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THE MINERS MAGAZINE

INDEPENDENCE
EDUCATION ORGANIZATION

Published Weekly by the

WESTERN FEDERATION OF MINERS

DENVER, COLO
February 10th
1910.
Volume XI.
Number 346



WEALTH
BELONGS TO THE
PRODUCER THEREOF



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MINERS MAGAZINE



Denver, Colorado,
Thursday, February, 10, 1910.

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UNIONS ARE REQUESTED to write some communication each month for publication. Write plainly, on one side of paper only; where ruled paper is used write only on every second line. Communications not in conformity with this notice will not be published. Subscribers not receiving their Magazine will please notify this office by postal card, stating the numbers not received. Write plainly, as these communications will be forwarded to the postal authorities.

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John M. O'Neill, Editor.

Address all communications to Miners Magazine,
Room 605 Railroad Building, Denver, Colo.

Card of the Homestake Mining Co.

Lead, S. D., 19.....

I am not a member of any Labor Union and in consideration of my being employed by the HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY agree that I will not become such while in its service.

Department
.....

Occupation
.....

FINED AND DECLARED UNFAIR.

Bingham Canon, Utah, Feb. 1, 1910.

To all Secretaries of the W. F. M.:

The following named persons are unfair to organized labor and fined twenty five (\$25.00) dollars: Thomas Mullin, Barney Bonin, Jas. Franklyn, Joseph Whitford, Ben Treloar, Richard Davis, John Treloar and Frank Moore, non-union who refused to join.

(Seal) BINGHAM MINERS' UNION NO. 67.

WILL BE FINED AND DECLARED UNFAIR.

Corbin, Montana, Jan. 26, 1910.

Anyone leaving the jurisdiction of the Corbin Miners' Union No. 191, W. F. M., without a paid up card, after having worked for fifteen days or more in said jurisdiction will be fined ten dollars and declared unfair to organized labor.

By order of Corbin Miners' Union No. 191, W. F. M.

JAMES BELCHER,
Secretary.

DECLARED UNFAIR.

Telluride, Colorado, Feb. 3, 1910.

Editor Miners' Magazine:

At our last meeting night of Telluride Miners' Union I was instructed to send the following names for publication: Frank Bears and M. J. Fitzpatrick, for refusing to deposit their cards in this union. Frank Bears was at one time a member of 26. M. J. Fitzpatrick claims he belongs to 220. Will soon have a full list of all men working in this camp for publication that are not paid up in this union.

(Seal)

Yours fraternally,

R. H. GREGG,
Secretary.

THE SUPREME COURT of the United States will consider the cases of Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison next October.

DECLARED FAIR.

Angles Camp, Calif., Jan. 31, 1910.

Editor Miners' Magazine:

This is to notify you that brother Abb Richards (engineer) has paid the twenty-five-dollar fine imposed against him by Calaveras Miners' Union No. 55, W. F. of M., and is now fair to organized labor.

(Seal)

W. S. REID,
Financial Secretary.

FINED.

Globe, Arizona, Feb. 2, 1910.

Miners' Magazine:

At a regular meeting of Globe Miners' Union No. 60, held Feb. 1st, a fine of twenty-five dollars was placed against one John Daza and his name ordered published in the Miners' Magazine for refusing to pay up. All secretaries are respectfully requested to communicate with this local before admitting him to membership.

(Seal)

WM. WILLS,
Fin. Sec. No. 60.

AN APPEAL FOR ASSISTANCE.

Denver, Colorado, February 4, 1910.

To the Officers and Members of the Western Federation of Miners,

Dear Sirs and Brothers: I feel it my duty to appeal to you in behalf of the "Lantern," a publication edited by Freeman Knowles, of Deadwood, South Dakota. The Lantern has at all times espoused the cause of the Western Federation of Miners, especially so since the lockout by the Homestake Mining Company on November 24th, and because of its fearless defense in behalf of the right of the miners in the Black Hills to affiliate themselves with organized labor, nothing has been left undone by the interests opposing the Western Federation of Miners to prevent the publication of the Lantern. Brother Knowles has been indicted for libel for defending the poor Russian families whose homes were broken into in the night by the Pinkertons in the employ of the Homestake Mining Company. They hope that by involving him in legal proceedings that the expenses for the same will be so heavy that he will have to discontinue the publishing of the Lantern.

I have had the honor of a personal acquaintance with Freeman Knowles for more than twenty-five years and at no time has he failed, either through his publications or as a representative of the people when in Congress, to raise his voice in behalf of struggling humanity. I therefore appeal to the local unions of the Western Federation of Miners and organized labor in general to rally to his support at this time and by individual subscription to the Lantern or by subscribing for bundles which may be distributed among the membership to assist him in continuing his publication at least until the battle for justice is won in South Dakota. For terms communicate with the Lantern by Freeman Knowles, Deadwood, South Dakota.

Yours fraternally,

CHARLES H. MOYER,

President W. F. M.

P. S.—The subscription price of the Lantern is \$1.50 per year.

THE "STARVATION SOCIETY" has failed to force the beef trust to capitulate.

LIVES WILL BE needlessly sacrificed in the coal mines as long as the mine operators select the mine inspectors.

AN EXCHANGE asks: "Would Christ take rent, interest or profit from a poor widow?" Such a question should not be asked, for if Christ had taken rent, interest or profit he would never have been hanged on Calvary.

IN THE COAL MINES of Pennsylvania for the year 1909, one thousand and forty-five lost their lives, while 2,198 were injured.

AN EXPLOSION in a coal mine last week at Las Esperanzaz, Mexico, has added another 100 victims to the list of industrial murders.

A. S. McCLELLAN, recording secretary of Butte Miners' Union No. 1, of Butte, Montana, in a communication to Secretary-Treasurer Mills gives the following information:

"Harry Dale, a member of this union, who worked on the 24th day of September, 1909, against the orders of the union, was fined ten dollars and has left the camp and not paid the fine. All secretaries please take notice.

(Seal)

"A. S. McCLELLAN,

"Recording Secretary Butte Miners' Union No. 1."

A REPETITION of the Cherry mine disaster took place last week at Primero, Colorado, in one of the coal mines operated by the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company. At this writing it is presumed that more than 100 miners lost their lives through an explosion. It is needless to say that those responsible for such a disaster will never be prosecuted. The system has made it legal to kill in the pursuit of dividends.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS, adopted by the Socialists of Lead, South Dakota, speak for themselves and need no comment:

"Lead, S. D., Jan. 20, 1910.

"Whereas, The Socialists of the world are the friends and teachers of the working class and have signified their willingness to at all times bear persecution in the defense of the working class, and

"Whereas, One Edward Thomas, a member of this local of the Socialist party of the world has shown by his action in turning traitor to the Western Federation of Miners when beset by but slight opposition and temptation, that he is utterly incapable of appreciating the meaning of the word Brother, and

"Whereas, the retention of the name of said Edward Thomas on the rolls of this local would be construed as an endorsement of his traitorous action, therefore, be it

"Resolved, That said Edward Thomas is hereby expelled from this body and that the name of comrade be no longer used in addressing him. And be it further

"Resolved, That this local accept the resignation of said Edward Thomas as a member of the Lead City council; that said resignation be dated and handed to the mayor of the city of Lead, with the request that Mr. Thomas' seat in the city council be declared vacant by virtue of his having placed his resignation in the hands of this local of the Socialist party. And be it further

"Resolved, That this resolution be published in the Black Hills Daily Register, The Miners' Magazine, The Lantern and the Appeal to Reason, in order that all Socialists and members of organized labor may know that the members of Lead English local of the Socialist party do not countenance strike-breakers in their organization."

THE BAPTIST MINISTERS of Denver, Colorado, had a meeting recently and various questions were discussed as to the best means to be utilized in saving sinners. Among the ministers assembled was one Rev. Clarence Monard, formerly pastor of the Capitol Hill Baptist church, who addressed his colleagues as follows:

"The sin of the world today is all due to industrial conditions.

"The sin of Market street, the conditions of the home today—are due to the industrial conditions, and until the revivals or the churches get at this and change it, the efficacy of the revival and the church will be nothing.

"In our revivals do we go so far as to ask that men be paid a decent wage? We should carry our religion that far. We don't get down to the people.

"We must get to realize that people are linked together. Let our religious life get out of the four walls of a church. Until we are willing to go out into the world and tackle conditions, our revivals will be useless and inefficacious. Religion isn't getting people to make a confession of creeds and doctrines, it is to study the industrial conditions with a view to their remedy."

The minister who gave utterance to the above language discloses the fact that he is not blind to the brutalism of the present industrial system. He realizes that preaching hell and damnation will not snatch the outcast and the criminal from the broad road that leads to destruction. He recognizes the fact that the moral character of the race cannot be built up by threats of future punishment after death.

But while the minister places crime at the door of wrong economic conditions, he seems to lack the courage to make known the remedy, or else he has not yet probed deep enough into the great problem of the age to discover the cure for the elevation and uplifting of the toiling millions whose shoulders bear the burdens of the world. It is gratifying, however, to know that a minister of the gospel has been brave enough to come out boldly and place the cause of crime where it properly belongs.

GEORGE A. CARPENTER, former judge of the Circuit Court of Cook county, Illinois, has been appointed as a United States judge, regardless of the fact that the Chicago Federation of Labor filed a protest against him, and regardless of the fact that the American Federation of Labor protested against Carpenter filling a seat in the federal judiciary. President Taft contemptuously ignored the protests of organized labor, and it may be that such action on the part of "Injunction Bill" may have a tendency to ultimately force organized labor to a realization that no favors need be expected from the man who clasped the bloody hand of Diaz, the despot of Mexico.

CONSISTENCY, thou art a jewel!

Now we have the meat boycott. The great capitalist dailies, Republican and Democratic alike, are doing all they can to create a boycott sentiment against the meat trust.

The stock gamblers in Wall street and on the Chicago Board of Trade have indorsed the meat boycott movement.

Leading society ladies and prominent business men are promising support in the meat boycott. United States Senators and Congressmen favor the meat boycott. Even from the White House come a sympathetic voice for the meat boycott movement. Priests and preachers, bishops and archbishops, influential capitalist employers, etc., are talking enthusiastically for the meat boycott.

We take it for granted that our esteemed Lionheart Van Cleave of Citizens' Industrial Alliance fame, is favorably disposed toward the meat boycott campaigners. Six months of meat boycott will make the average workman more apt to content himself with the Irish potato soup and Coolie rice diet. But this is drifting away from the point we wish to bring out.

The boycott on meat is a respectable movement. The boycott on Buck's stoves and ranges is a conspiracy. The meat boycotters are heralded as the heroes of industrial liberty. The Buck's stove boycotters are sentenced to jail imprisonment.

Which is which?

What is sauce for the goose should be sauce for the gander. While we consider the meat boycott a very foolish piece of work, we are glad to see the general recognition of the right to boycott.

While "everybody" is pushing the meat boycott we say to the members and friends of organized labor:

"Do not forget the boycott on the Buck's Stoves and Ranges!"

"Conspiracy!"

What? the Buck Stove and Range boycott a conspiracy? Go and ask the meat boycotters about it!—St. Louis Labor.

JUST HOW FRIGHTENED the trust magnates are by the crusade against them is shown by the organization of the two-billion-dollar copper combine. This record-breaking aggregation of capital is formed into a trust at the very moment when the national government is announcing, with much flourish of trumpets, its intention of instituting criminal prosecutions against the organizers of the beef trust and when public indignation is being fanned to white heat by high prices.

When the steel trust was formed the wise men of capitalism assured us that it had exceeded the limit of effective management, and that its formation marked a turning point in the process of concentration. Since then concentration has proceeded with greater speed than ever before. The steel trust has grown greater and has absorbed more and more of its remaining competitors.

Now a new champion appears, controlling more wealth than the total valuation of this country for many years after the revolution.

It controls a sum of money ten times as large as is expended annually for education in the United States. The tribute paid to this single aggregation of capital would amply finance every university in the world. All the gold in circulation in the United States would not suffice to purchase one-third of its capital.

The financial transactions are larger than those of the national government. Naturally, it is above that government and uses it for its purpose.

It would be supreme in the world of industry, finance and politics were we not living in a time of such social giants. Therefore it must unite with the now more than billion-dollar steel trust, and the two-billion-dollar banking, trust company and insurance company financial trust of J. P. Morgan, and perhaps admit a few minor lords of industry and finance to its councils.—Chicago Daily Socialist.

