self-defense, they were compelled to act, and on March 24th we received the following telegram from Secretary Heatherton:

"Greenwood Miners' Union want permission to take referendum vote to call strike against discrimination. The B. C. Copper Company are discharging most of our best men and they are leaving Greenwood. We want power to apply for Conciliation Board under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act. It means the life of this organization that we act immediately."

Executive Board member Davidson was wired to proceed to Greenwood and make an investigation, which he did, and upon his advice, Local No. 22 was authorized to proceed under this act, which provides:

"Wherever any dispute exists between an employer and any of his employees and the parties thereto are unable to adjust it, either of the parties to the dispute may make application to the Minister for the appointment of a Board of Conciliation and Investigation, to which Board the dispute may be referred under the provisions of this Act."

"Every Board shall consist of three members who shall be appointed by the Minister.

"Of the three members of the Board one shall be appointed on the recommendation of the employer and one on the recommendation of the employees (parties to the dispute), and the third on the recommendation of the members so chosen."

The purpose of the Union in securing this permission was to conform to the further provision of the statute which provides that:

1. The application shall be made in writing in the prescribed form, and shall be in substance a request to the Minister to appoint a Board to which the existing dispute may be referred under the provisions of this Act.

2. The application shall be accompanied by:

(a) A statement setting forth:

(1) The parties to the dispute;

(2) The nature and cause of the dispute including any claims or demands made by either party upon the other, to which exception is taken;

3. An approximate estimate of the number of persons affected or likely to be affected by the dispute; and

(b) A statutory declaration setting forth that, failing an adjustment of the dispute or a reference thereof by the Minister to a Board of Conciliation and Investigation under the Act, to the best knowledge and belief of the declarant, a lock-out or strike, as the case may be, will be declared, and that the necessary authority to declare such lock-out or strike has been obtained.

3. The application may mention the name of a person who is willing and ready and desires to act as a member of the Board representing the party or parties making the application.

The application and declaration accompanying it:

(1) If made by an employer, an incorporated company or corporation shall be signed by some one of its duly authorized managers or other principal executive officers;

(2) If made by an employer other than an incorporated company or corporation shall be signed by the employer himself in case he is an individual, or a majority of the partners or members in case of a partnership firm or association;

(3) If made by employees members of a trade union shall be signed by two of its officers duly authorized by a majority vote of the members of the union, or by a vote taken by ballot of the members of the union present at a meeting called on not less than three days' notice for the purpose of discussing the question;

(4) If made by employees some or all of whom are not members of a trade union shall be signed by two of their number duly authorized by a majority vote taken by ballot of the employees present at a meeting called on not less than three days' notice for the purpose of discussing the question.

The object of this legislation, as I understand it, is to delay a conflict between the employer and employe until every means are exhausted to arrive at an adjustment, the Board not being clothed with the power to enforce their findings, but authorized to endeavor in every way possible to bring about a settlement of the dispute.

The Board met in Greenwood May 1st, and after reviewing the situation was unable to bring the contending parties together. Its findings have not reached me to this date, but on June 22nd we received word from the officers of Twenty-two that the Union was not satisfied with the same and had notified Mr. McAllister, general manager, that unless he gave them a satisfactory answer by the 25th of June, a strike would be declared, and on that date the following were reached headquarters:

"Greenwood Miners' Union has declared a strike against the B. C. Copper Company for discrimination and refusing to recognize the Union."

The position taken by the Greenwood Local should not only receive the endorsement of this convention, but that endorsement should carry with it a determination to stand or fall in the defense of the right of the workers in the mining industry to affiliate with the Western Federation of Miners. While sweeping injunctions have been issued restraining organized labor from doing certain things, while men have been deprived of life and liberty for daring to strike against unbearable conditions, still I know of no legislation, no decision of a court as yet which says to wage workers, "You shall not belong to an organization of your class," therefore, we are within the confines of the law when we demand the privilege to earn our livelihood as members of our economic organization. If labor were to say to the employer, "You shall not belong to your union, or association as you choose to call it, and if you insist in so doing, we will refuse to enter your employ," an order would soon issue from some court of equity or the emergency be met by some legislative enactment declaring such action to be a conspiracy to injure, restrain, threaten, intimidate, and a multiplicity of other terrible things. There would be no difficulty in showing that his rights as a citizen secured to him by the Constitution of the United States were attacked and that the law must come to his support, but it becomes a different question when the employer, or his union, says to the wage worker in his employ who makes it possible for him to exist and his business to prosper, "I am the judge not only as to your wages and hours, but preserves the right to do your thinking and select the society or political organization with which you shall affiliate. While I may be represented by my union or alliance, you must bow the knee in supplication as an individual if you become so bold as to complain of your conditions." The right to organize is an inherent one. The right of the people to select some one of their number to represent them is unquestionable, and the Western Federation of Miners should serve notice on the employer in no uncertain way that we will defend that right at any cost, if need be.

Your organization is not alone confronted with the open shop idea, but we find in most of the large employing centers the corporation, trusts, manufacturers' association and the master builders issuing their ultimatum that the open shop must prevail, and the great steel trust has fixed the time as July 1st. The open shop of the employer is the non-union shop. They hesitate to come out into the open with their declaration of absolute refusal to recognize or treat with organized labor, but hiding behind the open shop, they make their plea on the ground of their right to employ whosoever they see fit, and their hearts burst with sympathy in defense of the rights of the poor ignorant wage slave, who failing to realize his class interests, becomes a tool in their hands to be used against the efforts of his fellow workers who are struggling to better his condition as well as their own. The Western Federation of Miners has never declared for the so-called open shop in the mining industry. It has ever conceded the right of the employer to employ the non-union as well as the union worker, but it does demand that he shall not discriminate against the latter, and that when a number of his employes believe that their interests can best be served

through their union, that their right to affiliate with the same shall be recognized.

On June 2nd I received the following communication from the East Helena Mill & Smelters' Union No. 126:

To the Members of the Executive Board of the Western Federation of Miners, President Moyer, Sir and Brother:

At a regular meeting held last night it was moved and carried that this local make a demand on the American Smelting and Refining Company for the following rate of wages, hours and recognition, for your approval. Lowest rate, \$3.00 a day of eight hours for every one working in and around the smelter, and recognition of the union.

Per their request this was submitted to the Executive Board, the result of their vote being to endorse the position of the local.

In submitting their decision to the union I recommended that action on calling a strike be deferred until the matter could be considered by this convention, and that the local have a representative here to fully inform you as to the exact situation, and brother Burns is here for that purpose.

The American Smelting and Refining Company is among the most powerful corporations in this country and their antagonism toward organized labor is pronounced. If you decide to advise the East Helena Smelters' Union to declare a strike against them, the most careful and thorough preparations should be made to the end that the entire strength of your organization may be centered at that point.

On June 24th, I received a communication from the Lane Local No. 251, at Lane City, Nevada, notifying me that the union had adopted the following scale:

Engineers, hoist men and pumpmen.	\$4.00
General blacksmiths.	4.50
Shaft work.	4.00
When wet.	4.50
All other work underground.	3.50
Top men.	3.00

The said scale to go into effect July 1st.

In concluding, secretary Cox stated that the vote on the scale was taken with the full understanding that it meant strike, and that we could expect to hear that the men were out on the first. In replying to this I called their attention to Article 5, Section 1 of the Constitution, and earnestly advised that no action be taken by their union that would involve them in strike until this convention could investigate and pass on the matter. After reviewing the situation at Greenwood and East Helena, I feel confident that you will agree with me as to the wisdom of this advice, as Ely, Nevada, is one of the very important points in your jurisdiction, the indications being that it will develop into one of our greatest copper producing districts, therefore, the regulating of wages and working conditions there must, necessarily, effect the entire industry.

LITIGATION.

The cases which were pending against a number of your members in Fairbanks, Alaska, one year ago have been all disposed of. These men were indicted by the Federal Grand Jury on the charge of inciting riot with the intent to do bodily harm. The cases were brought to trial in the Federal Court and resulted in the acquittal of those tried and the dismissal of the charges against the others.

The case of Albert Ryan of Jerome, Arizona, came to trial in the District Court sitting in Prescott and the jury found a verdict of guilty, Ryan being sentenced to one year in the Territorial penitentiary. An appeal was taken to the Supreme Court and the case remanded back for re-trial. Ryan is innocent of the charge of assault with intent to kill and we feel confident that if a fair and impartial jury can be secured when his case is again heard that he will be acquitted.

The several civil cases which were pending have been disposed of. In fact, with the exception of the Ryan case, your organization is at this time absolutely free of litigation.

In pursuance with the instructions given by the Sixteenth Annual Convention your officers continued their efforts toward the release of brothers Preston and Smith, who are incarcerated in the Nevada state prison.

This case, you will remember, was appealed from the trial court of Nevada to the Supreme Court—Judge Hilton of Denver representing Smith and Preston, presenting the case to that court. The Court, after withholding its decision for a considerable length of time, decided that they would not consider the case on its merits because the appeal had not been filed in the time prescribed by the statutes of that state; the defendants' attorneys having only served notice of appeal, which under the law they should have filed the application inside of thirty days. The Supreme Court in disposing of the case expressed regrets that the defects in the notice of appeal were such as to require the dismissal of the cause without consideration of its merits, but individual members of the Court have since stated that could the case have been so received the men would, beyond a question of a doubt, been remanded back to the lower courts for re-trial so that as a matter of fact Preston and Smith are today serving long sentences in the Nevada Prison on account of an error of their attorneys, for had a new trial been granted in any county in the state of Nevada, they would have been acquitted. Being unable to secure any relief through the higher courts of the state, and after consulting with attorney Hilton, Preston and Smith and their relatives, it was decided to make application for their release through pardon. To this end more than three thousand signatures of residents of Nevada were secured as well as the majority of the jury who signed the verdict, and on January 8th, Judge Hilton appeared before the Pardoning Board and presented the case at length, giving many reasons why these men should be released, principally among them being in Smith's case—that Smith had been charged jointly with Preston of having committed murder, but was convicted of manslaughter, while, as a matter of fact, as shown by the evidence introduced in the trial, he, Smith, was at home with his family at the time that the crime was committed, therefore could not have been guilty, under the

law given the jury by the court, of the latter offense. He also, it appeared made plain to the Pardoning Board that Preston acted in self-defense, and that much of the evidence introduced against him was perjured, but that Honorable body was apparently not satisfied and with little hesitation refused the application.

The rulings of the Pardoning Board provide that after a case has once been passed upon and the relief asked for has been refused, it shall not within twelve months thereafter be again taken up or considered except by consent of a majority of the members. Feeling that we should let no opportunity pass that might bring relief to these brothers, we petitioned the Board to again consider the application at their July meeting, but our petition being denied, we are powerless to proceed further in the matter until the next regular meeting in January, 1910, when we believe that with the new evidence we have been able to secure, that our appeal may receive favorable consideration, for it is almost beyond belief that the Pardoning Board of Nevada will longer permit these men to suffer for a crime for which the preponderance of evidence produced in the trial proves them innocent. That Morrie Preston took the life of Silvia is not denied, but that he did so in defense of his own life, which he may do under the law, is proven beyond a question of a doubt. That Joe Smith is suffering for a crime that he could not have committed, and the Court in his instructions to the jury charged them that under the law he must be acquitted, therefore I recommend that your incoming Executive Board and officers be instructed to continue their efforts until justice shall finally be secured for these men who are wearing their lives away behind prison bars because they dared to defend labor's rights.

