

## The New Working Class Union (August 5, 1905)

The new working class union, the Industrial Workers of the World, recently organized in Chicago, starts out under the most cheering auspices, notwithstanding the false and malicious reports of the capitalist press.

In all the thirty years of my experience in organized labor I never attended a more typical convention of class-conscious workers. The usual candidates for office and self-seekers were conspicuous by their absence.

It would have been interesting if members of Congress and of the Senate of the United States could have been lookers-on. They would have heard more solid truth about the labor question than they ever have or ever will in the museum for congressional fossils at the national capital.

The debates were carried forward on a high plane, and although at times the fire flashed, there was no unfair advantages taken and one object uppermost in every mind was the unification of all workers in a great class-conscious industrial organization to fight the battles of workers in the struggle for better conditions and for their ultimate emancipation from wage slavery.

And this was accomplished. The new organization is now in the field, and progressive unionists and many who have hitherto held aloof from unions are flocking to its standard.

Charles O. Sherman, the general president, is a thoroughly seasoned fighter for the working class. He was a loyal member of the American Railway Union, made an honorable record in the Pullman strike, and through all these years has been at the front as the fearless and uncompromising champion of organized labor. Upon his record as a workingman, as a unionist, and as a man there is not a blemish. Sherman — and I have seen him in the fire of battle and know him well — is honest in every hair of his head and every drop of his blood. He is mentally wide-awake, class-conscious, and has patience, courage, and energy, and if duty demands it, he has the heroism and self-forgetfulness to walk straight into the jaws of hell.

As chairman of the executive board, Charles H. Moyer of Colorado is the very man for the place, and his name is of itself sufficient guarantee of loyalty to the working class. The rest of the officers are typical unionists

and each has a record of fidelity to the cause of labor which will bear the closest inspection.

The rank and file of the membership consists of the most progressive trade unionists in the country. Several national organizations are already included and several others are on the way. From every section of the country come applications for membership and for charters for local unions. The printed matter is now in course of preparation and in a few days organizers will be in the field and the work of organizing will begin in earnest. The most aggressive measures will be taken to prosecute the propaganda and to build up the organization.

Every worker everywhere should join this great new industrial organization. The old union movement is in control of the capitalist class and used as a bulwark to the capitalist system.

The Industrial Workers, the new union, is organized to wage relentless warfare upon the exploiting class, and to use all its powers in the interest of the wealth-producers of the nation. there will be no Civic Federation attachment to the industrial union and the term compromise will be unknown in its lexicon.

Those who are interested in the new organization and desire information in regard to it should address W.E. Trautmann, general secretary, 148 W Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois.

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