EUGENE V. DEBS paid the following touching tribute to the memory of Ben Hanford:

"The death of Comrade Ben Hanford removes from the Socialist movement one of its most gifted writers, eloquent speakers and loyal supporters.

"For many years he served with pen and tongue with all the ability and energy at his command. He never wearied in the struggle, never uttered a disheartening word and never lowered his colors.

"Ben Hanford was a perfect type of the proletarian revolutionist. He had the clear head of a philosopher and the brave soul of a warrior. His personality was virile and magnetic, his character unique and commanding. His enthusiasm, notwithstanding his frail body, was contagious. Wherever he went, he was respected and loved and wherever he was heard he won converts to the cause.

"During the past few years he did his work under the extremest difficulties. His mind was too strong and active for his weak and diseased body. Almost any other would have yielded to pain and torture and given up in despair. But Ben Hanford had sprung from the loins of the working class and knew no such word as surrender. Many

an agony was wrung from his emaciated body, but he never halted in his march and never wavered in his devotion to duty and his fidelity to the movement.

"He had patience, fortitude, serenity and unconquerable heroism. He did as much as any other and under the circumstances more than any other, to make the Socialist movement in the United States what it is today, and his life of splendid service is an example and his unflinching devotion to principle an inspiration to us all.

"The death of this brave Comrade is a distinct loss to the Socialist movement. Personally, I keenly feel his taking off, and my deepest sympathy goes to his widowed Comrade.

"There is consolation in knowing that Hanford's unselfish services will preserve his memory and that his heroic soul is in the great movement he lived and died to serve."

SYDNEY FLOWER, former editor of a notorious publication known as the "Goldfield Gossip," has fallen into the hands of the Federal authorities for using the mails to carry on his swindling operation in floating bogus mining stock. Sidney Flower, who sometimes found it convenient to sail under the name of Panater Kent, during the time of the strike at Goldfield, Nevada, declared that the striking miners should be shot when they refused to take worthless scrip for wages. Flower is only one of a type of scoundrels that disgraced Nevada, and it will take some time ere the Sage Brush state recovers from the odium cast upon it by such unscrupulous crooks as Flower and his pals.

Verbal "Dope."

A READER of the Miners' Magazine in Nevada has sent us a copy of the "Copper Ore," published at McGill, Nevada, which contains the following editorial:

"A reasonable fixed price for copper will greatly increase the consumption and provide a world of advance contracts for advance uses. It will make need of more copper mines in place of fewer, as is the present situation. It will make more mills and smelters, more railroads and more employment under better conditions. That is what the Steel trust has done and it is what the Copper trust will do. More than that, the Steel trust has led the way in the sharing of profits with the men who produce the goods. It has given them the chance to become stockholders, and has thereby given them more hope in the world, saved money for them and started them on the road to competency. It has taken bread from the mouth of only the walking delegate, and he is going to lose more, for having cash interest in the business, the employes have no use for the agitator. They go into the union meetings with the correct idea that the union should be the friend of capital and capital the friend of the union. Consequently they vote against any widening of the breach and for the closing of the gap. The steel trust head responsible for this started a movement which will eventually solve the labor problem. Time will come when the agitators will be banded by themselves, both in the ranks of capital and labor, and will be odious to everybody. Sharing of earnings, which is something of a Socialistic idea, too, will do it."

The above editorial must have come from a brain that is impregnated with the microbe of capital. It is an easy matter to discern that the "Copper Ore" is a subsidized journal and that its columns are prostituted to serve the interests of a master class.

For the slaves to organize is contrary to the ethics of the "Sage Brush" publication, but for a master class to organize to establish

KING BOYCOTT is becoming a pretty respectable, popular and useful individual.

The open shoppers in Cleveland who began the meat strike perhaps little knew that they were vindicating the boycotts of trade unions against unfair concerns.

But what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander, always. What is sauce for the meat packers is sauce for the Buck Stove & Range Company and other tyrannical labor-crushers.

Moreover, the Hon. Bill Taft's theories about secondary or indirect boycotts being unlawful are also knocked galley west in the general boycotting of retail and wholesale concerns that handle the products of the meat packers.

Either that or tens of thousands of people are guilty of lawlessness.

If it is illegal for union men to announce orally or in print that they refuse to purchase Buck stoves, and may be enjoined and fined and imprisoned for so doing, then by the same token the meat packers are justified in entering court and praying for relief against the nationwide conspiracy to destroy their business and property.

We repeat that King Boycott has become a pretty respectable old party, and we insist that the open shoppers take due notice. Cleveland Citizen.

prices that will increase dividends, is feasible and thoroughly in harmony with the philosophy of the gentleman who bids for trust and corporation recognition.

The steel trust is today the most despotic oligarchy in the industrial field of this country. Every year thousands of men are mangled and killed in the employ of this heartless octopus, and no consideration is shown for the men out of whose labor is minted the colossal fortunes of magnates, who almost bid defiance to the very government of the nation.

The steel trust, in selling a share or two of stock to its slaves, had an object in view, and that object was to drug the minds of its employes into the belief that the trust was a combination of humanitarians, whose hearts were beating for the welfare of the employes whom the trust has denied even the right to join a labor organization. At this very moment the plants of the steel trust are filled with spies, who for Judas money are expected to report every word and act of the slave who is permitted to work behind the stockade of a steel trust plant.

Carnegie, Frick, Gary, Corey and the other mighty potentates of the trust, in permitting their slaves to purchase a share or two of steel stock, are not actuated by any noble impulses, but believe that in making a certain percentage of its higher-paid slaves holders of a few shares of stock, that a barrier is raised against the propagation of unionism among the employes.

The steel trust recognizes the fact that as long as the employes can be kept apart and stand alone as individuals, that the trust has free reign to dictate the terms under which the employes shall work. The employes of the trust, standing together in a labor organization, would have some voice as to wages and hours of employment, but standing alone as individuals, they are helpless to make any demands with hope of success, and the steel trust magnates are conscious of that fact.

Their Vision Getting Clearer.

JOHAN MITCHELL, former president of the United Mine Workers but now a salaried official of the Civic Federation, visited the late convention at Indianapolis and while he was received with applause on the part of a vast number of the delegates, yet his reception lacked the ovation of former years, and it could be discerned that the popularity of Mitchell is on the wane.

Mr. Mitchell came from Washington, where he was attending a gathering of the Civic Federation, whose members had assembled to arrange a program for securing what is called uniform legislation, whatever that means. Mitchell came to the convention fresh from his association with potentates in the industrial field, and after breathing an atmosphere in which lived the representatives of plutocracy, it could not be expected that the former "labor leader" would show much repugnance to the methods by which captains of industry weaken the efforts of the labor movement.

President Lewis of the United Mine Workers, in his address to the convention, incorporated some interesting correspondence that passed between himself and the Civic Federation, and the correspondence showed that the Civic Federation was anxious that the name of Lewis should be enrolled on the roster of an organization whose members make the pretense of bringing reconciliations between the exploiter and exploited. Lewis, in his address, made his position clear and was bold enough to declare that he was unable to see any virtue in an organiza-

tion that had failed to prove that it has any interest in the welfare or advancement of the working class. That part of the address of Lewis was given prominent space in the daily journals, and when the members of the Civic Federation at Washington learned that the president of the United Mine Workers had spoken of the Civic Federation in terms that could scarcely be called complimentary, it probably occurred to them that it was absolutely necessary that John Mitchell should appear before the convention and deliver an address, in order that the United Mine Workers might be prevented from placing themselves on record relative to the organization controlled by the "plutes."

Mr. Mitchell in his address to the United Mine Workers demonstrated that he was suave and polished and that the Civic Federation had made no mistake in giving him a salaried berth at \$6,000 per annum to play the diplomat between labor and capital.

Mr. Mitchell at first played upon the feelings of the delegates by relating some past history concerning himself, Gompers and Morrison, and told how willing he was to endure imprisonment, if need be, in defense of free speech. When he had aroused the delegates to a proper temperature of enthusiasm, he then dwelt upon that part of the Lewis address which dealt with the Civic Federation, and by mere statements unsupported by proof, endeavored to impress on the delegates that the organization that permits him to draw a salary of \$6,000 per year, had done some things that should receive the favorable recognition of organized labor.

Mitchell realized that his argument before the convention relative

to the Civic Federation was weak, and in his extremity appealed to the delegates to neither condemn or endorse the Civic Federation.

The plea of Mitchell was the plea of a diplomat, because he realized that if the United Mine Workers placed a boycott on the Civic Federation, that the former president of the United Mine Workers of America would be occupying a peculiar position and would be forced to resign in order to be in harmony with the sentiments of the organization of which he was formerly president.

Mr. Mitchell and all the other gentlemen who have become prominent in the labor movement can little longer delude the working class through specious sophistry. The class struggle is awakening the laboring people from their mental lethargy and they are beginning to refuse to permit "labor leaders" to do their thinking. They realize that

Carnegie, Frick, Gary, Belmont, John Hays Hammond and men of their ilk are maintaining a Civic Federation to stay the progress of organized labor, and that "labor leaders" are only wanted in such a combination to use their influence to blind the rank and file to the brutalism of the murderous system that feeds upon the sweat, tears and suffering of ill-paid toil.

There will come a time in the not far distant future when the "labor leader" will have but little opportunity to follow in the footsteps of such men as Burns, Mitchell or Powderly.

The lines are being drawn and the vision of the membership of the labor movement will soon discern that the man who is not with the labor movement is against it.

An Uncharitable Sentiment.

WHEN ADJUTANT GENERAL GARDENER of the state of Colorado a number of years ago declared that a snowslide at Telluride, which killed a number of miners, was a visitation of the wrath of God, organized labor of the Centennial state became aroused with indignation and demanded his removal. Such sentiments as were uttered by Gardener were looked upon as blasphemous and was evidence that the Adjutant General carried a malicious heart that burned with animosity towards the ill-fated miners, because a short time before the calamity some of them had participated in a strike against the Smuggler-Union Mining Company. The Adjutant General in giving expression to such language furnished the proof that he was an enemy of any man who declared war against the despotism of "vested rights," and that his prejudice against unionism had made him heartless. But the Adjutant General, while he was severely criticized and condemned, was guilty of no greater offense than the saintly gentlemen who are mentioned in the following dispatch from Detroit, Michigan:

"Detroit, Mich., Jan. 29.—That they consider the great Paris flood a manifestation of divine vengeance for the city's wickedness and the French war upon the Catholic church is the statement tonight by several prominent Catholic clergymen here. They call attention to the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

"For thirty years the government of France has made war upon the Catholic church in that country," declared Rev. Henry Muespach of St. Joachim parish. "Now Paris, the center of government, is under water. Is it not probable that God is speaking? God is the church and when the radicals of France robbed the church of its property they robbed God. The Lord has said that he would stand by his church in its difficulties.

"France is rapidly drifting into anarchy and atheism. The Socialists run the government and infidelity is taught in the schools. It is not alone the Catholic church that is attacked, but France is a Catholic nation and the Catholics are in a large majority."

"The Paris flood may not be a punishment from God, but it is a terrible warning, at least," declared another priest.

"Paris is probably the wickedest city in the world. Morals have relaxed until there are no morals to speak of," declared still another."

The flood which visited Paris and other parts of France was a calamity that touched the most callous heart. The cry of poverty and hunger from homeless thousands was heard in every nation on earth. More than 200,000 were left without shelter through the destruction of more than \$200,000,000 worth of property, and sympathy for the stricken and destitute should have sealed the lips of ministers of the gospel who are supposed to be permeated with the spirit of Christianity.

No man who is above bias or prejudice will charge the flood at Paris to God, nor will he look upon it as a visitation of His wrath to punish the enemies of the Catholic church. The flood at Paris showed no clemency to the Catholic no more than the enemy of Catholicism, and even Catholic cathedrals no more than commercial institutions, escaped the awful consequences of the disaster.

If God was visiting vengeance against the government in retaliation for divorcing the church from the state, it seems that He would have shown discrimination and saved the Catholics from the sufferings visited upon those who were looked upon as enemies of the Catholic church. If the flood at Paris was a visitation from God as punishment, then the earthquake at San Francisco, the great fire in Chicago and the late earthquake in Italy, a Catholic country, can likewise be charged up to an angry God who visited vengeance on the people.