LEGISLATION.

In the state of California during the session of the last legislature a bill was introduced providing that eight hours should constitute a day's work in all mines, mills and smelters and other ore reduction works. Your Executive Board, which was in session at that time, recognizing the importance of securing this legislation, decided to send representatives to Sacramento to work in the interests of the measure and selected J. C. Williams of Grass Valley, and Phillip Mertz, of Randsburg, for that purpose; the California State Union being represented by its president, Martin Wallace. Through their efforts the representatives were made to recognize the necessity and justice of such a law and the bill was passed and received the signature of the Governor, but strange to say, the mine owners of California, regardless of the fact that the Supreme Court of the United States has twice passed on the identical law, declaring it constitutional—once in the Utah case taken before that tribunal by your deceased attorney, John H. Murphy, and again in the Missouri case—are attacking its constitutionality on the grounds:

"That the law is a violation of subdivision 2, section 25, of Article 4 of the Constitution of California in that it is a special law for the punishment of a crime; subdivision 33, of section 25, of article 4 in that it is a special law where a general one could be made applicable; section 21, article 1, on the ground of special privileges; section 24, article 4; title has more than one subject;

Complaint sworn to by Swerer same as above;

Complaint sworn to by Sarjent same as above and in addition: Section 1, article 1, in regard to the right to possess and acquire property and the right to contract; section 21, article 1, special privileges; section 15, article 1, impairs the obligation of contracts, section 11, article 1, law not of uniform operation; section 13, article 1, deprives of property without due process of law.

And to test the same have caused to be arrested certain parties, charging them with its violation and the case is set for argument before the Supreme Court of California July 6th. We have retained attorney J. S. Ford, of Grass Valley, to assist the district attorney of Calaveras county and it is to be hoped that the court will pass favorably on the law, but should their decision be adverse, I would recommend that your organization take such steps as are necessary to carry the case to the United States Supreme Court for a final ruling.

In the state of Nevada, through the efforts of your locals, an eight hour law was placed on the statutes for men employed in open pit and open cut workings, also for those employed in plaster and cement mills. These in addition to the laws already enacted governing the employment of labor in all underground workings, mills and smelters, furnishes protection for all workers in the mining industry in that state.

In the state of Colorado your officers had introduced an eight-hour bill in fact; the one now on the statutes being placed there through the efforts of the American Smelting and Refining Company and only regulating the hours of about twenty per cent. of those employed in the production and reduction of ores and coal. While the majority of the representatives seemed to favor the bill, it met the fate that overtook many others, not being reached before adjournment. There are thousands of men employed in the mining industry in the state of Colorado who are still compelled to labor long and unreasonable hours, and the Western Federation of Miners should continue its efforts until the eight-hour work day is an established fact in every state, territory and district in its jurisdiction, and if it shall only accomplish this and noting more, it will be responsible for prolonging the lives of thousands of human beings who go down to premature graves from the effects of long hours of toil in the noxious fumes and gases of the smelter and the foul air and smoke of the mine.

You will all remember that during the latter part of 1903 and up until June 6th, 1904, your organization was doing a large mercantile business in the Cripple Creek District. On the latter date while the Colorado National Guard were in charge of affairs in Teller county, said county having been declared under martial law by the then governor, James H. Peabody, a riot took place in which the state militia participated, but which they made no effort to put down. When they had completed their work, it was found that their efforts had been directed almost entirely to the destruction of what was known as the union stores and that your organization had suffered a loss of many

thousands of dollars. We have always maintained that the state of Colorado was responsible for this damage, and I am pleased to report that the majority of representatives in both branches of the Seventeenth General Assembly agreed with us and bills were passed appropriating approximately sixty thousand dollars to reimburse us for our loss. These bills provide for an audit of our claims by the State Auditing Board, but at the time of compiling this report, such audit had not as yet been had but we trust before you adjourn the same will be concluded and that warrants will be issued against the state of Colorado to compensate your organization for at least a part of their property loss during the so-called Colorado War.

The question of jurisdiction between the Western Federation of Miners and other organizations of labor confronts us at times regardless of the fact that some of our members declare there is no such thing. Generally there has been but little friction during the year with the exception of Butte, Montana, where a question arose between Local No. 83, W. F. M., and the United Brewery Workers over the jurisdiction of engineers and firemen employed in the breweries. After the trouble had become acute, at the request of Executive Board member Lowney, I visited Butte, not for the purpose of taking any official action in the matter, but to personally inform myself as to the exact status of the affair. Upon investigation I found that the engineers employed in the breweries of Silver Bow county, had for many years been members of No. 83, and were at the time the trouble began. The United Brewery Workers, believing in industrial unionism, have a provision in their constitution providing for the issuing of charters to engineers and firemen, as has the Western Federation of Miners, claiming jurisdiction and waging determined battle for the same for many years over all men employed in the brewing industry, the engineers in the Butte breweries had made no complaint to their local No. 83—they had made no request for permission to withdraw and charter with the Brewery Workers, but in the dead of night, as it were, unbeknown to their organization, which they had taken an obligation to support, they applied for and were granted a charter in the United Brewery Workers. It was not enough for them to deceive their own union, but in applying for the charter they made no explanation as to the situation to the headquarters of the Brewery Workers, and the same was granted while ignorant of the fact that the applicants were all members of another organization. When No. 83 discovered what they were doing they immediately surmised that another move such as had been engineered by those antagonistic to the W. F. M. in Montana was on foot to disrupt their organization, and they proceeded to act at once, announcing their right of jurisdiction not only to all engineers in Silver Bow county, but throughout the state of Montana, and proposed to the Brewery bosses the signing of contracts for a period of three years and such agreements were entered into with the brewery operators of Butte. Upon this action being taken, the locals of the brewery workers, the new engineers' local included, demanded the signing of their contracts, which was refused, with the result that they discontinued work and local No. 83 filled the places of the engineers with their members. The matter coming before locals No. 1 and No. 74 the position of No. 83 was endorsed and the two latter locals declared the breweries fair and authorized their members to accept employment in the same and that said employment would be permanent.

A few days prior to my leaving for Montana, General Secretary Proebstle of the United Brewery Workers, who was in Denver, called at our headquarters for the purpose of securing information as to the situation in Butte, but having had no official information from any of our locals at that point I was unable to intelligently discuss the matter with Mr. Proebstle, and he decided to personally visit Butte and endeavor to bring about a settlement and was on the ground at the time of my arrival. After learning of the methods that had been resorted to by the Brewery engineers in securing their charter, he immediately revoked the same and ordered them to take out membership in the other locals of his organization, and in behalf of Mr. Proebstle, I feel that I should say that when I arrived in Butte he appeared to be doing everything in his power to bring about an honorable adjustment of the trouble between the two organizations.

On April 14th I was present at a meeting of the joint committee which had been appointed by our three locals there; Mr. Proebstle also being present, and the following basis of settlement was submitted by him in behalf of the Brewery Workers:

1. All men who went out on May 1st, 1909, to return to their former positions without discrimination.
2. The case of Mahoney not to enter into the settlement, but to be taken up afterwards between local union No. 66 and the brewery in question, according to the arbitration provision.
3. The Brewery Workers to make agreement with the Western Federation of Miners in regard to the free transfer of members in the engine, boiler and bottling departments, providing vacancies occur and members of the W. F. M. are able to secure the positions, the same rule governing the W. F. M. members as the Brewery Workers in regard to labor employment office.
4. All men employed in the breweries to come under jurisdiction of the Brewery Workers' International Union.
5. A man leaving the brewery employment and able to secure work coming under the jurisdiction of the W. F. M. shall be transferred free to the Miners' organizations.

The joint committee absolutely refused to accept this as a basis of settlement and submitted a counter proposition as follows:

1. The elimination of all reference to the engineers in the Brewers' contract.
2. The contract for three years.
3. An open field as to the employment of labor.
4. All men now working be admitted into the Brewers' Union without prejudice on the union cards they now carry.

As to Drivers.

1. The elimination in the drivers' contract of all reference to the engineers.

2. A contract for three years.

3. An open field as to the employment of labor.

4. All men now working to be admitted into the drivers' union without prejudice on the union cards they now carry.

After much discussion by the joint committee, it was decided that they were not consistent in dictating to the United Brewery Workers as to the length of time for which they should sign contract with the bosses and section two was eliminated.

Mr. Proebstle absolutely refused to accept these terms of settlement and the matter went over until the 18th, when another meeting of the committee was held, and Mr. Proebstle submitted the following terms of settlement:

1. Engineers' Union No. 83 shall have jurisdiction over the engineers and firemen employed at the breweries in Silver Bow county until such time as the question may be finally determined between the two general organizations.

2. It is agreed that no charges shall be made, nor fines levied, nor discrimination practiced against any of the members of Engineers' Union No. 83 on account of their having quit their employment with the Brewery Workers on May 1st, 1909.

3. It is agreed that the local unions of the W. F. M. shall withdraw all of their members at present employed in the local breweries in positions formerly held by the members of local unions No. 66 and No. 231 of the Brewery Workers.

This proposition, after being fully discussed by the committee, was rejected, but it was decided to submit the same to the different locals. Up to that time I had taken no part whatever in the affair, but at this last meeting being called upon by the chairman for an opinion I said to the committee that my presence not having been requested by any of our locals, that I had taken no official position in the matter, nor would I do so until called upon as provided in Article 3, Section 11 of our constitution, but that I had no hesitancy in giving them my personal opinion regarding the proposition submitted by the United Brewery Workers, which I considered absolutely fair.

The meeting of Local No. 1 occurring on the evening of that day, the basis of settlement was placed before them and upon motion, accepted, which as you will note carried with it the withdrawing of their members employed in the breweries on the following morning. When this was done, it appeared that the question of principle had been set aside and that it had developed into a question of the job. The members of the Western Federation of Miners who were withdrawn from the breweries after the question of jurisdiction had been settled registered a vigorous protest, in which I am sorry to say, they were encouraged by certain officials of our locals there whose duty it should have been, in my opinion, to bring about a settlement of the deplorable affair instead of agitating its continuance. I have stated to you my position up to this time in connection with the situation, but regardless of this there were those who went among the men on the streets the next morning, one in particular who is an officer in local No. 74, and present on the floor of this convention—delegate A. M. Fluent by name—who I am informed harangued the crowds of excited men on the street corners declaring that I was a traitor to the Western Federation of Miners and had sold out to the United Brewery Workers. The result of this agitation was an application to the president of No. 1 for a special meeting to discuss the action of the local at its regular meeting. I left Montana for Wallace, Idaho, on the 19th and was informed by telegram while in Spokane, Washington, that the special meeting resulted in arrangements for a referendum vote on the action taken at the regular meeting in accepting the basis of settlement, and calling the men out of the breweries; and later I received word from Butte that the referendum had resulted in rescinding the action of the regular meeting. In the meantime, the two locals of the Brewery Workers had signed up their two years' contract with the brewery bosses and returned to work.

This trouble between the United Brewery Workers and the Western Federation of Miners was deplorable indeed, made more so by the friendly relations which have at all times existed between the two organizations and the fact that both believe in an industrial form of organization and have apparently believed that their class interests were identical, the United Brewery Workers having during the past number of years been as deeply interested in the struggles of the Western Federation of Miners and contributing as loyally to its support as have many of our own members.

