

Mexican I. W. W. Permanently Organized

By Jose Refugio Rodriguez, Secretary-Treasurer

The Mexican Administration of the I. W. W. which was provisionally organized in September, 1919, with a committee of three in charge, has now been organized on a permanent basis with a General Executive Committee in charge of the six departments of industry, following conferences between representatives of workers' organizations from various parts of the country. The headquarters will be in Mexico City as formerly and the post-office address of the administration will continue to be P. O. Box 985, Mexico City.

The officers are as follows: General Secretary-Treasurer, Jose Refugio Rodriguez; General Executive Committee: 1. Hipolito Flores, in charge of agriculture, land, fisheries and aquatic products; 2. C. F. Tabler, in charge of mining; 3. Vicente Ortega, in charge of transportation and communications; 4. Francisco Cervantez Lopez, in charge of manufactures and production; 5. Maclo Pacheco, in charge of construction; 6. Linn A. E. Gale, in charge of public service.

Of the officers, Rodriguez is a printer; Flores is a farmer; Tabler is a miner employed in Guanajuato; Ortega is a bridge-builder and has also worked in oil wells; Lopez is a printer and pressman and now has a little job printing office in which, however, he does most of the manual work himself; Pacheco is a carpenter and has worked in various factories; and Gale is the editor of "El Obrero Industrial" (The Industrial Worker) official organ of the Mexican I. W. W. in Spanish and of "Gale's," his own Communist monthly magazine published in English, besides being an extensive contributor to the working class press. All of the men are wage slaves in the fullest sense of the word with the exception, perhaps of Lopez and Gale, who might literally be styled small business men. However, both work as hard as any wage slave and neither makes a profit, each having a constant struggle to make both ends meet. Although the American I. W. W. prohibits membership or offices to those not actually working for wages, the Mexican I. W. W. has believed it wise to stretch the point in these cases as both Lopez and Gale are valuable elements who are strong advocates of Industrial Unionism and have long rendered important service to the movement. Lopez has for some time been National Secretary of the Mexican Socialist Party and was editor of "El Socialista" until it suspended. Gale has been a member of the Executive Committee of the Communist Party since its inception. The two parties have effected a union recently. Both reject political action and are committed to Industrial Unionism so there is no friction between them and the I. W. W. A national I. W. W. convention will be held later in the season.

The Auxiliary Executive Committee of 6 will be named shortly and later committees of 21 workers in every department. Active propaganda by means of job delegates will begin at once among all unions.

The workers are very enthusiastic feeling that with the permanent organization of the Mexican Administration, a long step has been taken toward the Industrial Republic in Mexico.

I. W. W. members and unions in the United States and in foreign countries are invited to correspond with the Mexican I. W. W., addressing Jose Refugio Rodriguez, Secretary-Treasurer, P. O. Box 985, Mexico City, D. F., Mexico.

Scandinavian Workers in U. S. A. Endorsing I. W. W.

At the time of the suspension of the Swedish I. W. W. paper "Nya Världen" we announced the prospects of a landslide of Scandinavian workers to the I. W. W. These prospects are now taking shape in quite a satisfactory manner.

The **Scandinavian Socialist Federation** is a body of Scandinavian workers which up to about a year ago paid dues to the socialist party. At the time of the split in that party in the summer of 1919 this Scandinavian Federation cut loose from the political program and refused to join any of the fragments. Some were in favor of joining the socialist party, others preferred the communists, still others the communist labor party, while some wanted to go over to the I. W. W. In spite of this friction the Federation has kept alive by remaining independent. At the present time it is publishing three weekly papers, one in Swedish, one in Danish and one in English ("Truth" in Duluth, Minn.) It has between 60 and 70 locals, we believe, and several thousand members.

Through the Swedish paper "Nya Världen" the I. W. W. came with a proposition to unite all the socialist elements among the Scandinavians in this country on the basis of industrial unionism, dropping politics altogether, and the I. W. W. Scandinavians issued a pamphlet stating their proposition, which was received favorably.

The Eastern conference of the Federation has now, recently voted to have the Federation remain an independent, educational body, but gives an unqualified endorsement of the I. W. W. The conference of the locals of the Central states, held in Minneapolis on July 4-5, adopted a resolution of the same purpose but with the qualification that it expects the I. W. W. to take the initiative to the forming of a real One Big Union or to unite with others who take the initiative.

The General convention of the Federation will be held in September, and we have the best hope that this convention will come to decisions which will place another large body of workers in the ranks of the I. W. W., much as the Finnish, Hungarian, Russian and Roumanian and other federations have done.