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FIRST DAYS OF STRIKE

Scenes in Paris At the Beginning of Great Conflict on Railways.

(By Our Special Correspondent.)

Paris, France, Oct. 10.
The long threatened railroad strike has struck France like a cyclone. At present writing the whole French railroad system is demoralized and the strike is still spreading. I have no idea as to when you will get this letter, if ever, as the mail system here is naturally badly crippled by the strike, but I will chance it and send it anyhow.

On Monday, two days after the C. G. T. congress at Toulouse, like a bolt of lightning from a clear sky came a general strike order to the employes of the Chemins du Nord (North B. R.). It was issued by the strike committee of the Federation of Engineers and Firemen and the National Syndicate of R. R. Workers. The response was quick and in 24 hours the road, owned largely by the Rothschilds, was completely tied up. The Chemin du Nord de l'Ouest (the Western, the state road), was next to get the order, and at present writing its service is demoralized. After this a general conflagration began to spread, the road coming into Paris is half or less crippled, and the strike is still spreading.

Accounts from outside points as to conditions prevailing there are very vague, as immediately the strike was declared the "saboteurs" got to work and clipped the wires in every direction, as they had been advised to do by the militant revolutionists. This feature of the strike has aroused the most heated protest of the capitalist press. They refer to the strikers as being in open insurrection. While on the other hand, the revolutionary papers, "La Guerre Sociale" in particular, are laughing over the matter and encouraging the strikers to cripple the railroad system as much as possible.

"La Guerre Sociale" bids the strikers to be of good cheer, as the same good fairies who "sabotaged" the telegraph and telephone lines so well in the recent postal strike, will no doubt soon be busy again at their merry task. As yet there has been but little violence.

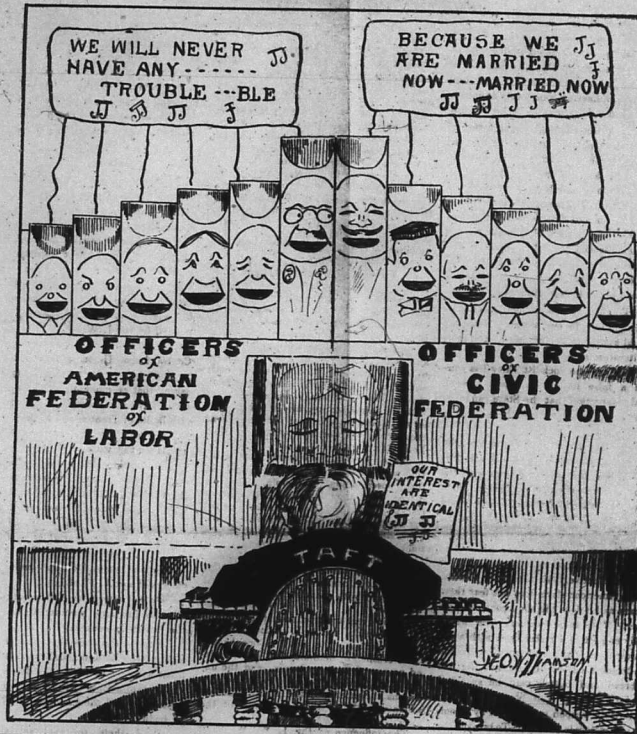
The situation in Paris is one of intense importance. Every one is wondering what will happen next. Most of the great depots are closed and tenanted by looting "scissorsbill" soldiers, while about the streets are thousands of curiosity seekers, gazing at the buildings and staring in at the windows in morbid curiosity.

About the bulletin boards of the big dashes crowds of people surge, reading and delightfully vague bulletins posted thereon. At the Bourse du Travail (union headquarters) the strikers are holding meeting after meeting. Hundreds of gendarmes and cavalrymen are stationed at the building during these meetings, the cavalry is being drawn up in line just across the street from the entrance to the public ready to make a charge on the coming from the building if it is deemed advisable.

The government, true to its instincts, as early taken in hand the matter against the workers. Briand, the renegade, the socialist president of council or prime minister, feels the position to which the act of oppression falls in this affair, and is demonstrating his willingness to do anything to crush the rebellion.

In interview given to the press, this class fascist-socialist says the following:
"The government can't find itself in the presence of a strike of this sense and as I

The Employers' Pipe Organ



of the word, but by the conditions in which the movement of the railroad workers has been prefaced, by the first acts by which it has been accompanied, it finds itself in the presence of a criminal enterprise of violence, of disorder and sabotage. The movement has nothing of a professional nature; it is purely insurrectional. It escapes entirely the personnel of the railroad, who will not be slow to perceive this fact, but too slow for their own welfare, as they will have been led on to the excesses. Whatever pretext the organizers will use to justify what they term the strike in the mind of the public they will not succeed. The strike has been declared without any just reason, in fact it was declared on the day following that on which the delegates of the Federation of Engineers and Firemen and of the National Syndicate of Railroad Workers had had an interview with the Minister of Public Works (none other than our socialist friend Millerand) and myself in my cabinet. In the course of this interview it had been decided that the workers would send me their demands: not vague and indefinite, such as they are in their manifestos, but clear and precise, and particularly so in regard to what refers to an increase of salaries; with these same indications sufficiently detailed as to permit of a discussion efficacious and reasonable. I had agreed with the Minister of Public Works to transmit their demands to the directors of the companies and to invite them to reply. I was to communicate these responses to the representatives of the workers. I had informed the delegates that after they had stated definitely their demands and those on which both parties did not agree had been isolated, that it would be possible to arrange an interview with the directors of the companies. I offered to preside at this meet-