As the terms of settlement provide that the question of jurisdiction should finally be determined between the general organizations, it is to be supposed that the United Brewery Workers will ask that the matter be taken up by this convention or at some future time. I have every reason to believe that the United Brewery Workers are desirous that everything possible should be done in order to continue the friendly relations between the two organizations, and it would surely be regrettable should anything develop to prevent not only the continuance of our past relations, but a closer affiliation in the future.

The lesson taught in this controversy in Butte, Montana, should bring it more forcibly to the mind of every delegate in this convention and every member of the Western Federation of Miners that under the present system of organization there is a question of jurisdiction lines and that regardless of how the Western Federation of Miners may feel in regard to said system, it is a matter of fact that we have got to contend with and until the sentiment for industrial unionism has taken a much firmer hold upon the membership of the different large bodies of organized labor than it has at this time, that any attempt upon the part of our organization to break into their ranks can only precipitate a determined jurisdictional battle, and that it will be the membership of both organizations that will suffer and not the employers. I believe it possible to bring about a more thorough working agreement between our organization, the United Brewery Workers, the United Mine Workers and several other organizations, and to that end I recommend that if agreeable to the two first named bodies that arrangements be made whereby an interchange of delegates to attend our annual con-

ventions be arrived at. I have been notified that representatives of the United Brewery Workers and Mine Workers will visit you during your session and I feel safe in saying that they will receive a hearty welcome.

The Sixteenth Annual Convention submitted to the membership an amendment to the constitution providing that a new district composed of Alaska and Yukon territory be created, which was adopted and I appointed as a member of the Executive Board of said district, Brother Yanco Terzich, a member of Douglas Local No. 109. In the selection of Brother Terzich, I feel that I made no mistake as he has faithfully and honorably represented our organization in the district of Alaska.

In the month of November I received the resignation of Executive Board member Roderick MacKenzie. It was with regret that I accepted this resignation, as I recognized in brother MacKenzie one of the stalwarts in our organization. He was a faithful, conscientious worker, a safe adviser, and his every effort was put forth in the interests of the Western Federation of Miners. To fill the unexpired term I appointed Howard Tresidder, formerly a member of the Idaho Springs local, but holding membership in the Central City Union No. 56, at the time of his appointment. Brother Tresidder was one of those who, because he dared to stand firm for justice during the strike in Idaho Springs in 1903-4, brought down upon his head the vengeance of a Mine Owners' Association and Citizens' Alliance, being dragged from his home and loved ones under cover of night and sent into exile by the defenders of law and order. I was glad of the opportunity to show my appreciation of Howard Tresidder's faithful services in the cause of the Western Federation of Miners, which has continued since his connection with the Executive Board.

On August 3rd, 1908, almost before the delegates of the Sixteenth Annual Convention had reached their homes, the last summons came which took from us our friend and brother, George A. Pettibone. He died as he had lived, true to labor's cause, always hopeful and trusting that justice would in time prevail. We laid him away in Fairmount cemetery in a plot of ground purchased by the organization for which he had given his life, and before this convention adjourns we will dedicate to his memory a monument which will be erected from the offerings of his many friends. Would to God that there were more Pettibones to fight labor's battles. His place can never be refilled and his life was an example after which we all might well pattern.

Acting under instruction, steps were taken to create a fund for the erection of a monument to the memory of our deceased attorney, John H. Murphy, and in conjunction with the Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, the necessary amount was raised and the contract placed which calls for its completion not later than July 20th, and a day should be set aside by you after that date for the dedication of both monuments.

In conclusion I might say that there are many amendments that in my opinion could be made to your constitution which would simplify the same and make it much less difficult to interpret, but I shall leave these recommendations for your Executive Board, as well as many other matters which have engaged their attention and upon which they are well qualified and will undoubtedly advise. It has been my intention to make this report as comprehensive as possible, and while it may not be as complete as it should be, I trust that I have gone into sufficient detail to give you an idea of my views on the different subjects on which I have touched. There are some things which have transpired during the year that I have not included but which I have concluded to submit to you in a supplementary report.

To each of my colleagues in office, I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for the confidence reposed in me and the liberal support which they have given to my efforts.

Your organization has been fortunate in securing the services of your present Secretary-Treasurer, who has been faithful to his trust, has the respect of all those whom it has been necessary for him to come in contact with in a business way, and his accounts will show that the financial affairs of your organization have been in safe hands.

To the membership who have given me their assistance, I wish to convey my sincere thanks. To those who have thoughtlessly worked against their own interests while following the leadership of those who have endeavored to make my official life more burdensome, I have nothing but pity; but for those who have intentionally attacked my sincerity and honesty, who have placed every obstacle possible in my path, I have nothing but the most extreme contempt.

As I have said, I turn over to you the office of president, conscious of having done my full duty, and while I trust I will not be understood as attempting to prescribe rules or methods for the government of my successor, I hope that I may be excused if I suggest that he should be devoted to the highest conception of our organization and be ever loyal to the welfare of the working class.

May the Western Federation of Miners continue its onward march in the cause of humanity until labor shall come into its own, which is the full product of its toil, is my earnest prayer.

Fraternally submitted, CHARLES H. MOYER,
President, W. F. M.

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE WESTERN FEDERATION OF MINERS AT DENVER, COLORADO, OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS.

FIRST DAY.

ODD FELLOWS' HALL.

Denver, Colo., July 12, 1909.

The delegates of the seventeenth annual convention were called to order by President Charles H. Moyer, at 10 a. m.

George A. Hally, president of the Colorado State Federation of Labor was then introduced and rendered an address of welcome to the delegates assembled and explained the form of organization that exists among the various craft organizations in Denver, which was received with applause.

W. A. Alger, president of the Trades and Labor Assembly, was introduced to the delegates in behalf of the Trades and Labor Assembly and urged

harmony and solidarity among the delegates in their deliberations and was met with unanimous applause.

Edwin V. Brake, state labor commissioner of Colorado, was then introduced and also delivered a lengthy address of welcome to the assembled delegates, amid applause, and in well chosen words stated his position regarding labor and his efforts in behalf of the Western Federation of Miners in having the state of Colorado restitute or compensate the Federation for the wrongs inflicted on the organization during the reign of Peabody in Colorado; also stated his efforts in behalf of making the mines as safe as possible and preventing the carelessness of the mine owners in slaughtering men in the southern coal fields by enforcing the labor laws that are upon the statute books of the state of Colorado, especially the factory act to better the conditions of those who labor. He was greeted with renewed applause.

Wm. L. Leonard, who represented the Socialist party of the state of Colorado, was then introduced, and in behalf of the Socialist party delivered an address of welcome which was received by applause from the assembled members.

President Moyer thanked the speakers in behalf of the delegates in a short address which was received with applause.

The following credential committee was appointed by President Chas. H. Moyer:

Rupert Bulmer, Roseland M. U. No. 38; Hugh McLaughlin, Butte M. U. No. 1; H. A. Allen, Silverton No. 26; Phillip A. Lee, Tonopah M. U. No. 121; S. A. Whipple, McCabe M. U. No. 118; Richard Bunny, Lead M. U. No. 2; John Valimaki, Hancock M. U. No. 200.

The convention adjourned until 3:30 p. m.

Brother W. A. Leonard extended an invitation to the delegates to the Tuileries park picnic in behalf of the Socialist party.

SECOND DAY.

Morning Session.

July 13, 1909.

The convention was called to order by President Moyer at 9 a. m. and report of credential committee read.

Moved and seconded that the report of the committee be adopted.

Brother P. W. Flynn requested information as to what part of the constitution the credential committee disqualified members whom charges are pending against.

Rupert Bulmer, chairman of the credential committee replied to the same by quoting Section 6, Article 3.

Delegate Bunny, member of the credential committee also replied to the question stating that committee did not regard a member under charges to vote upon the disposition of such charges.

Brother P. W. Flynn replied to the same claiming an injustice was being done him by those who sat upon his case.

Brother Thomas Booher took the floor regarding the same and quoting the constitution on the duties of the executive board, claimed that the executive board had acted illegally in the appeal trial of himself and P. W. Flynn vs. J. C. Lowney.

Brother Chas. Mitchell requested information as to the disposition of his votes pending action of appeals in his case and was replied to by Brother Hugh McLaughlin, member credential committee.

Executive Board Member Lowney took the floor and denied voting on the appeal case of Flynn and Booher vs. Lowney.

Brother Hugh McLaughlin rose to a point of order which was sustained by the chair and Brother Lowney was instructed to confine his remarks to the question before the house.

Brother Charles Mitchell rose to a point of order and was sustained by the chair.

Brother J. A. Jones rose for a question of information and Brother H. A. Allen replied to same, on behalf of the credentials committee.

Brother A. M. Fluent moved as an amendment to strike out recommendations of committee in regard to Brothers Flynn and Booher and Mitchell.

Brother A. M. Fluent then spoke to question and quoted Section 4, Article 2, as to eligibility of delegates.

Brother Rupert Bulmer, chairman of committee, replied to same and read resolutions placed in the committee's hands by order of the executive board as follows:

Denver, Colo., July 12, 1909.

Resolution by Executive Board to Credential Committee:

Appeals from Brothers Flynn and Booher of No. 1 read wherein they appeal from the decision of the executive board in the case of Lowney vs. Booher and Flynn, which had been appealed by Brother Lowney from No. 1 to the board.

Moved by Clough, seconded by Tresidder, that we, the executive board, protest the seating of Brothers Flynn and Booher as delegates in the seventeenth annual convention until their appeal has been heard and finally settled by the convention. Motion carried. Davidson and Hutchinson recorded as voting No.

Denver, Colo., July 12, 1909.

Resolution by Executive Board to Credential Committee:

Appeal of Brother Mapleton of Globe Miners' Union read, wherein he appeals from the findings of the Globe Miners' Union in the case of Mapleton vs. Mitchell.

Moved by Davidson, seconded by Jinkerson, that the action of the Globe Miners' Union in this case be sustained.

Moved by Mahoney, seconded by Tracey, that the matter be referred to the seventeenth annual convention.

Moved by Clough, seconded by Lowney, as an amendment, that we recommend that Delegate Mitchell not be seated till his case has been heard. Amendment carried.

Motion as amended put and carried; Hutchinson and Davidson voting No.

Brother M. J. Connors asked the question if this was a deliberate body and spoke on question.

Brother Hugh McLaughlin, member of committee, then spoke to question and replied to same.

Brother Chas. Mitchell then took the floor and requested the right to dispose of his votes at his own discretion.

Executive Board Member Hutchinson then spoke on question before the house in support of motion and on being called to order by chair appealed to the house from decision of the chair. On a rising vote being taken, it was showed sixty were for the sustaining the chair and forty against. Chair sustained.

Executive Board Member Hutchinson again took the floor in support of amendment before the house.

Brother John Harper rose to a point of order and was sustained by the chair.

Brother Hugh McLaughlin rose to a question of information.

Brother Hutchinson continued his remarks.

Brother Rupert Bulmer took the floor and replied to same, quoting Roberts' rules of order regarding charges against a member of a deliberative body.

Brother Owen McCabe took the floor and spoke on the question.

Brother Charles Mitchell asked for reading of resolutions from board and same was read by chairman of credential committee.

Brother Charles Mitchell again took the floor, asked if there had been an appeal made by Brother Mapleton to the convention.

Vice President Mahoney replied to same and spoke to question.

Brother Charles Mitchell again took the floor claiming an injustice had been done him by the executive board.