It is deplorable that men who preach the doctrines of Christ and whose hearts are supposed to beat for the reformation of the sinner, should give expression to language that is in direct conflict with the teachings of true Christianity. Such sentiments can only engender feelings of bitterness and keep alive those flames of prejudice that can only result in injury to an institution that has been dedicated to an omnipotent being.

Significant.

WHEN PRESIDENT TAFT met the despot of Mexico on the border line that separates the United States and the land of peonage, a speech was made by the "father of injunctions" and the significance of some of the sentiments expressed by Taft in his greeting of Diaz must have escaped the serious attention of the masses of the people of this country. In his speech Taft expressed himself in part as follows:

"I rise to express in the name and on behalf of the people of the United States their profound admiration and high esteem for the great, illustrious and patriotic president of the Republic of Mexico.

"The aim and ideals of our two nations are identical, their sympathy mutual and lasting. I drink to my friend, the president of this great republic, to his continued long life and happiness, and to the never ending bond of mutual sympathy between Mexico and the United States."

The above language, from the man who holds the highest official position in the gift of the people of this country, might well cause liberty-loving men and women to ponder and reflect, and ask themselves

if a republic that was founded by the pioneers of '76 is at last "identical" and in sympathy with the institutions of a country where even a criticism against the monster who rules is punishable with death.

When Taft spoke for the people of the United States, he merely represented that upper strata of society who live upon the sweat and tears of a producing class and which class have but little liberty even beneath the fluttering folds of the Stars and Stripes.

President Taft, in showering such verbal eulogy upon the red-handed and relentless czar of Mexico, was giving utterance to sentiments that would be approved by the magnates of combinations in America, which have been permitted to corner some of the natural resources of the domain of Diaz and that have been licensed to mint profit from the unpaid labor of the ill-clad and half-starved peons of a mis-named republic, whose president puts to shame the fiendish cruelties of a Weyler, the once bloody butcher of Cuba.

When Taft paid such homage to Diaz it is easily understood how the bloodthirsty ruler of Mexico can reach into the United States and snatch victims whose only crime is their protest against the administration of a cruel and crafty tyrant who respects no law or reveres no justice that concedes the slightest heritage of liberty to the poverty-stricken wretches of Mexico.

Confusing the People.

THERE NEVER WAS A TIME in the history of America when the people realized more forcibly the brutality of the present industrial system. In spite of all the power and influence exercised by press and pulpit, the great mass of the people are becoming rebellious and refuse to longer remain silent while corporate and commercial might flaunt their insolence and arrogance, trampling under foot the fundamental principles of liberty and sneering in derision as the cries of hunger are heard from the pallid lips of poverty. The people are recognizing the fact that greed for profit is drying up the fountains of the human heart and that the suffering of women and children no longer brings a tear of pity to the eye of capitalism. The people have

commenced to realize that a trust or corporation, privately owned, is without a heart, and that the dollar in this mercenary age is the god that makes society forget the sufferings of the human race.

In the mad scramble for the almighty dollar, the weaker victims of a soulless system are crushed and thrown over the precipice to financial death, and the groans of the crushed and helpless are mocked by the exulting laughs of the human hyenas whose success has been built on the blasted hopes and blighted lives of those who have gone down beneath the waves of adversity, probably to rise no more. The cold-blooded, murderous system has dehumanized humanity and generous feelings are congealing in the mad race for the spoils of profit.

In the last few weeks the great topic of discussion is the "cost of

living," and the prominent men of a nation have been interviewed with the object in view of uncovering the cause that has made it impossible for a vast majority of the citizenship of this country to supply themselves with the actual necessities of life.

Law makers in the House and Senate have been called on, in the hope that national legislators might be able to place the responsibility where it belongs, but the supposed "servants of the people" have diplomatically sidestepped the absorbing issue or indulged in glittering generalities that are practically meaningless. The beef trust has accused the farmer, and the farmer has brought accusations against the trust; the avowed enemy of organized labor has charged the labor trust as responsible for the high cost of living, and the wholesalers and manufacturers have brought indictments against the retailers, who are charged with endeavoring to become wealthy too quickly.

The various accusations from the different sources have been made merely to confuse the people in order that they may continue in ignorance of the *great cause* that keeps the multitude in poverty, while the few revel in magnificent luxury.

The natural resources of the earth and the machinery of produc-

tion and distribution being privately owned, is the *cause* that has placed living almost beyond the reach of the laboring people of the world. As the pressure is being felt by the masses of the people, there is noticeable a growing nervousness, and even conservative men have declared that we are rapidly approaching a bloody revolution.

The economic power of the comparatively few has placed the masses of the people in absolute bondage, and until the masses of the people arise in their might and overthrow the system that has placed the means of life in the hands of a class of privilege, just so long shall we hear the moans of hunger and just so long shall we witness the many suffering the pangs of misery and wretchedness.

"Hunger strikes" will not solve the problem. The boycott on the beef trust will not bring economic liberty to the people of this earth.

Resolutions of denunciation against the greed of combinations will not dissolve the trusts.

The people must *own the trusts*, and for the people to own the trusts, it will become necessary for the people to come together in their economic and political strength and end the system that places a tax on industry and puts a premium on indolence.

The U. M. W. of A. and the W. F. M.

THE FOLLOWING EDITORIAL appeared in the United Mine Workers' Journal relative to the anticipated coalition of both organizations:

"For more than a decade these two great organizations have been acting separately instead of in conjunction.

"We have often wondered why this should be done, and often deplored the lack of coherency that should exist among men who are engaged in a common pursuit in life, and who were all, more or less, depending on each other for success in their efforts.

"We are therefore rejoiced that on the reaching of the age of maturity of the parent body we find a delegation of strong men, headed by President Moyer of the Western Federation of Miners, who are present seeking for a closer affiliation of the two great bodies. And it was a great pleasure to us to see the reception given Brother Moyer when he made the plea for that affiliation, thus showing that the delegates to the convention were in enthusiastic accord with the aims of their Western brothers.

"Since President Lewis was inaugurated there has been great efforts on both sides to bring about this condition. President Lewis paid a visit to the Western convention in 1908 and Secretary Frank J. Hayes of District 12 made a similar visit in 1909, and there has been a gradual approachment towards the ultimate desire.

"Whether the two organizations will be made one by action of the two conventions this year or not is a matter that cannot be forecasted with accuracy in this issue. But from the action of our convention in appointing a special committee to consider and devise ways and means for a closer alliance, if not amalgamation, it is certain that this end, in some shape or form, will be accomplished.

"That this result could and would be beneficial to the members of both bodies, there can be no doubt, and there is a splendid illustration in the action of the British Miners' Federation last summer, when by

united effort it successfully resisted the attempted encroachments on the Scottish miners, and, instead of lowering, raised the minimum wage scale.

"In these days of pools and trusts of capital with billions of dollars behind them making war on the labor unions and insisting on scab (open) shops, there can be no shutting our eyes to the fact that in solidarity of the union of the craft lies the salvation of the members of that craft from trust slavery.

"In other words, we can only successfully 'fight fire with fire.' And, being confronted with a number of gigantic trusts that threaten our downfall, we can only fight them successfully by the organization of a more gigantic trust, and that a solidified labor force that trusts in itself and one another, and can, not only thwart their encroachments, but force other concessions.

"We cannot see anything in the proposed amalgamation or affiliation, call it what you may, but beneficial results. If gone into in the proper spirit and wisely and judiciously carried into effect, the results are bound to be far reaching in beneficial gains to the members of both organizations. 'United we stand, divided we fall,' should be taken in the fullest literal sense, and construed to mean 'All United,' especially under our modern productive competitive system, which makes every workman only a part of a medium to grind out gold for the 'Plutes' who live in million-dollar mansions and build a shack of two or three rooms for the man who produces. And are still determined to crush him into further bondage if they can, and will do so unless, by force of organization, labor can successfully resist their action.

"In the proposed affiliation we see great hopes for solidarity, and with solidarity we can defy the exactions of the trusts and humble and defeat every effort they make to enslave, and solidarity of all men who follow mining for a living and affiliation with all other labor bodies is an object much to be desired by the entire mining craft."

Those Lucky Boy Amendments.

SOME TIME AGO there dawned in the minds of the membership of Lucky Boy Miners' Union of Nevada the advisability of drafting certain amendments to the constitution and submitting said amendments, through a circular, to the local unions of the Federation for a referendum vote. The circular forwarded by Lucky Boy Miners' Union to the locals received but scant recognition, thus demonstrating that the membership of the Western Federation of Miners felt a reluctance in putting into operation an experiment that might prove disastrous to the stability of the organization.

The amendments contained in the Lucky Boy circular can scarcely be called original, but are practically to a great extent a rehash of those brilliant amendments that strangled the life out of the I. W. W. at the second annual convention.

At the last annual convention of the Western Federation of Miners held at Denver, some of the amendments adopted by Lucky Boy Miners' Union were brought before the delegates for discussion, and the champions and advocates of those amendments were given the widest latitude for discussion, and yet they miserably failed to show wherein the adoption of such amendments would redound to the welfare and advancement of the organization.

The Lucky Boy Miners' Union in the first paragraph of the circular, wants a stenographic report of the proceedings of conventions, and at the same time insists that such stenographic report shall be "furnished free of charge to all locals of the Federation."

Why not ask that strike benefits shall be furnished without the payment of per capita tax and that the official organ shall be furnished free of charge to every member of the Western Federation of Miners? The compiling, printing and binding of a stenographic report costs thousands of dollars, and yet the spirit of unionism in the membership of Lucky Boy seems to be of such a character that they are not willing to secure a copy of a stenographic report unless the same is furnished free of charge. Such a heroic sacrifice on the part of the membership

of Lucky Boy Miners' Union is worthy of the deathless admiration of men who yearn for that coming day when the enslaved of this planet shall sing songs of triumph in memory of the emancipation of the race.

At the fifteenth annual convention of the Western Federation of Miners, a provision was made for a stenographic report, and though the stenographic report was offered for actual cost, yet not more than 600 copies of the 3,000 published were purchased by the local unions of the Western Federation of Miners. Though the stenographic report cost more than \$4,000, yet but little more than \$600 was realized on a publication that even contained the memorable and immortal orations of a number of brilliant Ciceros, whose verbal growls against the hosts of Mammon caused a convention to believe that the sword of liberty had been unsheathed from its scabbard to slay the monster of tyranny in "the twinkling of an eye."

The stenographic report of the fifteenth annual convention was a drug on the market, and but few of the delegates of that convention even wanted the volume of 944 pages that bristled with tropical rhetoric and blood-curdling fulminations against the wrongs that cursed the toiling millions.

The greater portion of the amendments adopted by Lucky Boy Miners' Union are aimed at the office of the presidency of the organization. According to the sentiments entertained by the membership of Lucky Boy, the word "president" has an awful meaning and carries with it a power, before which the imperialism of a czar pales into insignificance, but a "chairman" substituted for "president" will right all the wrongs that exist, and from the organization will be eliminated the Caesarism that jeopardizes the supreme voice of the membership.

If there ever was a time in the history of the labor movement when an executive head was absolutely necessary, that time is now.

The temporary "chairman" selected by an executive board who presides as a kind of a transient official, cannot be expected to have a grasp of the conditions that prevail throughout the jurisdiction of a national organization, nor can he render the efficient service of the man whose tenure in office has made him acquainted with the local condi-

tions that exist in the mining districts in which the organization has obtained a foothold.

A chairman selected for but a brief space of time cannot become acquainted with the needs of the organization, nor can he be expected to have a survey of the field that demands the best and highest executive ability, in order that the common enemy may be met with all the power and strength of the organization.

In the discussion of the abolition of the office of president, it has been pointed out that the Socialist party has no president, but that the secretary-treasurer meets all the requirements of such an official position.

There is a vast difference between a labor organization and a political organization.

The labor organization meets the "captains of industry" on the industrial battlefield to protect the immediate interests of the working class, while the Socialist party carries on a propaganda work to unite the laboring people at the ballot box. But regardless of the fact that the Socialist party has so far maintained an organization without a president, it has not been shown that a secretary-treasurer, assisted by an executive board, has been able to preserve the vitality of the political organization. Nearly every Socialist publication throughout the United States and Canada is clamoring for financial assistance; and the ablest writers of that party are exclaiming: "What is the matter with the Socialist party!"

