

Strike for Your Life! (August 16, 1906)

The gravest issues are involved in this campaign and all the signs portend a crisis in Montana and the Western states. The working class is to be stripped of the last vestige of its power of organized resistance and completely subjugated if the conspiracy of the mine and mill-owning exploiters is to be consummated.

Every worker in Montana must be aroused to the gravity of the situation. The organized movement of the working class is in peril — the very life of labor is at stake. All the powers of capitalism are invoked to hoodwink, deceive, and intimidate the workers that they may be used, politically or otherwise, to forge their fetters and seal their doom.

Every prostituted penny-a-liner in the state is acquiring his venom at socialism, its press, its leaders, and its loyal and unconquerable rank and file.

Each day brings nearer the conflict between the class of capitalism and their swarms of venal vassals and the mighty host of honest toil.

If ever the working class were called upon to unite in solid array against the enemy that time is now. Upon this vital point hinges the issue of life and death.

Workers of Montana, rally to the standard of your class in this campaign! Be not deceived by those who wax fat in your misery! Be men and women, comrades true — close up the ranks and march together to the polls with straight revolutionary ballots in your hands!

No compromise! The fight is on and in your hands! Freedom or slavery, life or death! Which shall it be? Choose ye this day!

How can a worker doubt a moment? Treason means damnation! Hell itself awaits deserters of their comrades, traitors to their class.

Strike for your life and strike together on election day! Gird on your armor and go forth to conquer with your class. Do your duty and you shall not fear!

Remember Moyer, Haywood, and Pettibone! A clean Socialist vote is the worker's verdict of not guilty! A straight Socialist ballot will open the prison doors and set these comrades free.

Let all the workers in Montana vote together this fall — vote for themselves, their families, their freedom. Let them vote against the whole vast brood of slimy politicians and blood-sucking parasites, and redeem the state from the corrupt misrule of the blear-eyed brigands who have made of Montana a foul stench in the nostrils of the nation.

The Montana News is at the very front of labor's columns in this fight. Every worker in the state must back it up with voice and coin. Let not the few willing workers bear the brunt of battle, but all join in and swell the ranks of revolution.

Not a single worker dares to shirk his duty in this crucial hour. Now, if ever — strike for your life!

Arouse ye sons of toil and daughters, too, and rally to the colors of your class! Put forth your mighty energies and the day is won! Falter not but join hands with your comrades and push boldly to the front!

Work as you have never worked before to swell your meetings, to boom your fighting paper, and insure the triumph of your cause! Put up freely every penny you can spare and urge your friends to do the same!

From now on not a minute must be lost. Strike, oh comrades, for your life!

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