Brother Thomas Booher took the floor on question.

Brother H. A. Allen rose to a point of order and was sustained by the chair.

Brother B. Lindsey took the floor in support of amendment.
 Brother M. L. Tompkins was granted the floor and spoke to the question before the house in support.
 Brother H. A. Allen moved the previous question. Motion carried.
 Amendment put and declared carried by 53 for; 43 against.
 Brother Hammond took the floor to correct report of committee and asked for information as to why he was not credited with a vote and the following telegram was read:

No. 4 Laurium, Mich., July 11, 1909
 Ernest Mills, Secretary, Seventeenth Annual Convention, W. F. M., 605 Railroad Building, Denver, Colorado:
 Copper Miners' Union No. 203 today unanimously declared Delegate Hammond's election null and void on account of not being a member in good standing. Letter following

A. L. LARSEN, Secretary
 Original motion put and carried as amended.
 Moved and seconded that the sessions of this convention be open to the public. Motion carried.
 Roll call read and the following absentees noted: B. R. Leivers and H. B. Snellman.

The committees were then appointed by President Moyer.
 The request of Brother Booher to be kept off committee was granted.
 Delegate from No. 74 asked that the extra vote be given Brother A. M. Fluert instead of Brother Chas. Whitely.

Moved by Kirwan that a daily synopsis of the proceedings of the convention be printed. Motion carried.
 Moved by Mitchell that the resolution committee draw up resolutions in regard to the death of nine brothers in the Trinidad accident. Motion carried.

Moved by McCabe that the resolution committee draw up resolutions of condemnation of the thugs who shot the brothers in Lane, Nevada, also that we wire Cox for particulars of the shooting. Motion carried.

Moved by Davidson that the meeting adjourn to 2 o'clock. Motion carried.
 The following are the names of the delegates who make up the various committees:

Credential.

- Rupert Bulmer, Rossland Miners' Union No. 38.
- Hugh McLaughlin, Butte Miners' Union No. 1.
- H. A. Allen, Silverton Miners' Union No. 26.
- Phillip A. Lee, Tonopah Miners' Union No. 121.
- S. A. Whipple, McCabe Miners' Union No. 118.
- Richard Bunny, Lead Miners' Union No. 2.
- John Valimaki, Hancock Copper Miners' Union No. 200.

Auditing.

- John Harper, Globe Miners' Union No. 60.
- Owen McCabe, Butte Miners' Union No. 1.
- J. E. Dahl, Deadwood M. & M. Union No. 14.
- John Condon, Ouray Miners' Union No. 15.
- Chas. Blackburn, Butte Engineers' Union No. 83.
- Jas. T. Sullivan, Lucky Boy Miners' Union No. 248.
- Geo. Heatherton, Greenwood Miners' Union No. 22.

President's Report.

- Jos. D. Cannon, Bisbee Miners' Union No. 106.
- J. C. Whiteley, Butte M. & S. Union No. 74.
- Jas. Kirwan, Terry Peak Miners' Union No. 5.
- W. S. Reid, Calaveras Miners' Union No. 55.
- John Cigalla, Telluride Miners' Union No. 63.
- Wm. Jensen, Nederland Miners' Union No. 48.
- R. Lee Lashley, Flat River Miners' Union No. 225.

Resolutions.

- Jacob Bolter, Terry Peak Miners' Union No. 5.
- Harry Stark, Butte Miners' Union No. 1.
- H. C. Kennedy, Jerome Miners' Union No. 101.
- W. H. Burns, East Helena M. & S. Union No. 126.
- Geo. Mills, French Gulch Miners' Union No. 141.
- Albert Nap Gauthier, Cobalt Miners' Union No. 146.
- John D. Gabbert, Round Mountain Miners' Union No. 247.

Grievance.

- Ed. Regan, Lead Miners' Union No. 2.
- Chas. N. Larson, Cloud City Miners' Union No. 33.
- John Young, Virginia City Miners' Union No. 46.
- Wm. McCarthy, Bingham Canyon Miners' Union No. 67.
- M. J. O'Connors, Globe Miners' Union No. 60.
- Frank Dunn, Butte Miners' Union No. 1.
- John Temby, Grass Valley Miners' Union No. 90.

Ways and Means.

- J. D. Cluney, Cobalt Miners' Union No. 146.
- H. B. Snellman, Bessemer Miners' Union No. 204.
- P. W. Flynn, Butte Miners' Union No. 1.
- Alex. Cummings, Lane Miners' Union No. 251.
- Frank Monty, Burke Miners' Union No. 19.
- W. J. Martin, Grass Valley Sur. Workers' Union No. 91.

Organization.

- Tom Hammill, Cripple Creek District Union No. 234.
- Neah Winston, Desloge Miners' Union No. 229.
- Jas. McGuire, Elk Lake Miners' Union No. 140.
- Arthur Todd, Lyon & Ormsby Co. Labor Union No. 261.
- W. R. McKenzie, Phoenix Miners' Union No. 8.
- Geo. Curry, Butte Miners' Union No. 1.
- T. P. Barret, Great Falls M. & S. Union No. 16.

Constitution and By-Laws.

- Neil Collins, Anaconda M. & S. Union No. 117.
- E. F. Boyle, Zortman Miners' Union No. 190.
- Nick Thomas, Silverton Miners' Union No. 26.
- Jas. Barss, Central City Miners' Union No. 3.
- Jno. Driscoll, Butte Miners' Union No. 1.
- Frank B. Granby, Tuscarora Miners' Union No. 31.

Ritual.

- Joe McKinnon, Butte Miners' Union No. 1.
- Jos. Munn, Rico Miners' Union No. 36.
- James Varcoe, Silver City Miners' Union No. 66.
- Al Neilson, Greenwater Miners' Union No. 207.
- John Barrett, Mercur Miners' Union No. 199.
- Thos. J. Murphy, Anaconda M. & S. Union No. 117.
- M. F. Gallagher, Garfield Miners' Union No. 86.

Engrossing.

- Barney Lindsey, Butte Engineers' Union No. 83.
- Pa. Gallagher, Steptoe M. & S. Union No. 233.
- Sam Kilburn, Wallace Miners' Union No. 17.
- Carl Lundberg, Sky City Miners' Union No. 27.
- J. Ernest Shannon, Horn Silver Miners' Union No. 221.

Education and Literature.

- J. J. Barth, Great Falls M. & S. Union No. 16.
- August Walquist, Kennett Miners' Union No. 174.
- John Mitchell, Globe Miners' Union No. 60.
- W. H. Burton, Buckskin Miners' Union No. 260.
- Malcolm McNeill, Movie Miners' Union No. 71.
- Chas. Grue, Bullion Miners' Union No. 246.

Joe Guelfi, Butte Miners' Union No. 1

Strikes and Lockouts.

- Owen Barnes, Goldfield Miners' Union No. 220.
- Andrew Mallon, Anaconda M. & S. Union No. 117.
- W. E. Hughes, Trinidad Miners' Union No. 198.
- Paul Clark, De Lamar Miners' Union No. 53.
- J. D. Whitesides, Winthrop M. & S. Union No. 167.
- Chas. C. Mitchell, Butte Engineers' Union No. 83.
- Angus McLeod, Butte Miners' Union No. 1.

Mileage.

- Frank Fitzpatrick, Anaconda M. & S. Union No. 117.
- A. M. Fluert, Butte M. & S. Union No. 74.
- W. E. C. Little, Vernon Miners' Union No. 256.
- Hugh DeBerry, Star Miners' Union No. 193.
- G. R. Lad, Cornucopia Miners' Union No. 186.
- Jacob E. C., Butte Miners' Union No. 1.
- Alex. Marchant, Helper Miners' Union No. 217.

Good and Welfare.

- James Devlin, Anaconda M. & S. Union No. 117.
- G. E. Slusher, Great Falls M. & S. Union No. 16.
- John Geier, Mojave Miners' Union No. 51.
- J. P. Langford, Park City Miners' Union No. 144.
- Chas. K. Johnson, Butte Miners' Union No. 1.
- M. L. Bruce, Pioche Miners' Union No. 263.
- L. W. Morton, Eureka Miners' Union No. 151.

Special.

- M. L. Tompkins, Mt. Helena Miners' Union No. 138.
- A. B. Crary, Republic Miners' Union No. 28.
- John Kelly, Bonanza Miners' Union No. 235.
- Malcolm McDonald, Granite Miners' Union No. 4.

Afternoon Session.

July 11, 1909

The convention was called to order by President Moyer at 2 p. m.
 Brother Ed. F. Boyle moved that a stenographic report of the proceedings of the convention be taken and ordered printed with the exception of the secretary-treasurer's report. Seconded by Frank Curran.
 Delegate James Kirwan spoke on motion opposing the same.
 Delegate Frank Curran took the floor on same and supporting the motion.

Delegate Sam Kilburn moved an amendment to resolution as follows: That the stenographic reports be printed and furnished free to the local No. second.

Roll call demanded.
 Delegate Barrett spoke on same and requested that if printed they also be printed in the Italian and Greek languages.
 Delegate Terzich took the floor and discussed the question showing the necessity of printing the same in Slavonic language.

Delegates Angus McLeod and W. S. Reid, P. W. Flynn, Lem (Dubois), T. J. Booher, John Harper, Michael O'Connor, and other delegates took part in the discussion.

Moved by Delegate Hugh McLaughlin as an amendment that the stenographic report be printed in various languages. Motion seconded by Delegate M. L. Tompkins.

Amendment to motion withdrawn by consent of second.
 Result of roll call: For, 194; against, 234. Motion lost.
 Credential committee rendered the following report:

Denver, Colo., July 11, 1909.

The credential committee recommend that J. T. Sullivan be seated as a delegate from Fairview Union No. 243 on proxy.
 Also that Nick Thomas be seated as delegate on proxy from Bryan No. 64.

Moved and seconded that reports be adopted and delegates seated. Motion carried.

Credential committee further reported as follows:

Denver, Colo., July 13, 1909.

Moved by McLaughlin and seconded by Whipple that Hammond, of Copper Miners' Union No. 203, be seated as a delegate as the committee has examined his card and found him to be in good standing from the local he represents. Yes: McLaughlin, Whipple, Bulmer, Allen, No: Bunny.

Moved and seconded that the delegate be not seated until letter from local union arrives.
 Amendment moved and seconded that report of majority of committee be adopted.

Moved and seconded that Edw. Hammond be given floor on question in defense of himself. Motion carried.

Edw. Hammond then took the floor in defense of his position as delegate.
 Delegate Valimaki took the floor on amendment, in reply to Edward Hammond, also Delegate A. M. Fluert.

Moved by Valimaki that the matter be laid on the table until letter arrives from local union - Copper M. U. No. 203. Motion declared out of order.

Delegate Hugh McLaughlin then took the floor on the question before the house, also other delegates and lengthy discussion ensued.
 Motion being put showed 59 voting for amendment, and 41 against. Amendment carried.

Executive Board Member Lowney then took the floor and protested against the number of votes given to Butte Miners' Union No. 1.
 Delegate Owen McCabe replied to same, also Delegate P. W. Flynn and other delegates.

The convention adjourned at 5 p. m. to meet at 9 a. m.

THIRD DAY.

Morning Session.

July 14, 1909.