Men of observation and experience, looking into the future, do not hesitate to predict that the Socialist party as at present constituted is doomed, and from its ruins will rise a "Labor party," embracing practically all the demands of a party that seems to be going to pieces for lack of authority to prevent speculators from peddling mining stock, bank stock, airship stock and stock in fake co-operative concerns, whose promoters have been charged with swindling through the use of those endearing terms: "My Dear Comrade." The Socialist party is now being torn into fragments, from ocean to ocean, and there is scarcely a state in the Union in which the Socialist party is not split into warring factions, which means ultimately that internal dissension will destroy the political structure that has been reared by a secretary-treasurer and an executive board, that seem to lack the determination or authority to place brakes on the disruption that can only end in complete destruction.

Again it has been urged that officials of a labor organization should not succeed themselves, or that they should not be permitted to serve more than two consecutive terms. It will be admitted without argument that when a corporation finds a man of executive ability who shows competency and who is equipped to render service that promotes the interests of such a corporation, there is no question raised as to the time he shall sever his connection with the corporation. The corporation presumes that the man of ability, as he gains experience in his official capacity, will become more valuable, and such a man is kept in office just as long as he meets the expectations of those who stand in need of his services. The corporation has the power to dispense with his services whenever he fails to discharge his official duties, and a labor organization can serve its best interests by retaining in office such men as can demonstrate their competency to perform their duties with honor to themselves and to the organization which they serve.

One of the paragraphs of the Lucky Boy circular contains the following:

"Art. 3, page 13. New Section.

"Each member of the executive board shall act as trustee for the Federation in his district; he shall be and is hereby constituted the trustee, to sell or incumber in any manner and to any extent that he deems for the best interest of the Federation, any and all real and personal property, except the funds of the Western Federation of Miners, with the concurrence and under the direction of the executive board of the Federation, or a convention duly called and assembled, and he shall execute all such documents in the manner following:"

The above paragraph will scarcely commend itself to the man who is permeated with the spirit of fairness or justice. What legal grounds can be set forth to clothe a member of the executive board with authority to "sell or incumber" property without the consent of the membership of the local union to which the property may belong? Will a warranty deed or title become null and void in the presence of an amendment that licenses a member of the executive board to "sell or incumber" property? Let us suppose that the member of the executive board of Montana should attempt to "sell or incumber" the property of Butte Miners' Union No. 1. Is there any sane man that would entertain the opinion that the membership of that local union would submit to such an imposition?

Such a paragraph is an insult to the intelligence of the members of the local unions, as it intimates in a covert manner that a local union is incompetent to manage its property without the appointment of a guardian in the person of a member of the executive board.

The editor of the Miners' Magazine does not feel justified in dealing with the various amendments contained in the circular sent out by Lucky Boy Miners' Union, but will close by dealing with the resolution adopted by that local union, which is as follows:

"RESOLUTION.

"Resolved, That in case of anything prohibiting these amendments from becoming a law upon receiving a majority vote cast upon them that they be immediately taken up upon the convening of the eighteenth annual convention, and by that body made effective, and be it further

"Resolved, That anything in the present constitution of the Western Federation of Miners conflicting with the above amendments or resolutions, shall be suspended for this purpose."

The above resolution is a reflection on the honesty and integrity of the officials of the Western Federation of Miners. The first resolution contains the suspicion that if the amendments receive a majority vote, that some species of jugglery will be put into operation by the officials to prevent such amendments becoming a part of the organic law of the organization, and calls upon the eighteenth annual convention to right the wrong that may be perpetrated by officials that are presumed to be dishonest by the membership of Lucky Boy Miners' Union. Such a resolution is unworthy of honorable men and any resolution that points the finger of suspicion at an official without being supported by some semblance of evidence, can only reflect ultimately on the men who drafted and adopted such a resolution.

If any official of the Western Federation of Miners has done wrong or violated any of the laws which govern the organization, it is not necessary to draft and adopt resolutions that cast suspicion on such an official, but it becomes the duty of a member or a local union to file charges as provided by the constitution. Crawling around like midnight assassins and whispering intimations that "something is wrong" is similar to the cowardly operations of the paid hireling in the employ of the detective agency, whose paymaster instructs him to lose no opportunity in creating a suspicion of distrust among the members of a labor union against the officials. The detective agency has discovered that the tongue of slander is an effective weapon to shatter a labor organization, and the man whose character is tainted with such traits of degeneracy can always find employment as a Judas and receive the reward of the "thirty pieces of silver."

If the Western Federation of Miners is to live and go forward in the battle for justice, the membership must stand as a solid phalanx against the encroaching power of the known enemy that is sparing no effort to exterminate organized labor. Quibbling on frivolities relative to the constitution and the laws which govern the organization will scarcely halt the known enemy on its invasion into the very citadel of the labor movement.

Hide and Seek.

By Robert Hunter.

THE UNITED MINE WORKERS of America are considering a boycott on all the Hearst papers because of Hearst's inhuman treatment of his miners at the Homestake mine.—Press Dispatch.

William R. Hearst ought to have his movements reported on all the sporting pages of our great dailies.

He can play hide and seek better than any man now living.

I know there are people who think this a child's game, but they are wrong.

Hide and seek is the game our great financiers know best. They play it every day.

When you think you have them you find them gone. They dodge in and out and keep our district attorneys at their wits' end.

The heads of all great corporations are now required to become experts at hide and seek. They break a law, make a few dodges and then nobody can find them. When you think you have got them in your grip they vanish utterly.

Indeed, the test of a great financier today is the skill with which he can play hide and seek.

Some time ago John Brisben Walker announced that he had sold the Cosmopolitan magazine to William R. Hearst.

A former editor of the magazine said he was employed by Mr.

Hearst. He lost his job and one of the closest friends of Mr. Hearst got the job.

Recently, however, a public man thought he had been libeled by the Cosmopolitan and he denounced Mr. Hearst. Mr. Hearst then announced that he had never owned a dollar of stock in the Cosmopolitan.

The great Homestake mine in South Dakota has been known for years as a Hearst property. Millions of wealth have been taken out of that mine for the benefit of the Hearst family.

When Mr. Hearst was a candidate for office he got the employes of the Homestake mine to write a testimonial to the world declaring that Mr. Hearst was a model employer.

He believed in union labor and gave high wages. He was good to his workmen and consequently deserved the political support of all the miners in the country.

A few months ago the Miners' Union decided to make the Homestake mine a union mine through and through. They were locked out and a fierce battle is now being fought at Lead, South Dakota.

Every effort is being made to crush the men, and the fight these wintry days is a sad and bitter one.

Working men over the country began then to denounce Mr. Hearst for his ill treatment of the miners. But Mr. Hearst smiles, makes a few swift passes, and is gone.

He announces that he doesn't own any stock in the mine and has never been the employer of the Homestake miners.

When he was getting testimonials he was the boss, but now that he is getting criticism he cannot be found.

Now and then his papers are sued for libel, but at such times Mr. Hearst doesn't own the New York Journal or the New York American. Somebody else owns the great Hearst papers, and some one else goes to jail.

Now, this game of hide and seek is most confusing. Suppose Mr. Hearst should some day announce that he never had owned a cent of stock in any of the great Hearst papers.

What a shock it would be to learn that all the powerful editorials signed by Mr. Hearst had been written by somebody else.

How painful it would be to learn that Hearst was only a myth and that all the time it was only Arthur Brisbane in disguise.

Suppose we should learn that all the flattering front page writeups

of Mr. Hearst's noble work for the public were only paid ads written by some clever show window expert.

Mr. Rockefeller says at times that he doesn't know anything about the Standard Oil Company. The heads of the Sugar Trust say they don't know anything about stealing any money from the government. August Belmont always hears with amazement of the sharp practices of his traction companies.

It is a great game, this hide and seek. It is becoming our foremost national sport.

Whenever you have any boquets to hand about, the gentlemen appear to accept them with becoming modesty, but whenever there are any bricks coming their way they vanish from view.

"What is this Standard Oil Trust you talk so much about?" says Mr. Rockefeller.

"Where is this Homestake mine anyway?" asks Mr. Hearst. And so goes the merry game of hide and seek.



INFORMATION WANTED.

Information is wanted of Anthony or Andy Weber, whose folks live in St. Louis. He is supposed to be somewhere in California. Up to within a year ago he was in Shasta county, but it is supposed left there for Grass Valley, Nevada county, California. Kindly address W. C. Weber, 2311 Athlone Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Information is wanted regarding the whereabouts of Linn Hill, supposed to be in Alaska or western states. Last heard of in Alaska in 1903. Anyone sending information leading to his present location will be paid reward by his brother, Herman Hill, Madison, Kansas. mch 24.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Atlanta, Idaho, Jan. 22, 1910.

Editor Miners' Magazine:

If Richard Norton will communicate with W. J. Tighe, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada, who is desirous of learning the whereabouts of Richard Norton, he will confer a favor upon me. G. W. PREY, (Seal) Financial Secretary Atlanta Miners' Union, No. 184.

RESOLUTIONS OF PROTEST.

Kennett, Cal., Jan. 29, 1910.

Editor Miners' Magazine:

The following resolution was passed by Kennett Miners' Union, in session of January 27th, and ordered published in the Miners' Magazine:

Whereas, The officers of Spokane, Washington, are appropriating to themselves the power to override the inalienable right of free speech by trampling that amendment of the constitution of the United States that allows free speech, free press and free assemblage as an organization, we, the members of Kennett Miners' Union, No. 174, W. F. M., do vehemently protest against such unlawful action which has been perpetrated upon the Socialist and I. W. W. speakers by the officials of the city of Spokane; and be it further

Resolved, That the whole of the working people should know of the condition in Spokane; be it

Resolved, That a copy of this be sent to the Miners' Magazine for publication.

CHARLES AHARA,
KARL SCHEIDT,
H. C. EVANS, Committee.

(Seal)

A VOICE FROM GLOBE, ARIZONA.

Globe, Ariz., Jan. 5, 1910.

Dear Sir and Brother:

Discussion and not dissension is, or should be, the order of the day, and the referendum submitted by the Lucky Boy Union No. 248 should be productive of discussion, but from the attack of the opponents to the referendum it would appear that it is more provocative to dissension than otherwise, judging from the autocracy of Bro. Joseph Mann, who flatly refuses to bring it before his local, unless so ordered, and the unjust, sarcastic criticism of our friend and brother, P. J. Holohan, with his impugning of motives, who, gallantly rushing into the breach with a wild Irish hurrah, would smash all heads but his own, overlooking that advice which is given us, "not to unjustly criticize or attribute unworthy motives to a brother who may happen to differ with us. . . . By honest difference of opinion we arrive at sound conclusions"; overlooking the fact that he was a great stickler for the electing of all committees from the floor, allowing his "fertile imagination" to run away with him and lead him into vagueness and unto Shakespeare, forgetting in his horrified indignation, that there is such a thing as "Economic Determinism."

I grant him and all others that No. 2 of the referendum is somewhat marred in specifying the auditing committee: it should include all committees—but even then, only the auditing committee? Does not Bro. P. J. Holohan's "fertile imagination" lead him astray, when he impugns the motives of our brothers when they got this up, by the very fact that they made provisions

for a chairman, who shall be elected by the executive board, by the very fact that the auditing committee is one of the most important of all committees; by the very fact that our enemies, permeated with graft, spread false reports of graft in office, not alone in our organization, but in all organizations, and point out the power of the chairman who does all the appointing of committees; by the very fact that our enemies charge secrecy and inner circles; by the very fact that we have nothing to conceal, by the very fact that it would relieve our president from these aspersions, by the very fact that every honest man welcomes and courts investigation, preferring to leave the same in the hands of his enemies—nay, not enemies, but opponents,—rather than his friends, and thus make doubly sure his vindication. These are facts, which, in all likelihood, helped to enlighten "the enlightened ideas of the members of No. 248"; these are facts or truths by which no "fertile imagination" can be led astray to imagine impure motives, nor do they cast any insinuations on the probity of any member. Bro. P. J. Holohan fully recognizes "the necessity for a change in the present constitution of the W. F. M.," yet fails to state what change, but gallantly charges those that desire to make the change, the change that will bring us to that vanguard for which he so devoutly wishes; he, as a Socialist, is inconsistent, as also is our organization, which has also declared itself for Socialism, and his and our inconsistency lies in the fact that we do not follow the practical demonstration shown us by the Socialist party in conducting its organization—an organization which is larger than ours, more dues-paying members and covers larger territory—yet, despite all, this conducts its affairs by the aid of a secretary-treasurer and executive board, elects its chairman for each day of its meetings, and elects its committees from the floor; we can do likewise and must do so and, in fact are being forced to do so, no matter whether we call the rose a lily or a lily a rose; our constitution is getting lawyerfied; wipe it out, write it on a postage stamp, then lick the stamp, observe the spirit and let the "tweedledum and tweedledee" of verbs, adverbs, commas, periods, semicolons go to the "demnition bow-wows," control the "fertile imagination," and let us be impartial to ourselves and between ourselves; cut out the individual and bring forth the we; revise the constitution by all means; no president; all committees to be elected from the floor; no man to succeed himself more than once in any office. Get those through and we will be in a fair way to advance, which I believe we all desire, both our officers and ourselves.