The meeting was called to order by President Moyer at 9 a. m., and roll call read and absentees noted as follows: R. B. Leivers and A. L. Neilson.
 Gus A. Ehret, representative of the Jewelry Workers' Union appeared before the convention in behalf of the Jewelers' union label.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.
 Moved by T. J. Booher and seconded by M. L. Tompkins, that a committee be appointed to draft resolutions in behalf of our late brothers, George A. Pettibone and John H. Murphy. Motion carried.

The following committee was appointed: T. J. Booher, James Devlin, M. J. O'Connor, D. W. McKenzie, George Mills.

The following was then read by credential committee:
 Denver, Colo., July 14, 1909.

The credential committee recommend that R. Lee Lashley be seated as a delegate from Fredericktown M. & S. Union No. 202, on proxy.
 H. A. ALLEN, Secretary

Moved and seconded that report be adopted and delegate seated. Motion carried.

Executive Board Member Hutchinson requested information as to the vote of Howard Tresidder in casting the vote of his own local, Central City No. 56.

Explanation was given by chairman of credential committee, Rupert Bulmer, who replied to same that the credential committee regarded that any executive board member had a right to cast the vote of his local union.

Moved by Executive Board Member Hutchinson, seconded by Delegate M. J. O'Connors, that the vote of Central City No. 56 be taken from Delegate Tresidder.

Executive Board Member Joe F. Hutchinson spoke in support of the resolution.

Delegate James Kirwan took the floor on motion; also Delegates Barney Lindsey and Joe D. Cannon.

Roll call demanded.

Voting for, 120; against, 218. Motion lost.

The following telegram was read, and same ordered filed:

East St. Louis, Ill., July 13, 1909.

Ernest Mills, Secretary, Convention Western Federation of Miners, Denver, Colorado:

Kindly convey to delegates fraternal greetings and best wishes for a successful convention. Your organization has nobly and successfully battled against corporate greed. Continue your militant character.

ADOLPH GERMER.

The following telegram was read and referred to resolution committee: No. 7.

Ernest Mills, Denver, Colorado:

Two men shot, but not serious, by deputy constable and deputy sheriff. Boys getting along nicely. Hearing tomorrow. Will send particulars. Tom Corra arrived last night. Everything looks good.

T. J. BROGAN.

The following communication was read and ordered filed:

Rossland, B. C., July 6, 1909.

Mr. Ernest Mills, Secretary, W. F. M., Denver, Colorado:

Greeting: The Ladies' Auxiliary No. 1, W. F. M., of Rossland, extend greetings to your convention and wish you every success, both financially and numerically. Yours, fraternally,

JESSIE RUTHERFORD, Sec'y.-Treas.

The following letter was read and ordered filed:

Indianapolis, Ind., July 8, 1909.

Mr. Charles Moyer, President, Western Federation of Miners, Denver, Colo.: Dear Sir and Brother—Your kind favor of July first was received, and your invitation to attend the annual convention of your organization at Denver was read with pleasure.

I sincerely regret it will be impossible for me to accept your kind invitation. You can rest assured that I would be more than pleased to come if it were possible for me to find time.

Wishing yourself and the members of your organization every success and thanking you very kindly for the honor conferred on me through your invitation, with ind personal regards, I remain, yours very truly,

T. L. LEWIS, President, U. M. W. A.

President Moyer then read his report.

The report was referred to committee on president's report.

Moved by Delegate James Kirwan, seconded by Jacob Boiler, that the four of twelve having arrived that the order of business at 2 p. m. be the president's supplementary report.

The convention adjourned at 12 noon.

Afternoon Session.

Convention was called to order at 2 p. m. by Vice President Mahoney. Roll call showed the following absentees: W. K. Burns, reported sick. Credential committee reported as follows:

Denver, Colo., July 14, 1909.

It is recommended by the credential committee that Charles Brand be seated as a delegate in the seventeenth annual convention from Silverton Miners' Union No. 95, with one vote. Also three votes by proxy from Sandon No. 81 and one vote by proxy from Nelson No. 96.

H. A. ALLEN, Secretary.

Moved and seconded that the report be adopted and the delegate seated. Motion carried.

It is recommended by the credential committee that A. L. Neilson be seated as a delegate from Bonanza Miners' Union No. 235 on proxy sent by Bonanza Union with two votes.

H. A. ALLEN, Secretary.

Moved and seconded that the report be adopted and the delegate seated. Motion carried.

It is recommended by the credential committee that T. M. Hammill be seated as a delegate from the Cripple Creek District Union No. 234, with three votes.

H. A. ALLEN, Secretary.

Moved and seconded that the report be adopted and the delegate seated. Motion carried.

It is recommended by the credential committee that C. E. Mahoney be seated as a delegate in the seventeenth annual convention on proxy sent by the Tanana Miners' Union No. 193, of Fairbanks, Alaska, with two votes.

H. A. ALLEN, Secretary.

The following telegram read:

Fairbanks, Alaska, July 13, 1909.

C. E. Mahoney, Vice President, W. F. M., Denver, Colorado:

Represent Local No. 193 at convention.

W. T. BURNS, President.

S. BURNS, Secretary.

Moved and seconded that the report of the committee be concurred in, and that C. E. Mahoney be given the vote.

Moved and seconded as an amendment that the votes of Tanana Miners' Union No. 193 be not allotted until regular credential arrives.

Amendment carried by a vote of 41 for, 34 against.

President Charles H. Moyer then resumed his address with supplementary report.

Referred to committee on president's report.

No. 10. (President's supplementary report.)

Moved and seconded that the usual number of president's report be printed and same furnished to the local unions. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded, in reading his report that Secretary-Treasurer Ernest Mills dispense with the reading of his financial statement as same is contained in the ordinary reports of his office. Motion carried.

No. 11. (Secretary-treasurer's report.)

Secretary-Treasurer Mills then proceeded to read the preface of his report which was well received by the delegates.

Rport referred to committee on officers' reports.

No. 12. (Report of executive board.)

The report of the executive board was then read by Secretary Mills and referred to special committee.

No. 13. A resolution from Silverton Miners' Union No. 26 was read.

Moved and seconded that resolution be placed on file. Motion carried.

No. 14. Appeal from expelled members of McGill Miners' Union No. 233 was read and referred to grievance committee.

No. 15. Resolution re amendment to constitution from Elk Lake Miners' Union was read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 16. Resolution re amendments to constitution from No. 83 read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 17. Resolution re amendments to constitution from No. 117 read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 18. Resolution re amendment to constitution from No. 117 read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 19. Resolution re amendments to constitution from No. 117 read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 20. Resolution re amendments to constitution from No. 117 read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 21. Resolution from Jerome Miners' Union read and ordered filed.

No. 22. Resolution from Globe Miners' Union No. 60 read and ordered filed.

No. 23. Resolution re amendments to the constitution from Globe Miners' Union No. 60 read and referred to committee on organization.

No. 24. An invitation was read from the Trades and Labor Assembly of Denver to join it in the Labor Day celebration, and ordered filed.

No. 25. A communication was read from Glas Svobode Company, and referred to committee on education and literature.

No. 26. A letter was read from T. A. French, of No. 247, regarding hospital dues. The same was referred to committee on constitution.

No. 27. A letter enclosing \$68.00 for starting a fund for the prosecution of corporations or individuals who illegally collect fees or poll tax from working people. Referred to committee on good and welfare.

No. 28. Communication read from Mrs. S. J. Swadden, Ladies' Auxiliary of Rossland, B. C., and referred to grievance committee.

No. 29. Resolutions re amendments to constitution from Wallace Miners' Union No. 17 was read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 30. Resolution re amendments to constitution from Wallace Miners' Union No. 17 was read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 31. Resolution re amendments to constitution from Wallace Miners' Union No. 17 was read and referred to committee on ritual.

No. 32. Resolution re amendments to constitution from Wallace Miners' Union No. 17 was read and referred to committee on organization.

No. 33. Letter from Copper Miners' Union No. 203, regarding the seating of Edward Hammond in the seventeenth annual convention was read.

Moved and seconded that the above communication be made a special order of business at tomorrow morning's session. Motion carried.

No. 34. A communication from Delegate Jas. Kirwan contesting the right of J. A. Jones to be seated in this convention read.

Moved and seconded that action on above communication be taken immediately following special order of business at tomorrow morning's session. Motion carried.

After reading of announcements, the chair declared the convention adjourned until 9 a. m.

FOURTH DAY.

Morning Session.

July 15, 1909.

Convention called to order by President Moyer at 9 a. m.

On roll call all delegates were found present except E. F. Boyle, who was reported sick.

The minutes of the last two sessions were read.

Board Member Hutchinson wanted the minutes to show that Delegate Kirwan, Board Member Tresidder and Delegate J. B. Cannon spoke in favor of motion allotting to Executive Board Member Tresidder vote of his union.

No. 35. Resolution grievance re assessments was read and referred to good and welfare committee.

No. 36. Communication read from Carpenters and Joiners' Union of New York City, and referred to committee on education and literature.

No. 37. Resolutions from McCabe Miners' Union No. 118 re instructions to delegate and including a protest from Cherry Creek branch of McCabe Miners' Union read.

Moved and seconded that above resolutions be referred to the delegate from McCabe. Motion carried.

No. 38. Communication from Ladies' Auxiliary of Rossland, B. C., read and referred to committee on ritual.

No. 39. A statement of receipts and disbursements in Mexican defense fund from Bisbee committee was read.

Moved and seconded that the statement be placed in the hands of the auditing committee. Motion carried.

Special order of business re Edward Hammond was then taken up.

After some discussion it was moved and seconded that Ed Hammond, delegate from Copper Miners' Union No. 203, be seated as a delegate from said local.

After considerable discussion on this motion it was moved and seconded as an amendment that the instructions of Copper Miners' Union be complied with and Delegate Hammond be denied a seat in the convention.

Debate on this amendment continued for the remainder of the session.

After reading of announcements the chair declared the convention adjourned till 2 p. m.

Before adjournment a committee from the Garment Workers, including Mrs. A. Evans, Miss Genevieve Miles and Miss Lillie Reimer, was introduced by the chair. The committee invited the delegates to visit the Underhill factory, and presented the following invitation from the Bayley-Underhill Manufacturing Company:

Denver, Colo., July 14, 1909.

Western Federation of Miners, in Convention, City.

Gentlemen—We take this occasion to extend to you a cordial invitation to visit our factory while you are in Denver, and see the wheels go around and get a better knowledge of the manner in which Underhill overalls are made. Yours respectfully,

THE BAYLEY-UNDERHILL MFG. CO.,

By W. C. YETTER, Secretary.

It was then moved and seconded that the delegates visit the factory between the hours of 12 and 2, Friday afternoon. Motion carried.

Afternoon Session.

July 15, 1909.

Convention was called to order by Executive Board Member Davidson at 2 p. m.

On roll call all delegates were noted present.

No. 40. Communication read from Corbin Miners' Union No. 191 re revoking charter of Elkhorn Miners' Union and referred to committee on organization.

No. 41. Communication from Pioche Miners' Union No. 263 asking for financial aid was read and referred to ways and means committee.

No. 42. Resolution from California State Union re amendment to constitution read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 43. Resolution re amendments to constitution by delegates of Nos. 247, 251 and 167, read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 44. Resolution re amendments to constitution from Moyie Miners' Union No. 71 read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 45. Resolution re foreign publication for education of miners from Moyie Miners' Union No. 71 was read and referred to committee on good and welfare.

No. 46. Communication from Goldfield Miners' Union No. 220 re representation in convention was read and referred to credential committee.

No. 47. Resolution re amendment to constitution by Delegate Booher was read and referred to committee on constitution.

With the consent of the convention, the chair appointed Roderick MacKenzie assistant secretary during the convention.

Discussion was then resumed before the convention.

Moved and seconded that the question be now put. Motion carried.

Amendment put, and upon roll call vote the following result was announced by the chair: Yes, 200; no, 141.

The amendment having been carried the chair ruled Edward Hammond from the floor of the convention as no longer representing Copper Miners' Union No. 203.

Moved and seconded that the convention instruct Copper Miners' Union to pay Delegate Hammond full wages for the time he has been present in convention.

Moved and seconded as an amendment that Copper Miners' Union be instructed to pay Delegate Hammond what he agreed to come here for.

Moved and seconded that amendment be tabled. On being put the motion was declared lost by a vote of 40-40.

The amendment was then put and declared carried by a vote of 57 to 40. Moved and seconded that the convention go into executive session. On being put the motion was lost.

The controversy re eligibility of J. A. Jones to a seat in the convention was then taken up and the following charges again read:

No. 35. Denver, Colo., July 14, 1909.
To the Officers and Members of the Seventeenth Annual Convention, Western Federation of Miners.

Brothers—I hereby demand that the credentials of J. A. Jones, delegate from Gawganda Miners' Union No. 154, be cancelled for the following reasons: First, that he was expelled from the Hibbing Miners' Union No. 155 for the embezzlement of the local's funds and the following notice was published in the Miners' Magazine at that time:

"Hibbing, Minn., Jan. 29, 1907.

"To Whom It May Concern:

"At the regular meeting of Hibbing Miners' Union No. 155, held October 8, 1906, J. A. Jones was expelled and the secretary was instructed to inform the Federation through the columns of the Miners' Magazine, Fraternally,

"W. J. LATERNMER, Secretary."

There is no record to show that the said Jones has at any time ever repaid the funds so embezzled, nor has he ever been placed in good standing or exonerated from the charges by Hibbing Miners' Union No. 155.

Second, after being expelled from the Western Federation of Miners, he secured a commission from the I. W. W. as an organizer and attempted to disrupt the Western Federation of Miners by organizing dual unions to be known as the Mining Department of the I. W. W., and at the fifteenth annual convention the membership card of one of the members of a local which he had organized, was produced.

I contend that the said Jones is not a member of the Western Federation of Miners at the present time, as he has obtained his present membership by fraudulent means. Yours fraternally,

JAMES KIRWAN.

Moved and seconded that as Delegate Jones violated the obligation he took when he first joined the Western Federation of Miners in that he promised on his honor that he would not misappropriate the funds of that or any other union of the Western Federation of Miners, of which he might hereafter become a member, and did so misappropriate the funds of Hibbing Miners' Union, he be not allowed a seat in the convention.

Moved and seconded that the motion be tabled. Motion lost.

Moved and seconded as an amendment that Delegate Jones be exonerated from all charges if the shortage in his accounts is paid. Motion ruled out of order.

The question having been called for, and roll call vote demanded, the following was the result: Yes, 167; no, 79; not voting, 195; absent, 14.

The chair declared the motion carried and Delegate Jones not entitled to a seat in the convention.

Moved and seconded that the names of J. A. Jones and Ed Hammond be stricken off the roll call. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded that Gowganda Miners' Union and Copper Miners' Union be notified that the credentials of their respective delegates have been cancelled. Motion carried.

The following request of Delegate T. M. Hammill was granted by the convention:

Denver, Colo., July 15, 1909.

To the Officers and Members of Seventeenth Annual Convention:

Being called away by sickness in my family, I hereby delegate Brother Jensen, Brother Regan and Brother Condon to represent Cripple Creek Local No. 234.

THOS. H. HAMMILL.

After announcements, the chair declared the convention adjourned until 9 a. m.

FIFTH DAY. Morning Session.

July 16, 1909.

The convention was called to order by President Chas. Moyer at 9 a. m. On roll call all delegates were noted present.

The minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved as read. Two bills from J. A. Jones for organizing in Minnesota and Cobalt were read.

Moved by McGuire, No. 140, and seconded by Curran, No. 1, that bill No. 48 of J. A. Jones be turned over to the auditing committee to be used in auditing the books of the defunct Hibbing Miners' Union. Motion carried.

Moved by McGuire, No. 140, seconded by Curran, No. 1, that bill No. 49, of J. A. Jones be paid and fifty dollars of same be forwarded to Gawganda Miners' Union, and balance used to place J. A. Jones in good standing in the Western Federation of Miners.

Last clause ruled out of order by the chair.

Moved by Kirwan, seconded by Dahl, as an amendment, that this motion be referred to grievance committee and that President Moyer, J. A. Jones, Delegates Davidson, Gauthier and McGuire appear before the committee. Motion carried by a vote of 67 for to 5 against.

Henry T. Scollin, of the United Hatters, was then introduced to the convention by President Moyer.

Mr. Scollin addressed the convention, appealing for financial assistance on behalf of the United Hatters who are on strike at this time.

The following report of the credential committee was read.

Douglas, Alaska, July 8, 1909.

Mr. Ernest Mills, Secretary-Treasurer, W. F. M., Denver, Colorado:

Dear Sir and Brother—Enclosed you will please find written credentials for Sam Kilburn, of Wallace, to represent this local at the Seventeenth annual convention. This will come a little late, but as we expected Brother Leivers to go till the last minute, it could not be sent sooner. Will try to get this way on the boat tonight. With best wishes, I remain, fraternally yours,

F. L. ALSTROM, Sec'y-Treas.

This is to certify that Brother Sam Kilburn, of Wallace, is authorized to represent Douglas Island Miners' Union No. 109, at the seventeenth annual convention of the Western Federation of Miners.

A. LELZESTRND, President.

F. L. ALSTROM, Secretary.

Denver, Colo., July 16, 1909.

We, the credential committee, recommend that Sam Kilburn be seated as a delegate from Douglas Island, and be entitled to one vote on a proxy from that union.

H. A. ALLEN, Secretary.

Moved and seconded that the report of committee be concurred in. Motion carried.

The following communication, with report of credential committee was read:

No. 51. Eureka, Nev., July 8, 1909.

J. J. Mangan, Secretary No. 220, Goldfield, Nevada:

Dear Sir and Brother—By a vote of our local we tender our proxy to Goldfield Miners' Union No. 220. Hoping it is not too late, I remain, yours fraternally.

J. H. JURY, Secretary No. 265.

We, the credential committee, recommend that W. E. C. Little be seated as a delegate from Eureka Miners' Union No. 265, and that W. E. C. Little be given one vote on proxy from that union.

H. A. ALLEN, Secretary.

Moved and seconded that the report of the committee be concurred in. Motion carried.

No. 52. Resolution by Delegate McDonald, No. 4, re amendment to constitution read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 53. Resolution by Delegate Joe Guelfi, No. 1, re amendments to constitution read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 54. Communication from J. R. Walter, of Atlanta, Idaho, re organization read and referred to committee on organization.

No. 55. Resolution by Delegate Crary, No. 28, re Miners Magazine read and referred to committee on education and literature.

No. 56. Communication from Dillon Miners' Union No. 189, Wyoming, re cancelling assessments read and referred, first part to credential committee, and second part to grievance committee.

No. 57. Resolution by Delegate Booher of No. 1, re amendments to constitution read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 58. Resolution by Delegate Whipple, No. 118, re amendment to constitution read and referred to committee on constitution.

No. 59. Resolution by Delegate Whipple, No. 118, re appointment of editor of Miners' Magazine read and referred to committee on good and well fare.

No. 60. Resolution by Delegate Whipple re politics in the Western Federation of Miners read and referred to committee on good and welfare.

The following communication from executive board re Brewery Workers was read:

No. 61. Denver, Colo., July 16, 1909.
To the Delegates of the Seventeenth Annual Convention, Western Federation of Miners:

Dear Sirs and Brothers—Brother Proebstle of the United Brewery Workers, who has come to Denver as a representative of that organization, appeared before your executive board, and took up with them a grievance which now exists between the Brewery Workers and the Western Federation of Miners and which has come about through a difference of opinion in regards to jurisdiction over men who are employed as engineers in breweries, and we would respectfully recommend to the seventeenth annual convention of the Western Federation of Miners that this controversy be taken up by the seventeenth annual convention as soon as possible, and that the representative of the Brewery Workers' organization be permitted to place their side of the controversy before this convention.

With best wishes, we remain, fraternally yours,

EXECUTIVE BOARD, W. F. M.

Moved by Kirwan, seconded by Connor, No. 191, that above communication be made special order of business at 10:30 a. m. tomorrow morning. Motion carried.

Vice President Mahoney called the attention of the delegates to the fact that the monuments of Murphy and Pettibone were ready to be unveiled and suggested that the same be done while the delegates were in Denver.

Moved by Vice President Mahoney, seconded by Delegate Driscoll, No. 1, that Saturday afternoon, July 24th, be set aside to unveil the monuments of Murphy and Pettibone. Motion carried.

Moved by Vice President Mahoney, seconded by Delegate Harper, No. 60, that the secretary notify the Trades and Labor Assembly and Colorado State Federation of Labor to attend the unveiling of said monuments. Motion carried.

Moved by Delegate Harper, No. 60, seconded by Delegate Gauthier, No. 146, that the above be advertised on street cars. Motion carried.

Moved by Vice President Mahoney, seconded by Kirwan, No. 5, that the convention go into executive session previous to the reading of the minutes of the executive board meetings. Motion carried.

President Moyer appointed Delegates Lee of No. 121 and Connor of No. 111, to take up the quarterly password.

Delegate O'Connor, No. 60, then took the chair and Secretary Mills proceeded to read the minutes of the meetings of the executive board.

Moved by Delegate Bulmer, No. 38, seconded by Delegate Cannon, No. 106, that the following telegram be sent Rossland Miners' Union No. 38.

Denver, Colo., July 16, 1909

George Casey, Rossland, B. C.:

The seventeenth annual convention of the Western Federation of Miners in convention assembled, tender the Rossland Miners' Union No. 38 our hearty congratulations on this, their fourteenth anniversary.

ERNEST MILLS, Sec'y-Treas.

Motion carried.

The hour of noon having arrived, the convention adjourned till 2 p. m.

Afternoon Session.

July 16, 1909.

The convention was called to order by President Moyer at 2 p. m.

Roll call read and the following delegates noted absent: Stark, No. 1; McNeill, No. 71; Larson, No. 33; Young, No. 46; Temby, No. 90; Burns, No. 126; Devlin, No. 117; McLeod, No. 1; Langford, No. 144; who were reported sick.

A communication was read from President A. McAndrew of the Tobacco Workers' International Union, asking for support in their struggle with the Ware-Kramer Tobacco Company.

Moved by Whiteside, No. 167, seconded by McGuire, No. 140, that the communication be accepted and placed on file. Motion carried.

A communication from J. F. Cox, secretary No. 251, re strike at Lane, Nevada, was read and ordered filed.

The following from the resolution committee was read:

No. 64. Denver, Colo., July 16, 1909

To the Delegates of the Seventeenth Annual Convention:

We, the undersigned, your resolution committee, have drawn the following resolution re the Trinidad case, which we humbly submit for your approval.