With less dissension and more discussion,
Yours for Economic Liberty,
HARRY JARDINE.

THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF DISTRICT ASSOCIATION NO. 6, W. F. M., AT TRAIL, B. C.

The twelfth Annual Convention of the District Association, No. 6, of the W. F. M. convened at Trail, B. C., January 19th, with the following local unions represented: Trail Union No. 5, Phoenix Union No. 8, Greenwood Union No. 22, Grand Forks Union No. 180, Ymir Union No. 85, Sandon Union, No. 81, Moyie Union No. 71, Rossland Union No. 38, Lardeau Union No. 119, Kimberly Union No. 100, and Nelson Union No. 96.

The reports of the officers of the District Association No. 6 shows that unionism is alive in British Columbia and working incessantly for the advancement of the working class.

The report of the secretary-treasurer shows that the District Association is in a healthy condition financially and shows that the membership aggregates 2,602 in good standing.

The following report was submitted to the convention by the president: To the Officers and Members of District Association No. 6, Western Federation of Miners—Brothers:

As president of your organization, it is my duty to submit to you a report for the year now ending. Immediately after the adjournment of the Eleventh Annual Convention of District Association No. 6, W. F. M., acting according to instructions from convention, your executive board took up the matter with President Charles Moyer reorganizing in this district, and the necessity of having an organizer for this district, and we asked the executive at headquarters to assist this district in defraying the expenses and salary of such organizer. Brother Moyer instructed us that the executive of the Western Federation of Miners was willing that an organizer be secured for this district, and also agreed that the federation would pay half of expense and salary of such organizer. Upon receiving these instructions from President Moyer, your executive would no doubt have immediately placed an organizer in the field, but for the fact that the three questions which were ordered to be submitted for the referendum by the Eleventh Annual Convention of District Association No. 6, W. F. M. As complete returns of the referendum vote from the different local unions were not received by District Secretary Shiland un-



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DEADWOOD, S. D.

til the latter part of the month of May, no organizer was engaged nor work begun until the month of July. At the Eleventh Annual Convention Brother Hardy of Trail Smeltermen's Union suggested that, owing to the fact that a large number of the men working in and about the smelter at Trail were Italians, District No. 6 should secure the services of an Italian brother to act as an organizer in Trail. Executive Board Member Davidson suggested the same to President Moyer. However, in the month of June, District Secretary Bro. Anthony Shilland, Secretary Hardy of Trail Union and other brothers called upon me at my home in Rossland, and the matter of attempting to organize Trail and Grand Forks Unions, as Trail Union was at that time not in a very flourishing condition, was thoroughly gone into at this meeting, and I was asked to undertake the work of organizing throughout the district. This I consented to do, and in the month of July I began work. The greater part of the month of July I worked in the jurisdiction of Rossland union. This was done according to instructions, and the results of my labors in that part were good. On the 20th of July I went to Greenwood and was present at the meeting when the strike was declared off by the Greenwood Union against the B. C. Copper Company, and as each local union throughout the district has already been supplied with a copy of my report bearing on the settlement of the strike in Greenwood, it is not necessary at this time to take up space in this report by again reporting in full re-settlement of strike in Greenwood. After returning from Greenwood I set to work in the jurisdiction of Trail Mill and Smeltermen's Union, and I must admit the work laid out for me in Trail was no picnic for a start. However, after working a number of days in each month since the month of July in Trail, I am now pleased to report to you that at this time Trail Mill & Smeltermen's Union No. 105 is a real live union with a good membership and a fairly good prospect of an increase in its membership, as there is yet a considerable number on the outside of the union that should be enrolled with those already in the ranks, but with persistent and careful work on the part of an organizer and the local officers, I believe these now non-union men can be induced to join and contribute to the support of an organization which is alone responsible for any improvement in wages and hours that the wage-earner is at the present time enjoying in this district. In my opinion, united action on the part of Rossland Miners' Union and Trail Mill and Smeltermen's Union will make the future prospects for the Western Federation of Miners in Trail good.

I have devoted considerable time to Grand Forks Union. Grand Forks is a hard place to keep the men organized, from the fact that a large number of men employed in and about the Granby Smelter do not remain any great length of time at work in this particular smelter. This being the case, you will readily understand that it is no easy matter to keep a union in as good a working condition as if the members were not compelled to shift from camp to camp in search of employment. But, notwithstanding all the obstacles that we have had to contend with in Grand Forks, Local No. 180 is at the present time in better condition and the future prospects are considerably better than what they were one year ago. But if the W. F. M. is to keep control of the labor situation in Grand Forks, this district and executive at Denver will have to give their attention and assistance to Secretary Hadden and the other active officers and members of Grand Forks local union.

During this last six months I have visited Greenwood and Phoenix. These two locals are in good working condition and the local officers and members of these two unions have the work of organization well in hand. In the month of September on one of my visits to Phoenix, being present at one of the regular meetings of the union, President Reed informed me at this meeting that the New Dominion Copper Company intended starting operations in some of their mines in Phoenix, and the president also informed me that the employes of the old Dominion Copper Company had not as yet received their wages from the old Dominion Copper Company, notwithstanding the fact that very nearly two years had elapsed since the company ceased operations, and the same mines and smelter, which was formerly the property of the old Dominion Copper Company were now the property of the New Dominion Copper Company. And as it was the intention of the new company to start operations in some of these mines, I advised the union to take immediate action, and not to allow any member of the union to go to work for this company until they made some settlement with those men who had not been paid their wages for labor performed in the mines and smelter of the old company, and on the following Monday, after the regular union meeting which I have above mentioned, President Reed of Phoenix union and myself had an interview with Mr. Seward, manager of the new company. Mr. Seward informed us that, according to law the new company had no legal right to pay the wages owed by the old company, but that he, Mr. Seward, was willing to meet a committee from the union and endeavor to come to some settlement, if possible. So that night Bro. John McInnis and myself drew up a resolution which was put to the next meeting of Phoenix and Greenwood unions, and as I understand, this resolution was adopted and a committee appointed by Phoenix Union to meet Mr. Seward, the manager of the new company, and the result of the committee's labors was that the company agreed to pay 75 cents on the dollar, for all wages owed by the old company. This settlement the men to whom wages were owing and the union accepted, and I believe the men acted wisely in accepting the company's offer, when you take in consideration the fact that the employes had lost whatever legal right they had, which is not sufficient according to the present laws of this province. I have made mention of this particular case in order that you may better understand the absolute necessity of having laws placed on the statute books of the Province of British Columbia that will guarantee the collection of wages for the wage worker in the Province.

It has not been my pleasure to visit all the locals in the district, as I would have greatly liked to have done, but as I was instructed to devote most of my time to Trail Union and Grand Forks, this I have done to the best of my ability, paying particular attention to Trail, as I realized that I could not do too much in that burg in the way of organizing. Any further report on the conditions of the local unions in District No. 6 I will leave to District Secretary Shilland to report on, as he no doubt can furnish you with a more accurate account of the membership of the different locals in the district. However, I am safe in saying that the membership has increased, and the district as a whole is in better condition than it has been for some years past.

At the Eleventh Annual Convention of District Association No. 6, W. F. M., a resolution was adopted which empowered the district executive board to engage the services of a competent attorney to handle all cases where our members may be involved in collecting compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act. In compliance with this action of the Eleventh Annual Convention, your executive board met by agreement in the City of Nelson, B. C., on the 23rd day of March, 1909, and the following day we met with Attorney L. P. Eckstein of Fernie, B. C. Vice-President T. Y. McKay, Secretary Anthony Shilland and myself acting in behalf of District Association No. 6, W. F. M. We entered into a contract for one year with L. P. Eckstein to handle all our compensation cases which can not be otherwise settled satisfactorily to our membership. The terms and conditions of agreement which your executive made with Attorney L. P. Eckstein, an exact copy of which has already been submitted to each local union in the Province of B. C., and I be-

lieve that we have secured the very best terms obtainable, and that Mr. Eckstein has endeavored to carry out his agreement to the letter, and I strongly recommend to the officers and delegates to the Twelfth Annual Convention of District Association No. 6, W. F. M., that the incoming executive board be empowered to retain Mr. Eckstein for another year, as I believe the services of Mr. Eckstein have been and will be a great benefit to the members of this district. Any further report as to collection of compensation I will now leave to District Secretary A. Shilland, who will furnish you with a complete statement of compensation cases for the past year.

During the month of October this district was favored with a visit by President Charles Moyer. Brother Moyer paid each local union of the W. F. M., with one or two exceptions, a visit, and the result of his visit has certainly been a benefit to the district as a whole, and it is to be regretted that circumstances have been such that Brother Moyer has not been able to visit us more often than he has been in the past, but we will hope that Brother Moyer will have his health and strength so that he can again pay this district a visit in the near future.

At the Eleventh Annual Convention of District No. 6, W. F. M., held in Nelson, B. C., in January, 1909, the idea of forming a new district organization for the western provinces was brought to the attention of the officers and delegates of the convention by our late friend and brother, Frank Sherman, who was a fraternal delegate in attendance at the Eleventh Annual Convention, and acting on Brother Sherman's suggestion, the convention appointed a committee to consider the matter and report to the convention. This committee reported that the matter be left in the hands of the executive board of District No. 6, W. F. M., and District No. 18, U. M. W. A. The report of this committee was accepted by the convention, and in compliance with the action of the convention, and as president of District No. 6, W. F. M., I wrote to the president of District No. 18, U. M. W. A., calling his attention to the action of the Eleventh Annual Convention re-organizing new districts, and also asked the president of District No. 18 if he could arrange a meeting of the two executive boards so that we might be able to frame a report on this matter for or against the idea of a new district organization, before District Association No. 6, W. F. M., held their annual convention. In reply to my letter to the president of District No. 18, U. M. W. A., I received a letter from Secretary Carter, stating that it was impossible to arrange a meeting of the two executive boards before District No. 6, W. F. M., convention convened. So this matter of a new district organization for the Western provinces remains where it began one year ago. No doubt we will have the pleasure of having a delegate from District No. 18, U. M. W. A., at our Twelfth Annual Convention of District No. 6, W. F. M., and we can come to some understanding for or against the proposed movement.

I would like at this time to call your attention to Article VIII., Section 5 of the constitution and by-laws of the Western Federation of Miners. This section of the constitution and bylaws was amended at the Seventeenth Annual convention to read as follows: "Whenever a member of a local union shall become a foreman, shift-boss, or assume a position that cannot be termed as part of the mining industry, he shall lose all rights to a voice, vote or seat in the meetings of his local union, but may continue his membership as a beneficiary member, or upon application to the financial secretary he may be granted a withdrawal card." The adoption of the above section as it now reads is in my opinion one of the greatest setbacks re organization that the federation has ever adopted as a law to govern the membership of the local unions, particularly so in this district, as in every place where we have a local union of the Western Federation of Miners in this district the members will agree with me that there is only room for one labor organization in any of the places where there is a local union of the W. F. M. Take, for instance, Greenwood, Phoenix, Grand Forks, Trail, Rossland and Moyie, there only should be one labor organization for in those places we have no room or need for any craft organizations. This being the case, we are handicapped by Article VIII., Section 5, of our constitution and by-laws from putting into effect what is to the best interests and advancement of the industrial movement in this district. If the local unions govern themselves strictly according to this clause in the constitution, which they should do, by doing so we bar from our unions some of the most active and best members we have in the federation, for as the constitution now stands, we are playing right into the hands of the mine and smelter companies, for when a member of any local union who is employed by any mine or smelter company becomes an active member in union affairs and displeases some of the officials of these companies, the member or members are discharged and not allowed the right to earn a living for themselves and families at the mines and smelters. These brothers have to seek employment other than that of working in the mines, mills or smelters. Right here your union is compelled according to the constitution to say to those brother union men: "You have sinned against the will of capital and you cannot any longer remain in our union," and then and there these union men are compelled to withdraw from an organization which they have fought for. This is wrong and is a step backward in the industrial movement. As it is now in the towns of Phoenix, Greenwood, Grand Forks, Trail, Rossland and other places throughout the district, we find a great number of men engaged at work other than working directly in and about the mines, mills and smelters, who do not belong to any union and are not allowed to join the Western Federation of Miners because they are not working at mines, mills or smelters. This condition of affairs, in my opinion, should not exist in the industrial field. The officers and delegates of District Association No. 6, W. F. M., should give this matter their careful consideration and attention, and if they do this I believe that they will come to the same conclusion as I have, and that is, that District Association No. 6, Western Federation of Miners, should go on record as against this amendment to the constitution, and ask to have this clause of the constitution and by-laws repealed, so that we can organize every man in this district, no matter whether he be an employe of a mine, mill or smelter, or not, he should be eligible to membership in our local unions in any place throughout our district. If we do not look well to this matter, we are leaving a beautiful opportunity open for more craft organizations to be started in our midst, and we should profit by the experience we are now having in some of our local unions with craft organizations.