Whereas, The Jack Tollerville Mining Company, of Trinidad, Colorado, has through their criminal negligence caused the death of two of our brothers on July 6, 1909, who, in company with seven other victims, were killed by a gas explosion in the mines of said company, and

Whereas, Said company should be reprimanded and punished for such negligence, therefore be it

Resolved, That the delegates of this convention offer their heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved relatives of the deceased brothers and to the Trinidad Miners' Union No. 198; and that the Western Federation of Miners, through its officers, give its moral and financial support, and that action be at once taken against said company, and make them account for their criminal neglect. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this convention, and a copy sent to the bereaved relatives, and a copy to Trinidad Miners' Union No. 198, and that the next issue of the Miners' Magazine publish the same

JACOB BOILER, Chairman.

H. C. KENNEDY,

GEO. MILLS,

W. K. BURNS,

HARRY STARK,

J. B. GABBERT,

ALBERT NAP GAUTHIER, Secretary

Moved by McNeill, No. 71, seconded by Delegate Guelfi, No. 1, that the above resolution be adopted as read. Motion carried.

No. 65. Communication from Henry Palati, former secretary of Aguilar Miners' Union re charges made against him as to being a deputy sheriff read and referred to grievance committee.

No. 66. Resolution re education by Delegates Bulmer, No. 8, and Bunny, No. 2, read and referred to committee on ritual.

A request from Delegate McLeod, No. 1, was read as follows.

No. 67.

To the Officers and Delegates of the Seventeenth Annual Convention:
 Being sick and unable to attend this afternoon's session, I would like that Frank Curran, George Curry, Joe Guelfi and Harry Stark be permitted to cast my vote until such time as I am able to attend. Fraternal yours,
 ANGUS McLEOD, NO. 1.

Moved by Delegate Boyle, No. 190, seconded by Delegate Curry, No. 1, that the request be granted. Motion carried.

There being no further resolutions or communications on the table the secretary resumed reading the minutes of the executive board meetings.

After reading the minutes, it was moved by Delegate Harper, No. 60, seconded by Delegate Tompkins, No. 138, that the minutes of the board be filed. Motion carried.

Moved by Kirwan, No. 5, seconded by McGuire, No. 140, that the convention go into open session. Motion carried.

The chair called for the next order of business and Vice President Mahoney proceeded to read his report.

The report was well received by the delegates and referred to special committee.

Mother Jones, having entered the hall at this time, was escorted to the platform where she was introduced by the chair to the delegates, who received the venerable "mother" with ringing applause.

Mother Jones spoke at length describing the struggle of the coal miners who are now on strike, and urging the delegates to elect men to their respective legislatures and congress who would look after the interests of the working class. At the conclusion of her address, "Mother" Jones was loudly applauded.

Moved by Delegate Lindsey, No. 83, seconded by Executive Board Member Clough that the reading of executive board members' reports be dispensed with.

Moved as an amendment by McGuire, No. 140, seconded by Curry, No. 1, that the board members' reports be referred to special committee. Motion lost.

The original motion was then put and declared lost.

The motions to dispense with the reading of the reports having been lost, Executive Board Member Fred Clough, for District No. 1, proceeded to read his annual report.

The report was referred to special committee.

Moved by Kirwan, No. 5, seconded by Whipple, No. 118, that report of grievance committee be taken up before adjournment. Motion carried.

Moved by McGuire, No. 140, seconded by Driscoll, No. 1, that report of committee, with bills, which reads as follows, be concurred in.

No. 49. July 16, 1909.
 The Western Federation of Miners, Cr., To J. A. Jones, Dr.:
 Services as organizer in Gawganda district, from June 16th to July 7th, inclusive, at \$5.00 per day.....\$110.00
 One telephone message to Elk Lake Union......60
 Trip to mines west side lake..... 1.50
 Trip from Obuskong to Gowanda..... 1.00
 Trip to mines west side lake..... 1.25
 Total.....\$114.35
 Motion made to ask headquarters to pay J. A. Jones:
 Fifteen days at \$5.00.....\$75.00
 Telephone message, C. Lothiean, Elk Lake......60
 Trip to mines west side lake..... 1.50
 Trip from Obuskong to Gowanda..... 1.00
 Trip to mines west side lake..... 1.25
 Total.....\$79.35
 Amendment made to bill for full time, twenty-two days at \$5.00, \$110.00.
 Carried.

This is to certify that above is true copy of part of minutes of Gowganda M. U. No. 154, W. F. M., meeting July 7, 1909.

DAVID LA FOUVIERIE,
 NAPOLEON DESROCHES.

We, your committee on the bills submitted by J. A. Jones, of Gowganda, beg leave to report as follows: That we recommend the bills referred to Elk Lake Miners' Union for payment, and we recommend that Elk Lake Miners' Union apply to headquarters for reimbursement.

ED. REGAN,
 WM. McCARTHY,
 JOHN YOUNG,
 JOHN TEMBY,
 C. N. LARSON,
 M. J. O'CONNOR,
 FRANK DUNN.

Moved as an amendment by Board Member Davidson, seconded by Cluney, No. 146, that the last clause of the committee's report be stricken out. Amendment carried by a vote of 41 to 30.

Motion as amended was then put and declared carried.
 After reading of announcements, convention adjourned till 9 a. m.

SIXTH DAY.
Morning Session.

July 17, 1909.

Convention called to order by Vice President Mahoney at 9 a. m.
 Roll call read and the following absentees noted: McCabe, No. 1, and McLeod, No. 1, and Devlin, No. 117, who were reported sick.

The minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved as read.

In connection with action of yesterday as to advertising the unveiling of the Pettibone-Murphy monuments on street cars, it was moved by Whitely, No. 74, and seconded by Curran, No. 1, that action be rescinded. Motion carried.

The following communication was sent by Secretary Mills to the Socialist party, Central Labor organization and all labor unions of Denver:
 Denver, Colo., July 16, 1909.

Dear Sirs and Brothers—By instructions from the seventeenth annual convention of the Western Federation of Miners, in convention assembled, I am extending to the officers and members of your organization an invitation to be present at Fairmount cemetery on the occasion of the unveiling of the George A. Pettibone and John H. Murphy monuments, to take place at Fairmount cemetery at 3 p. m., Saturday, July 24th.

We feel that it is needless for us to give any eulogy of the worth and merits of these friends of labor, as they are well known to you and you will realize that these memorials will be monuments expressive of a debt of gratitude from those who knew their worth and are appreciative of the devotion of true friends of organized labor.

Trusting that this invitation will be accepted and your organization represented on that occasion, I remain, yours fraternally,

ERNEST MILLS,
 Secretary-Treasurer, W. F. M.

P. S.—Addresses will be delivered by A. H. Hawley, general secretary-treasurer, Locomotive Enginemen and Firemen; John M. O'Neill, editor Miners' Magazine, and others.

No. 71. Communication was read from E. V. Debs asking the Western Federation of Miners to pass a resolution of protest in the Warren case, and referred to committee on resolutions.

No. 72. A bill was read from A. I. Hegglund, of Butte, Montana, for \$152.00, and referred to committee on grievances.

No. 73. Report of credential committee read as follows:

July 17, 1909.

We, the credential committee, recommend that John Cigalla be seated as a delegate from Rico Miners' Union No. 36, on proxy and entitled to one vote.
 H. A. ALLEN, Secretary.

Moved by Gabbert, No. 247, seconded by Tompkins, No. 138, that report be concurred. Motion carried.

No. 74. Report of Credential committee read as follows:

July 17, 1909.

We, the credential committee, recommend that A. B. Crary be seated in the seventeenth annual convention as a delegate from Ymir No. 85, on proxy and entitled to three votes.
 H. A. ALLEN, Secretary.

Moved and seconded that report of committee be concurred. Motion carried.

The Brewery Workers' controversy being due to come up at 10 a. m. and in view of the fact that the report of Board Member Lowney might throw some light on the matter, it was moved by Kirwan, No. 5, and seconded by McLaughlin, No. 1, that J. C. Lowney read his report to the convention before special business was taken up. Motion carried.

Executive Board Member J. C. Lowney then proceeded to read his report which was well received by the delegates.

The report was referred to special committee.
 The special order of business in the Brewery Workers' controversy was taken up.

A committee of two, International Secretary Proebstle and Delegate Prevost, of Butte, representing the International Brewery Workers, addressed the convention and explained to the delegates the Brewery Workers' side of the controversy existing over the brewery engineers in Butte.

After considerable debate, it was moved by Guelfi, No. 1, seconded by Tompkins, No. 138, that the matter be referred to a special committee.

The previous question having been called for, the motion was put and declared lost.

The following motion was moved by O'Connor, No. 60, and seconded by Gabbert, No. 247.

Terms of agreement between the United Brewery Workers of America and the Western Federation of Miners:

First. There shall be a free interchange of cards between the United Brewery Workers and the Western Federation of Miners; paid-up cards being accepted in lieu of initiation fee.

Second. In Silver Bow county, Montana, the question of jurisdiction over engineers shall continue as at present until the expiration of the present agreement between Engineers' Union No. 83 and the brewery employers, provided, however, that a different agreement may be entered into prior to the expiration of the above time if, in the opinion of both organizations, it is for the best interests of all concerned to do so.

It is further agreed that no discrimination shall be practiced against the engineers or other workmen who went on strike against the brewery employers in Silver Bow county, or in any other part of the state of Montana, by any local of the Western Federation of Miners, but that any of said men who are members of locals of the Western Federation of Miners shall receive working cards and be permitted to work for any employer of labor who desires his services.

Third. In all breweries outside of Silver Bow county, in the state of Montana, where the Brewery Workers are on strike and local unions of the Western Federation of Miners have been responsible for furnishing their members to take their places, said members shall be withdrawn and the future employment of labor in such breweries shall be governed by the agreements entered into between the brewery employers and the United Brewery Workers.

Fourth. Should there occur, in the opinion of either of the local unions referred to in this contract, a violation of this contract, the matter shall be placed in the hands of a joint executive board of the United Brewery Workers and the Western Federation of Miners, and their decision shall be binding upon all concerned.

MICHAEL J. O'CONNOR.

Moved by Boyle, No. 190, seconded by Driscoll, No. 1, that a copy of the above resolution be furnished to all delegates. Motion carried.

Convention adjourned till 2 p. m.

Afternoon Session.

July 17, 1909.

Convention was called to order by Vice President Mahoney at 2 p. m.

The roll call was read and the following absentees noted: John Condon, No. 15; Alex Marchiori, No. 237; Board Member Jinkerson; also Angus McLeod, No. 1, who was reported sick.

No. 76. Report of mileage committee read.

Moved by Fluent, No. 74, seconded by Whitesides, No. 167, that the report of committee be concurred in. Motion carried.

Moved by Booher, No. 1, seconded by Walquist, No. 174, that the secretary-treasurer be instructed to draw check for mileage to the amount reported by credential committee. Motion carried.

No. 77. Resolution re amendment to constitution by Paul Clark, No. 53, read and referred to constitution committee.

No. 78. Appeal from No. 121 re assessments read and referred to good and welfare committee.

No. 79. Resolution re amendments to constitution from delegates from No. 117 read and referred to committee on constitution.

Discussion was then resumed on proposed agreement between United Brewery Workers and Butte Engineers' Union No. 83, which was before the convention at adjournment. Debate on this question took up the remainder of the session.

Moved by Harper, No. 60, seconded by Tompkins, No. 138, that convention adjourn. Motion carried.

The following telegram was read: Los Angeles, Calif., July 17, 1909.