Since the last session of your association the Provincial Legislature at Victoria dissolved, and an election was sprung on the electors, and one of the smoothest capitalist railroad schemes ever presented to and forced upon any community was dealt out by the conservative political sharks and accepted by a majority of the voters of this province. We regret very much that our able champion, Bro. John McInnis, was defeated in Grand Forks Riding, but the combination that he had against him was hard to beat. When churches, saloon men and capital combine to defeat the workingmen's repre-

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TERRY, SO. DAKOTA

representative, the working man who is truly a working class party candidate is up against a hard combination. John McInnis was tried and found true to his class, and for that reason he had to be defeated.

As the Provincial Legislature will convene in a few days and as every conservative member of that honorable body, from the Honorable Richard McBride down to Ernest Miller of Grand Forks, have from the public platform expressed their love for the working class, and have promised that if the Conservative party was elected anything that the working class should ask for in the way of legislation for the benefit of the wage earner would be granted, this being the case, and the conservatives being now in full control of the Law Mill at Victoria, and as there are no more Liberals left in B. C., for the Conservatives to blame for laws not passed, I would suggest to the officers and delegates to the Twelfth Annual Convention of District Association No. 6, W. F. M., that they demand of the members of the now present Provincial Legislature that the following laws be placed on the statute books of British Columbia:

(1) An eight hour working day for men working in stamp mills and concentrators.

(2) An eight hour day for all men working on surface at a mine, stamp mill, concentrator or smelter.

(3) That the present eight hour law regulating the work in mines be changed to read as follows: Eight hours from collar of shaft to collar of shaft; and eight hours from entrance of tunnel to entrance of tunnel.

(4) A law compelling employers to post at the first of each month the amount of money held by them in the bank to meet the wages due their employees for the then current month.

(5) A sanitary law for the inspection of all mine bunk-houses, mine boarding houses, railroad camps and railroad boarding-cars.

(6) That the Provincial Government build and maintain a home for disabled miners.

I would further recommend that the convention call the attention of the present government to the fact that the present school grants to the different school districts is not sufficient, and that the government should increase the amount.

Permit me to remind you that the cost of living has steadily increased and the rate of wages has remained the same throughout the district, and the time is about due for the establishing of a \$3.00 minimum wage in this district. Greenwood, Grand Forks and Trail smelters now pay a great number of their employes \$2.50 a day, and this wage is too little, considering the cost of living.

The Western Federation of Miners is now engaged in a battle for existence in Lead, South Dakota, and as it will be necessary for headquarters at Denver to curtail expenses as much as possible it will also be necessary for the federation as a whole to give our brothers in Lead, S. D., all the financial assistance that it will be in our power to give. Such being the case it may become necessary for headquarters to stop the financial assistance this district has been receiving from headquarters in the way of paying part of salary and expenses of organizer, and should this be necessary for our executive committee at Denver to do, I would recommend that this district dispense with the services of an organizer, as I believe the present revenue of the district is not sufficient to bear this expense alone. But, should the federation see fit to pay part of salary and expenses, I would advise to keep a man in the field, as there is sufficient work for an organizer in this district.

I would further recommend that each local union adopt a by-law which would make it compulsory for the members to attend their union meetings at least once every month, and any member failing to comply with this law should be subject to a fine, such fine to be collected when the member pays his dues, unless the member is prevented from attending meetings by sickness or some other unavoidable circumstances. The adoption of some such law by the local unions, and the strict enforcing of the same would benefit not the local unions alone, but the industrial movement as a whole. We find as matters are at the present time that the regular union meetings are attended by a very small percentage of the members, and as a result all the business and work of the union has to be done by these few brothers who attend. If all the members would attend their union meetings and take an interest in union affairs, some of the misunderstandings and differences that arise could be avoided, as no one or two men should be permitted to run any labor organization.

The new incoming executive board should be instructed to secure some good speaker or speakers for a tour of this district as soon as the educational fund will permit.

In conclusion I want to say to the officers and members of District Association No. 6, W. F. M., that I have attempted to do my duty as president and organizer of District No. 6, during the past year; this I have tried to do without fear or favor, acting only as I thought for the best interest of the members of this district and the Western Federation of Miners in general, and having done this I have no excuses or apologies to offer to any one for my actions in the past year.

I wish to thank District Secretary, Brother Shilland, for his able assistance during the past year. I also wish to thank the officers and members of the district for the kind and courteous treatment I have received from them during my term of office, hoping they will give the new incoming president the same treatment and assistance as they have given to me.

Wishing you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year, I remain,

Yours for Industrial Freedom,

JOHN A. MCKINNON,

President District Association No. 6, W. F. M.

The legislative committee made the following report to the convention:

We, your committee on legislation, herewith submit report and recommend that the suggestions be referred to James H. Hawthornthwaite and Parker Williams, the representatives of the working class in the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia; that a copy of this report be sent to the Hon. Richard McBride, the Premier of this province, and also to the representatives of the respective ridings wherein a local union of the Western Federation of Miners is located.

(1) That "The Workmen's Compensation Act" be amended to force employers to pay a lump sum in case of permanent injury to employes, the same to be not less than twelve hundred dollars.

(2) The re-introduction of the amendment to "The Labour Regulation Act," extending the scope of "Eight Hour Smelter Act" to include all workmen who are forced to work under smelter conditions.

(3) An amendment to "The Metalliferous Mines Inspection Act," granting all employes an eight-hour day who are working in glory holes, quarries, or any opening in which ore, rock or mineral is being extracted in carrying on mining operations; also that a day's work be reckoned from the time a workman enters the mine until his return to the entrance.

(4) A thorough inspection of all camps in connection with mining, smelting, lumbering, railroad construction and other industries, with a view to secure better sanitary conditions and pure water for domestic purposes.

(5) A fortnightly pay day for all wage workers in the province.

(6) Eight hours for all persons employed in stamp mills, concentrators and rock crushers.

(7) We would also suggest that the Socialist members continue to impress Parliament with the necessity of passing legislation allowing a pension to all workers who are disabled in the industries of the province.

(8) We are in hearty accord with the actions of the Socialist members in the past, in insisting on and standing up for the rights and the interests of the workers of British Columbia, and we would recommend that this convention express the appreciation of the members of District No. 6 for the work

UNION MINERS

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TERRY, SO. DAK.
H. James, Prop.

accomplished by Hawthornthwaite and Williams since entering the Provincial Legislature, and that the secretary forward the same to our comrades, together with the good wishes of this convention.



THE OMNISCIENCE OF OUR COURTS.

The superhuman wisdom of lawyers the moment they get on the bench is a tradition of our American life. One can lambast the lawyers all he pleases, but as soon as they become judges they are above criticism. This is as it should be.

The omniscience of our courts is shown by a recent decision of the Supreme Court of Virginia—and there is a story in it.

Years ago Mayor McCue of Charlottesville murdered his wife. He was tried and convicted and hanged. He had in his prosperous days insured his life, presumably for the benefit of his family rather than for any selfish purpose. But when he was hanged the insurance companies, or some of them, resisted the payment of the policies on the ground that payment under such circumstances would be an encouragement of murder, and therefore against public policy!

Now a mere man, with only human wisdom, would have said "Rats!" The mere man would have said that the assured would be able to find some more direct way of getting the avails of his insurance into the hands of the people he loved and wished to benefit, than by murdering their mamma and trusting to the courts to hang him for it.

But the grave and reverend seniors on the Supreme Bench of Virginia pierce through the fallacy of the man who remarks "Rats!" with a supreme wisdom that commands our reverence. "No," say the court, "to let these babies have this money—that has been paid into the coffers of the insurance company for their benefit—would induce crime. We can see in the awful future a saturnalia of battle, murder and sudden death if men whose lives are insured find out that they can get their insurance money for their loved ones by the simple process of getting themselves hanged. Of course, a man to do this would have to love the beneficiary of the policy very dearly, but that's the very danger. Our people love their children and wives very dearly. Therefore they would revel in murder for their sakes. The lovingest are the murderousest. It's clear that these babies must go without the money their father paid in for them. Let it go to other babies whose fathers have not been hanged. Decision for the defendant!"

A Daniel come to judgment—a whole Old Dominion bench full of Daniels!

Isn't it fine to think that the brains of our courts work along these lines? Wouldn't you think—honestly, now—that the butlers had emptied the mugs into the skulls of their honors that morning, if you didn't know that such an operation was physically so difficult?

And—oh, no! Don't tell us that 'tis a Jim Crow state court that did this thing. The United States Supreme Court decided the same sort of case the same way years ago, and it is still the law of that great tribunal.

It is only fair to say that the Illinois Supreme Court—made up of elective judges, and not gifted with the supreme wisdom of the federal courts, recently gave the babies the funds that had been bought for them. They say that the other decisions "border closely upon the absurd."

Absurd? Heavens—they are either abysmally idiotic or too wise for the ordinary mind!—Denver Express.

THE IMPENDING COPPER TRUST.

In spite of congressional legislation and government prosecutions and unfavorable court decisions, the process of capitalistic centralization goes merrily on.

Just now the impending great copper merger is in the foreground. Guggenheim properties are being consolidated. Also Standard Oil (Amalgamated) properties. Also Cole-Ryan properties. Finally, there will be the general consolidation of all the partial combinations, and we shall have a Copper Trust analogous to the Steel Trust.

Much of this process of consolidation, in so far as it comes to the surface, is a mere matter of bookkeeping. For the actual control of the scattered properties by one or another of the big interests has long been an accomplished fact. The formal consolidation is only the last step.

In connection with the merging of properties in the Butte district, in Montana, it is officially stated that the merger has been decided upon in order to bring to an end the long conflicts over ownership of veins and claims among the various companies.

These conflicts and litigations are undoubtedly a costly luxury, and the doing away with them will certainly result in considerable saving. The concentration of management will also bring about economies in operation. But the impelling and deciding motive in the copper consolidation is neither the desire to put an end to costly litigation, nor the desire to effect economies of operation, but the desire to limit the output and increase the price, or at any rate, to prevent the tendency of prices to decline.

For copper prices have hardly risen since the days of the large commercial crisis, due principally to the discovery of new copper deposits in all parts of the world; the extension of railroads, which enables the opening of new mines; and the improvements in the processes of production, which have made possible the working of deposits formerly regarded as worthless. The establishment of a Copper Trust is intended to counteract these factors, all tending toward a reduction in the price of copper.

Thus the Copper Trust will have for its aim, not the progressive development of the productive processes for the benefit of all, but the exclusive appropriation by a few of the benefits derived from the perfected methods by means of monopolistic control. And in the long run, monopoly must result in the cessation of improvements, in stagnation.

Competitive capitalism, with all its horrors, could at least boast of the immense improvements in productive methods which it brought about. Monopolistic capitalism can make no such claim; it must lead to industrial stagnation and retrogression.

From a purely economic standpoint, the civilized world will soon be con-

fronted with the alternative: Monopolistic Capitalism—Democratic Socialism.
—New York Call.

PENSIONS OF WAR AND PEACE.

(Wage Worker, Lincoln, Nebr.)

Isn't the man who lives for his country as much entitled to a pension as the man who offers to die for his country?

Does it not take fully as much courage, entail fully as much sacrifice and result in as much suffering for a man to live for his country as it does for a man to die for his country?

Is there not as much danger in working for one's country as there is in fighting for one's country?