Ernest Mills, 605 R. R. Bldg., Denver, Colorado:
 Al Ryan under arrest for killing two men. Needs legal support at preliminary on Monday; will you support him? Wire instructions.

C. H. MacKINNON.

Moved by McGuire, No. 150, seconded by Curran, No. 1, that we go into executive session to consider above telegram.

Moved as an amendment by Kirwan, No. 5, seconded by Executive Board Member Terzich, that convention go into extra session to consider telegram. Motion carried.

Moved by Guelfi, No. 1, seconded by Blackburn, No. 83, that telegram be turned over to executive board with full power to act. Motion carried.

At this juncture, Mother Jones was escorted to the platform and at length addressed the convention.

Convention adjourned at 6 p. m., to convene again at 9 a. m. Monday.

IN THIS ISSUE of the Miners' Magazine appears a communication from J. J. Kelly, late secretary of Bonanza Miners' Union of Rhyolite, Nevada. As the communication breathes that holy spirit of humility which inspires men "to love one another," the editor has refrained from revising the article, but permits the communication to appear in its original purity, in order that the readers of the Magazine may be impressed with the Christian forbearance of a man, whose loyalty to the church cannot be questioned.

THE IMMIGRATION BUREAU at Washington has sent an agent to Portugal to hire laborers for the plantations owners at Honolulu. In other words, the government of the United States has engaged in the business of recruiting strike breakers for lords of the soil of Hawaii.

A HOUSE PAINTER in the city of New York last week, whose family was penniless and destitute, offered one of his children for sale. There were no purchasers, and the man in his desperation who through poverty was compelled to offer his own flesh and blood for sale, was branded by our respectable citizenship as a dehumanized brute. Glorious civilization!

THE MODERN MAGAZINE has been launched in Chicago to espouse the cause of the working class and to aid in hastening the dawn of that glad morning, when the human family shall be crowned with the heritage of industrial liberty. The Modern Magazine is ably edited and is published at 180 Washington street, Chicago, Illinois. Its subscription price is 50 cents per year.

THE NEW LAW governing employment agencies has gone into effect in the state of Colorado. The Labor Commissioner of Colorado under the new law has complete supervision over all employment agencies in the state. It is expected that fully 150 agencies will go out of business, as a result of the requirements that must be met under the measure passed by the last session of the Colorado legislature.

WHEN IT IS KNOWN that Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, the president of Columbia College who recently delivered a trade against Socialism before the delegates of the National Education Association at Denver, Colorado, is but the chattel of August Belmont, it is not difficult to understand the motives which prompted the aristocratic pedagogue to belch his hate against the doctrines of a rising party, that threatens the reign of plutocracy.

THE WOMAN SUFFRAGETTES assembled on Wall Street recently to plead their cause for the elective franchise, but the aristocratic gamblers jeered the women with insults and vulgar jokes. The sharks seemed to forget that they had mothers, wives, sisters and daughters, but showed a degeneracy that was lower than is generally exhibited in a "red light" district. The police offered no protection to the women, as the bankers of Wall Street are licensed gentlemen who can offer insults without being charged with offending the majesty of the law.

THE EDITOR of the Miners' Magazine has accepted an invitation to deliver an address at the annual picnic of the Socialist party of St. Louis, to be held September 19th. After speaking at St. Louis, he will speak under the auspices of local unions of the United Mine Workers and central labor bodies in the following places in the state of Illinois: O'Fallon, Belleville, Danville, Collinsville, Marissa, Centralia, Harrisburg, Johnston City, Farmington, Cartersville and Mt. Olive. From Illinois he will proceed to Toledo, Ohio, where he has been invited to address a mass meeting under the auspices of the Central Labor Council.

THE INTERNATIONAL BOOT and Shoe Workers' Union gave a donation of \$10,000 to the United Hatters of North America in its battle against the manufacturers. When the fact is taken into consideration that the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union is involved in a struggle with the Douglas Shoe Company, a donation of such proportions, speaks volumes for the union principles of the men who forget their craft-battle long enough to reach out a helping hand to other members of the working class who are struggling against despotic greed. The labor journals that have accepted the advertisement of the Douglas Company should now place the portrait of Judas on the front page.

AS A RESULT of the strike at the Veteran mine near Ely, Nevada, we find the following in a press dispatch of last week:

"Ely, Nev., July 12. - The first trouble during the strike of 400 miners, mostly Austrians, against the Veteran mine of the Cumberland Ely Company, occurred last night, when two Austrian strikers, George Pezini and George Mileino, were shot by Deputy Sheriffs Edward Arnold and Charles Smithy.

"The Austrians who had gone to within a quarter of a mile of the Veteran shaft, presumably to talk with some of the other strikers, were seen by the officers, who ordered them off the company's property. They were slow in moving and the deputies fired upon them. Pezini may die, but Mileino is not seriously wounded."

The above demonstrates that human life has but little value when weighed with the interests of property. According to the dispatch both of the men were shot a quarter of a mile away from the shaft house and the shooting was done by hired murderers commissioned to kill by a sheriff. The working people, however, are getting what they voted for. When slaves of the wage system confiscate their ballots to place in office the official vassals of capitalism, they must expect that the harvest that is to follow will be reaped in blood.

A DRILLING CONTEST takes place at Cobalt, Ontario, August 18th, 19th and 20th and is open to the world. The following prizes are offered: First prize, \$1,000.00; second prize, \$500.00; third prize, \$350.00; fourth prize, \$150.00.

THE STRIKE against the Dominion Coal Company of Nova Scotia, still continues. There are about 6,000 coal miners, members of the United Mine Workers' Union, while the members of the Provincial Workmen's Association are aiding the company in every way to break the strike.

THE LABOR WORLD published at Spokane, Washington, commenting on the Seventeenth Annual convention of the Western Federation of Miners in its issue of July 9th has the following to say editorially:

"Next Monday the Western Federation of Miners will meet in seventeenth annual convention in the city of Denver, Colo. The convention will have a larger number of delegates than any previous gathering of the body and the membership of the organization will be shown to be larger today than ever in the history of this great Western labor union. It is safe to say that not a single labor union in America has had to suffer the bitter antagonisms and physical opposition of employers' associations and courts, police and militia forces which they could bring to their assistance, and yet it thrives under such opposition. If ever a test of the strength of the principles upon which labor unions are founded was made, it has been made in the struggles of the Western Federation of Miners, and yet the ferocity of selfishness and devilishness have been unable to prevail against the eternal principles of justice, brotherhood and fraternity. The Western Federation of Miners, in all its history has been blessed with unselfish, honest, able and fearless leaders, who have accepted every situation and every trial put upon them in behalf of the betterment of condition of their fellow workers, and the present officials, headed by President Moyer, have stood the test of opposition fire which it is given to few labor leaders to face. For such devotion to duty they deserve praise which will come to them only in after years when their followers and the general mass of the working people, who surely share in the benefits of this organization, can better appreciate the work done and the magnificent services rendered them at much personal sacrifice. Here's to the continued success of the Western Federation of Miners, may its coming convention bless the organization in the wisdom of its delegates to make it better and firmer in the cause of human uplift, and may its power and inclination to fight all opposition to justice to all men be strengthened and stimulated."

A REPLY TO THOMAS DICKMAN.

PIONEER NEV JULY 7th 1909

THE MINERS MAGAZINE DENVER COLO

In one of your issues of June I note that I as well as the priest hood and the catholic church have received the bite that is the usual recompense, or the faithful at the filthy maw of the rabid canine that lurks in the under brush, of 19th century enlightenment.

In our day a man has the highest regard, for the oponent, who comes out in the fore ground and boldly makes the attack, and altho' rong I can but resp't the honest conviction which propelled the attack, but for the viscous sidewinder who in jumping from one camp to another drops his venom under an assumed NAME, in a manner that it not only kills the character of men, but the faith that my honored, mother taught me at at her knee, when a mear babe disgusts me beyond all measure since the aperence of this prescus article appeared in the official paper of the W F of M I have went to the trouble to inquire into the standing of the writer no such a person eaver belonged to RHYOLITE PIONEER GOLD FIELD or TONOPAH miners union s no such a person as THOMAS DICKMAN is or has eaver ben known in the southern country.

as for my self I have a very good idea who is the author, and who his assistents are knowing them as I believe I do and judging from their personal standing in this, and other camps, I can readily account for the contaminating filth in the article, headed A VOICE FROM GOLDFIELD THE INSULTING ALUSION MADE to the local holy father will if followed up in the columns of the magazine, or else where, do more than the combined efforts of the most bitter enemys, of the trade union movement to bring about the dissolution of the W F of M.

was first elected to the office of sectary at rhyolite in in 1907 and found it nesary to retire in 1909.

after having served 2 years in office, not being able to finde any fault with the record I made in office, this more than to be dispised skulking half breed, accuses me of using my official position to extort money for the building of the catholic church in rhyolite.

that in its self is one of the dirtiest lies eaver concocted by a scab and palmed off, by the devil upon a credulis people or set of scabs.

the fact remains that long before I took up any collection atall in the catholic church was built,

the collection which I took up was to suport the preast, and not to build the church, as that had ben done quite a while before.

my action in this matter met with the warmest commendation from members of all churches in rhyolite at the time, the A P A THOMAS DICKMAN of socialistic tendencies seems to bee the only one to take umbrage, the fact that at the time I was sect of the local at rhyolite, hampered no considerable in this work of charity, I note as well as others the alusion to the goldfield union how did this viper, gain his information of the cord con-thare he was never a member, as he would have us believe thare is no doubt among the majority of union men here that he is one of the skalking (parasites) who infest all mining camps as times are very hard in goldfield just now I can redly infer that being unable to bum off of the few men at work he has jumped to some other camp thare to aply his calling and before saying decided to the gang a bunch and selected myself as the object of his atact, this is the usual reward we all get after we scease to contribute to the suport of the horde of drunken bums that infest our locals.

I am very much suprised Mr O NEAL that you would accept for publication a communication from a man of whom you knew absolutely nothing and thareby become the medium of seculation of the lowest and most contemptible and unwaranted atact that could possibly be made upon A catholic preast and the catholic church.

YOURS FRET J J KELLY
late secty rhyolite miners union W F OF M



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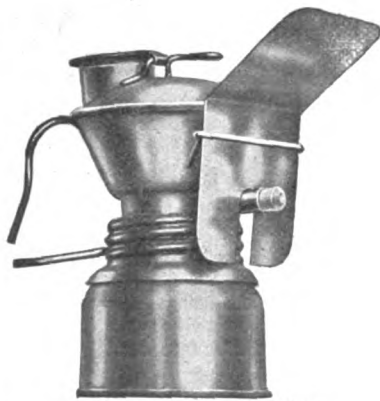
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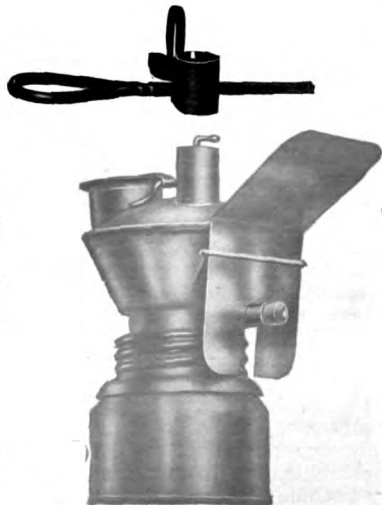


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