Pertinent questions, these, my brother.

Twelve years ago today this country was on the verge of war with Spain. Patriotism was boiling. Every man of military age was figuring on fighting and dying for his country.

And how we hailed as heroes the boys who stepped forward and enlisted for the war.

They were offering to fight and die for the Republic. While they were facing even greater dangers in living for their country we never gave them a thought.

When we think of gunpowder and rifles and the old flag we are apt to grow slightly hysterical.

When we think—if ever we do—of men who are facing grave dangers in the ways of peace, we hasten to forget.

War is glorious; industry is so common, don't you know?

But what about the comparative dangers of war and peace? Ever figure it out?

During the period of 1898 to 1901, inclusive, which included the war with Spain, the death rate among the soldiers of the United States was five in every 1,000.

Do you think that pretty high?

During the period of 1900 to 1902, inclusive, the death rate among railroad brakemen was 15.8 in every 1,000.

Three hundred per cent. more danger in the peaceful pursuit of braking than in the glorious pursuit of trying to kill off your fellow men!

Yet we glorify the man who takes five chances in a thousand of being killed, pay his widow a pension if he is killed and himself a pension if he is wounded.

But for the man who takes three times as many chances we make no provision whatever, nor for his widow and orphans. And when he organizes a union in order to protect himself and provide a little something for his widow in case he is killed, a lot of men damn him fervently and seek to destroy the only means he has of protecting himself.

The man who goes out to destroy is glorified and pensioned. The man who goes out to produce and benefit is given no other attention than denunciation.

Haven't we got our pension system on wrong?

During the period of 1898 to 1902—involving the Spanish-American war—the United States Navy lost by death 4.9 men in every 1,000.

My, how we glorified the men of the American navy! We erected monuments to their memory, pensioned those who were wounded and provided for the widows and orphans of those who were killed.

That was all right, of course.

But during the same period, out of every 1,000 railroad switchmen employed, 14 were killed.

Three hundred and fifty per cent. more deaths per 1,000 among the railway switchmen than among the men of the navy, even when the navy fought and won a great war!

Think it over!

Where are the monuments to the switchmen who died in doing constructive work for the nation? We can locate the monuments of those who performed the destructive work.

The government pensions the men of the navy, or their widows or orphans.

Who pensions the crippled switchmen?

Not the government. He has to pension himself.

Who pensions the switchman's widow and orphans?

Not the government. He had to provide their pensions out of his own meager wages.

And when he combines with his fellows to ask better wages and safer working conditions, he is damned from hades to breakfast, called an "anarchist" and batted over the head by hired thugs.

Isn't there something wrong with our pension system?

And if there is, who is to blame?

Now we are getting down to the nub of the whole thing.

The brakeman is to blame. The switchman is to blame. Every man who works for wages is to blame. All of us are to blame. We have to fight the wars that the "business interests" create. We have to foot the bills. Then we have to pay the pensions.

• Let the men who bring on the wars fight them.

Let us who create the wealth of the world control that wealth. Instead of pensioning the men who do the fighting, let us put an end to the fighting and begin pensioning those who fall in the battle of industry.

How?

Oh, fudge! What's the use?

After we have gained sense enough to vote together once or twice that question of "how" will answer itself.

Until we do get sense enough to vote together we won't have sense enough to block the other fellow's game.

But it might help some if we would try to think just a minute or two every now and then.

POETICAL

THE DOXOLOGY OF LABOR.

Praise Taft from whom all blessings flow—

You've lost your job.

Praise him for all your want and woe—

Sit down and sob.

Praise Roosevelt, too, and his big bluff—

He put you on the bum.

Praise God, you ain't got sense enough

To make this old world hum.

James Allan McKechnie.

THE BEECHCOMBER.

I cannot leave the sight or sound of wind and wave and sea,
I cannot list; no other's cry when the tides are calling me.
Far back the rugged mountains rise, the rolling prairies sweep,
The mighty silence of the plains; the holy grandeur of the steep.

I cannot choose the inland trail o'er mountain, crag and fell,
I'll never loose the salt wind's breath—the sight of sand and shell.
O, childhood days! You cradled me—the lullaby of wind and wave;
Around my cradle sang of love shall sing of rest above my grave.
JAMES ALLAN McKECHNIE.

In Memoriam.

Tenopah, Nev., Jan. 18, 1910.

Whereas, Death has removed from our midst our worthy and esteemed brother, James Burns; and

Whereas, This local and the Western Federation of Miners has lost a good and faithful member, who always upheld the rights of his class; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Members of Tenopah Local Miners' Union, No. 121, of the Western Federation of Miners, offer his bereaved relatives our heartfelt sympathy in this, their hour of bereavement and sorrow;

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his relatives, a copy sent to the Miners' Magazine for publication, and that the same be spread upon the minutes of this meeting.

M. D. McLEANI,
STUART McDONALD,
R. H. DALZELL, Committee.

At the last regular meeting of Local Schenectady Socialist Party the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, It has come to pass in the course of human events, that Death, the grim reaper, has again invaded our ranks and taken from our midst a gem of purest dye, a loving husband and brother, a true comrade and friend, a righteous manly man whose tender heart went out in sympathy and sorrow to every living creature who suffered.

Whose sterling worth and heroic character won him the respect and love of all who knew him, who never tired of laboring for the uplifting of humanity, and the ushering in of the glad day when men shall live on God's fair earth in peace and happiness, and

Whereas, Words fail to express our sorrow and regret at the death of Benjamin Hanford, which has saddened the hearts not only of the membership of the Socialist and organized labor movements, but of the entire working class of America and the world who mourn the loss of so valiant a champion; and

Whereas, His voice will be heard no more in our councils, but his fidelity and unswerving devotion to the cause he loved will ever be an inspiration to all. We can only trust that if there exists in this universe an Elysian home for deserving spirits, there will the spirit of Benjamin Hanford find a resting place where the ills and sufferings of this life may be unknown; therefore, be it

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the widow of our departed comrade and to the press.

PHILIP J. ANDREWS,
LOUIS MORGENSTERN,
JAMES F. BELL, Committee.

Aldrich, Mont., Jan. 25, 1910.

Whereas, God in his great wisdom has removed from our midst our beloved brother, John Chiplack, and

Whereas, His family has lost a kind and loving husband and father, and this union a true and loyal member; therefore be it

Resolved, By the Aldridge Miners' Union, No. 57, that in respect to the memory of our deceased brother our charter be draped in mourning for a period of thirty days; be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be presented to the family, a copy be placed on the minutes of this meeting, and a copy be sent to the Miners' Magazine for publication.

WILLIAM DEMPSTER,
H. D. KESETH, Committee.

Rossland, B. C., Jan. 27, 1910.

Whereas, Rossland Miners' Union No. 33, W. F. M., has lost, through the death of Bro. Herman Suneson, a true and tried member of our organization and a strong supporter of the working class movement in general; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we extend to the bereaved wife and children of our now departed brother our sincere sympathy in their days of affliction; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Miners' Magazine for publication, and spread upon the minutes of our meeting, and that our charter be draped in mourning for a period of thirty days.

(Signed) SAM ADAMS,
ARTHUR AIKMAN,
GEORGE CASEY,

(Seal)

Committee.

Rossland, B. C., Jan. 26, 1910.

Whereas, Rossland Miners' Union has lost, through the death of Brother Malcom D. McLeod, now deceased, a true and tried friend and brother of our organization, as our now deceased brother was at no time found wanting in supporting our organization, of which is battling for the rights of humanity; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we extend to the bereaved relatives of our now departed brother our sincere sympathy; also to his colleagues and fellow-workmen, the Rossland Fire Department; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Miners' Magazine for publication and spread upon the minutes of our meeting, and that our charter be draped in mourning for a period of thirty days as a mark of esteem for our now departed brother.

(Signed) SAM STEVENS,
ARTHUR ASKMAN,
GEORGE CASEY,

Committee.

Kendall, Mont., Jan. 1, 1910.

Whereas, Death has removed from our midst Bro. C. A. McLean; and Whereas, We have lost a true friend and brother, and his wife a loving and devoted husband; be it

Resolved, That we drape our charter in mourning for a period of thirty day; and we further

Resolve, That the sympathy of this union be extended to the bereft wife and relatives; that a copy of these resolutions be spread on our records, a copy sent to his wife, and a copy be printed in the Miners' Magazine.

MIKE KILLIEN,
JAMES H. LANE,
R. W. JONES, Committee.

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ALASKA							MINNESOTA						
109	Douglas Island	Wed	A. Liljestrand	F. L. Alstrom	188	Douglas	219	Ely	Sun	Matt Kero	John Nuoppeneu	387	Ely
152	Ketchikan	Thurs	Hugh McConnell	John P. Brisbois	18	Ketchikan	MISSOURI						
240	Nome	Sat	Phil Corrigan	J. S. Sutherland	J	Nome	231	Bonne Terre	Tues	George Winston	Wm Cramp	93	Bonne Terre
193	Tanana M. W.	Tues	Emil Pozza	Robert Burns		Fairbanks	229	Desloge	Wed	Jos Adams	P. A. Huffer	295	Desloge
ARIZONA							229	Doe Run	Mon	L. U. Delcours	W. E. Williams		Doe Run
106	Bisbee	Wed	Edw. J. Grant	W. E. Stewart	2178	Bisbee	225	Flat River	Mon	J. S. Larned	R. Lee Lashley	316	Flat River
77	Chloride	Wed	R. C. Ferguson	C. A. Parisia	0	Chloride	227	Flat River Eng.		Alex Brown	N. J. Womack	606	Flat River
89	Crown King	Sat	J. M. Farley	E. B. Wilson	30	Crown King	MONTANA						
150	Douglas M & S			Ed. Crough	145	Douglas	117	Anaconda M & S	Fri	James McNulty	Neil Collins	473	Anaconda
60	Globe	Tues	M. H. Page	Wm. Willis	997	Globe	57	Aldridge	Sat	Anton Stuppar Jr	Theo. Brockman	134	Aldridge
116	Hualapai	Thurs	W. P. Rees	W. R. Carter		Cerbat	23	Basin	Wed	George Hess	Henry Berg	156	Basin
147	Humboldt M & S	Mon	A. J. E. Marshall	R. E. Corley	59	Humboldt	7	Belt Mountain	Sat	Fred Maxwell	Edward Larsen	22	Belhart
101	Jerome	Wed	Eugene Murphy	John Opman	120	Jerome	1	Butte	Tues	Dan Holland	Dave Powers	1407	Butte
118	McCabe	Sat	Jas. E. O'Brien	A. E. Comer	30	McCabe	74	Butte M & S	Thur	Chas. Whitely	A. M. Fluett	5	Butte
159	Metcalf			Carmen Acosta	A27	Clifton	83	Butte Engineers	Wed	Pat Deloughery	A. C. Dawe	229	Butte
228	Pinto Creek	Wed	H. H. Huffer	Oscar Taylor		Bellevue	24	Clinton		J. C. McCaug	L. L. Russell		Clinton
137	Ray		Frank Clinton	W. H. Daugherty		Ray	191	Corbin M & M	Wed	Al Smitechger	James Belcher	3	Corbin
124	Snowball	Thur	Thos. W. Bosanks	Ulrich Grill	103	Goldroad	126	E. Helena M & S	Wed	John Mufich	Frank Halliday	11	East Helena
103	Star	Wed	J. W. Grau	F. E. Gallagher		Polaris	157	Elkorn	Tues	John Lynn	Thos. Gorman	12	Elkhorn
156	Swansea	Thur	T. B. Williams	J. E. Carter	66	Swansea	82	Garnet	Tues	John McKay	J. F. McMaster		Garnet
110	Tiger	Thur	Frank M. Dean	A. K. Lillie	13	Harrington	4	Granite	Tues	Fred Tallon	Samuel Phillips		D Granite
65	Walker	Wed	Robert E. Morgan	R. McCormick	18	Poland	16	Great Falls M & S	Tues	O. E. Shrode	Chas H Austin	AA	Great Falls
BRIT. COLUMBIA							175	Iron Mountain	Wed	S. O. Shaw	J. P. Boyd		Superior
194	Camborne	Wed	Wm. Winslow	James Tobin	12	Camborne	107	Judith Mountain	Sat	Geo. Weiglenda	F. G. Musgrove	114	Gilt Edge
180	Grand Forks	Wed	Jesse Hackett	Walter E. Hadden	M	Grand Forks	138	Mt. Helena	Sat	S. G. Walker	Geo. Sutherland	453	Helena
22	Greenwood	Sat	Chas. G. Johnson	Geo. Heatherston	124	Greenwood	111	North Moccasin	Sat	R. W. Jones	Michael Killen	68	Kendall
161	Hedley M & M	Wed	C. Berrett	T. H. Rotherham	42	Hedley	131	Pony M & M	Sat	Berry Knutson	J. F. Milligan	205	Pony
69	Kaslo	Sat	Mike McAndrews	H. T. Rainbow	391	Kaslo	120	Radersburg	Tues	M. McLaughlin	Chas. A. Pennell	137	Radersburg
100	Kimberly	Sat	Joe Armstrong	A. E. Carter	0	Kimberly	128	Ruby L & DW	Mon	Louis Miller	O. O. Sweeney		Ruby
119	Lardeau	Sat	W. T. Oke	Otto Olson	12	Ferguson	25	Wineton	Sat	Jas. Whitehead	G. H. Donaldson	A	Winston
71	Moyle	Sat	John Boyd	James Roberts	35	Moyle	129	Virginia City	Sat	Richard Peel	H. J. Kramer	95	Virginia City
96	Nelson	Sat	R. Richie	Frank Phillips	106	Nelson	130	Zortman	Tues	Robert Good	F. Szymanski	80	Zortman
8	Phoenix	Sat	Harry Reed	W. A. Pickard	294	Phoenix	NEVADA						
38	Rossland	Wed	J. W. Gregory	Geo. Casey	421	Rossland	30	Austin	Sat	E. T. Wann	Jno. Gorselline		Austin
81	Sandon	Sat	F. W. McDonnell	A. Shilland	K	Sandon	235	Bonanza	Sat	Chas. B. Cameron	J. E. Garrett	14	Rhyolite
95	Silverton	Sat	J. A. McDonald	Fred Liebscher	85	Silverton	260	Buckskin	Fri	Thos. W. Mollart	W. H. Burton	7	Buckskin
62	Slocan	Sat	Blair Carter	D. B. O'Neal	90	Slocan City	246	Bullion	Tues	Wm. Berragy	Chas. Groe		Hilltop
113	Texada	Sat	Frank Craddock	T. T. Rutherford	888	Van Anda	259	Chafey	Wed	Jas. Morgan	Geo. Wescott		Chafey
105	Trail M & S	Wed	Wm. Carpenter	F. D. Hardy	26	Trail	171	Edgemont	Sat	J. G. Nelson	Percy Ryak	2	Edgemont
85	Ymir	Wed	A. Burgess	W. B. McIsaac	506	Ymir	265	Eureka	Thur	William Gibson	J. H. Jury	18	Eureka
CALIFORNIA							243	Fairview	Wed	A. Bennett	W. A. Wolf	26	Fairview
61	Bodie	Tues	J. A. Holmes	J. M. Donohue	6	Bodie	54	Gold Hill	Mon	C. A. McGuigan	F. L. Clark	115	Gold Hill
55	Calaveras	Wed	Caryl J. Mann	W. S. Reid	227	Angel's Camp	220	Goldfield	Tues	David Shultz	J. J. Mangan	2420	Goldfield
141	French Gulch	Sat	Alex McSween	Buck Lile	83	French Gulch	221	Horn Silver	Wed	Hugh McNerny	W. H. Wiley	155	Horn Silver
90	Grass Valley	Fri	Abe Clemo	C. W. Jenkins	307	Grass Valley	251	Lane	Thur	Louis Schnarr	Frank J. Cox	38	Lane City
91	Grass Valley						261	Lyon & Ormsby Co	Wed	Arthur Holland	Arthur Todd		Empire
	Surface Workers	Fri	T. H. Brockington	W. J. Martin	497	Grass Valley	248	Lucky Boy	Thurs	Matt Murphy	Jas. T. Sullivan	87	Lucky Boy
169	Graniteville	Sat	W. E. Kyle	A. C. Travis		Graniteville	241	Manhattan	Tues	A. Henderickson	James Boyd	158	Manhattan
99	Hart	Tues	Otto Olson	Clark Hitt	37	Hart	264	Millers M & M	Wed	E. C. Richards	Geo. Messersmith		Millers
115	Jackson	Wed	T. H. George	Samuel White	212	Jackson	263	Pioche	Mon	E. K. Watson	M. L. Bruce		Pioche
149	Johnsville	Sat	John N. Sobrero	Geo. S. Dunn	11	Johnsville	218	Pioneer	Wed	Frank Erickson	Sam Flake	356	Pioneer
174	Kennett	Sat	C. C. McHenry	H. C. Evans	271	Kennett	179	Olinghouse Canon	Thur	Geo. Dallimore	Frank O. Goegg		Olinghouse
206	Masonic	Sat	A. J. Tyner	J. B. Seefeld	1	Masonic	244	Rahwide	Fri	Herbert Porter	Neil McGee	44	Rahwide
51	Mojave	Sat	A. C. Kloppe	E. L. Wegman	1	Mojave	247	Round Mountain	Fri	F. B. Peterson	D. L. O'Meara	141	Round M'tn
93	Nevada City	Wed	Thos. Huddleston	Fred Nicholls	76	Nevada City	164	Searchlight	Thur	Al Morrison	Roy Cook	71	Searchlight
44	Randsburg	Sat	Pete J. Osdick	E. M. Arandall	248	Randsburg	92	Silver City	Tues	H. J. Lauritgen	P. J. Geyer	76	Silver City
160	Sierra City	Wed	Peter Kieffer	John G. Rose	135	Sierra City	253	Silver Peak	Tues	G. G. Hoxie	J. W. Ball	75	Blair
39	Sierra Gorda	Thur	James Harris	A. McLaughlin	44	Big Oak Flat	233	Steoptoe M & S	Tues	Joe Bracken	Alex Miller	338	McGill
211	Skidoo	Thur	E. A. Case	S. R. Fredrikson	355	Skidoo	257	Storey Co. L U	Wed	Bert Holcnmb	R. McHenry		Virginia City
87	Summersville	Sat	C. E. McDow	A. W. Rozier	217	Tuolumne	121	Tonopah	Tues	M. J. Scanlon	R. H. Dalzell	13	Tonopah
73	Tuolumne	Thur	F. J. Young	Ed. Climo	101	Stent	31	Tuscarora	Wed	A. L. Carey	W. I. Plumb	67	Tuscarora
104	Washington	Thur	Wm. Hamalton	F. Raab		Washington	256	Vernon	Wed	Walter Mack	R. L. Davis	23	Vernon Troughs
167	Winthrop M & S	Mon	J. D. Whiteside	F. Raab	73	Winthrop	46	Virginia	Fri	John R. Bruce	Wm. O'Leary	1	Virginia City
127	Wood's Creek	Sat	Fred Daniels	A. J. Pasco	16	Chinese Camp	250	Wonder	Fri	J. K. Henderson	Geo. Williams	172	Wonder
COLORADO							262	Yerrington	Fri	W. O. Leach	Pat. Mooney		Mason
64	Bryan	Sat	Sam Richards	James Spurrier	82	Ophir	ONTARIO						
33	Cloud City	Thur	Chas. M. Larson	Ray Woodbury	132	Leadville	146	Cobalt	Sun	H. B. Duke	A. Nap Gauthier	446	Cobalt
20	Creede	Wed	Chas. T. Hamilton	D. T. Snideman	543	Creede	140	Elk Lake	Sun	Patrick Cashman	P. A. Cottle	348	Elk Lake
234	Cripple Creek D U	Thur	T. M. Hamill	John Turney		Victor	150	Gowganda	Sun	Walter Morrison	Napoleon Schnobb	610	Gowganda
56	Central City	Thur	J. W. Driscoll	John Gorman	537	Central City	OREGON						
130	Dunton	Sat	Chas. A. Goble	Robt B Lippincott	9	Dunton	42	Bourne	Mon	J. F. Linville	J. D. McDonald	59	Bourne
187	Frisco	Fri	Walter Thomas	B. E. Young	13	Frisco	186	Cornucopia	Sat	G. R. Ladd	Thos. W. Parry		Cornucopia
86	Garfield	Sat	John Mundelien	George Howard	H	Garfield	SOUTH DAKOTA						
197	La Plata	Mon	Frank Tepotch	Thos. G. Lloyd	1017	Hesperus	3	Central City	Sat	Jas. Barss	J. E. Hinton	23	Central City
48	Nederland	Thur	J. L. Conkling	Hans Nelson	3	Nederland	21	Copper Mt. M & S	Sat	Henry S. Poole	E. B. Thornton		Hill City
15	Ouray	Sat	Louis Bartles	D. A. Ferguson	1111	Ouray	84	Custer	Fri	Glen Peterson	George Thomson		Custer
6	Pitkin County	Tues	Willis Hayner	Geo. Smith	1019	Aspen	14	Deadwood M & M	Thur	W. H. Crossman	M. J. Foley	337	Deadwood
36	Rico	Sat	H. M. Snail	Chris Wold	470	Rico	68	Galena	Wed	George Leech	J. W. Majors	83	Galena
185	Rockvale	Mon	L. Bertotti	Antoni Valazono	50	Rockvale	2	Lead	Mon	Edward Ragan	Thos. J. Ryan	290	Lead City
26	Silverton	Sat	H. A. Allen	C. R. Waters	168	Silverton	19	Maitland M & M	Thur	S. C. Horel	H. L. Scoggin		Maitland
27	Sky City	Tues	Geo. B. Walker	Carl Lundberg	47	Red Mountain	108	Rochford	Sun	W. D. Beardshear	Dan Hartell	B	Rochford
63	Telluride	Wed	Ben Shute	R. A. Gregg	278	Telluride	5	Terry Peak	Wed	Jacob Boiler	J. C. May	174	Terry
198	Trinidad	Sun	W. E. Hughes	Frank Gasper	502	Trinidad	UTAH						
59	Ward	Fri	Lin Nichols	J. D. Orme	126	Ward	67	Bingham	Sat	Wm. White	E. G. Locke		Bingham
IDAHO							201	Bingham M & S	Fri	W. H. Wright	F. J. Perry		Bingham Canyon
184	Atlanta	Sat	A. J. Durrant	G. W. Prey		Atlanta	151	Eureka	Sat	D. A. Fosee	J. W. Morton	228	Eureka
10	Burke	Fri	George Halpin	L. A. Reese	158	Burke	205	Eureka E F & B	Sat	K. L. Harper	T. J. Adams		Eureka
53	De Lamar	Mon	C. M. Brown	James H. Hore	19	De Lamar	237	Helper	Sun	Carlo Dalpiaz	Sam Pascal	447	Helper
11	Gem	Tues	Chas. Goranson	Ed. Erickson	117	Gem	238	Mammoth	Tues	James Jessen	Jos. Mann	65	Mammoth
80	Mackay	Sat	F. W. Cummins	Jas. M. Hill		Mackay	199	Mercur	Sun	Batista Accampo	J. W. Duke	415	Mercur
9	Mullan	Sat	W. J. Williamson	A. E. Rigley	30	Mullan	144	Park City	Sat	John Edebstrom	Jerry P. Shea	891	Park City
66	Silver City	Sat	J. C. Mimgassner	Chas. Harvison	67	Silver City	WASHINGTON						
45	Murray	Sat	Wallis P. Joy	Walter Keister	124	Murray	168	Index	Sat	Gus Burofske	A. J. Muckler	38	Index
17	Wallace	Sat	Joseph Werner	W. H. Irlie	47	Wallace	224	Loomis	Sun	Wm. Lechner	Geo. Bowers	62	Loomis
132	Wood River	Sat	W. A. Garner	Chas. Sheehan	141	Bellevue	28	Republic	Tues	Richard Price	A. B. Cray	164	Republic
MICHIGAN							123	Northport M & S	Sat	M. J. Sherlock	A. K. Ogilvie	26	Northport
204	Bessemer	Sun	Matti Kevari	H. B. Snellman	381	Bessemer							
203	Copper	Sun	Chas. O. Knunti	Elias Sinisalo	950	Laurium							
195	Crystal Falls	18th	Frank Jarvinen	Jalmare Pirthe		Crystal Falls							
236	Grover M & M			T. H. Sullivan		Hubbell							
200	Hancock Copper		Ellis Naasko	Carl E. Hotala	217	Hancock							
153	Ironwood		Oscar Kaari	John Korpi	434	Ironwood							

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