ing."
"Briand tells of further negotiations and of great exertions that he and his man Friday, the Minister of Public Works, had made to help the poor but deserving railroaders, then he continues: "This is the state of affairs when the strike was brusquely declared, and at once it has taken the course that you know. The faithful workers have been menaced everywhere. Deeds of violence have been done; criminal acts of sabotage have been committed; in one word, the plan of violence prepared and announced in the previous meetings by the instigators of the previous movement, has been put into execution. Ah, well! That will not continue. The government finds itself, I repeat, not in the presence of a strike, but of a criminal enterprise. It hopes that the vast majority of the railroad workers will not identify themselves with the authors of such a situation. The government has decided to protect the "right to work" by all possible means. It is armed with the penal code, the law of 1845 and that of 1881, against the guilty ones. I have sent fit to receive the delegates in my cabinet, and listen to their grievances. They have not paid attention to my advice nor considered the good will of the government, in their cause. So much the worse for them."
Monsieur Briand, as revolutionists like to style him, professes to be astonished and shocked at the abruptness of this strike. A few words will explain the situation. The railroad syndicates are members of the C. G. T. The C. G. T. had very important business to transact at Toulouse at its congress. It would have been folly to declare a strike and tie-up the railroads and prevent the delegates from going there. The strike committee stalled along with the government, well knowing from

past experience that nothing was to be gained in that quarter. The congress was finished, the delegates scattered to their homes, and, lo, this inexplicable strike occurs. The C. G. T. decided to operate the French railroads long enough to accomplish its business at Toulouse. That finished, it was decided to tie them up to accomplish some more working class business, the bettering of the conditions of the railroad slaves. M. Briand is getting a taste of direct action.
This explanation of the strike seems reasonable to me, yet I have failed to hear of any one else connecting the strike with the congress at Toulouse in this manner.
Briand quickly followed up his threats by definite action. The law (2) gives the right to put the railroads under military control during time of war or of any unusual disturbance. This means the mobilization of the workers, who must remain at their posts or suffer a severe penalty. In the present unusual disturbance, Briand has issued the order to mobilize the railroad employes, the order to take effect in 48 hours; that is, on October 14, and to continue in effect for 21 days. Thousands of letters have been sent to the railroaders telling them to be at their posts on that date, or they must be prepared to take the serious consequences. In all the syndical halls of Paris rousing meetings are being held, and the determination is to ignore the scab-herding order. The following statement has been drawn up and posted all over Paris:
"Against the Mobilization."
Comrades:
"The government is lending itself to measures of violence against the railroad workers. After the dismissal of workers that preceded the strike, the government yesterday discharged our comrade Toffin."
(Continued on Page Four.)

WORLD OF LABOR

No Let-up in Fierceness of Conflict Between Masters and Slaves.

There is no let-up in the class struggle. It rages with increased intensity, regardless of sectional lines or general conditions.

In Pittsburg and Denver, the Newspaper Publishers' Association are at war with the pressmen and mailers.

In Jersey City, New York City, Long Island, and Philadelphia 10,000 express company employes are out on strike for more wages and less hours.

In Tampa, the situation grows more critical and acute, in the cigarmakers' struggle for union recognition.

In Kansas City, St. Louis, and other southwestern points, thousands of mechanics are striking against the Missouri Pacific Ry. for more wages and better conditions. A sympathetic strike of other divisions of railroad workers is threatened in the southwest.

All over the land there are other strikes in different industries. In addition, there is great unrest and organization. The shoe-workers are in revolt and chafing against the restraints of the Tobin bosses' union. The lithographers are rebuilding their shattered craft unions, in anticipation of the inauguration of the bosses' voluntary 8 hour day, which will be accompanied by the wholesale introduction of apprentices.

On all sides there is a seething industrial cauldron, with strike breakers, police, militia, and "law and order" stirring the diabolical broth. Also a wretchedly incompetent form of unionism—the A. F. of L. form—contributing to this handling of the ladle. In Tampa, Gumpston appeals to the authorities who are doing his members to death, for relief; instead of arousing the workers of the nation to their rescue. In the troubles of the pressmen and the mailers, the other typo trades remain at work.

Such is the class struggle. Such also are the means that perpetuate it. Away with them all. Join the I. W. W.!

IN THE STEEL INDUSTRY.

The statement of Judge Gray that Pittsburg will remain the center of the steel and iron industry gladdens the heart of all those in the district. How like a monarch giving encouraging news to his subjects!

About 1500 boiler-makers, members of the Boiler-makers' Union in Pittsburg, who had been on strike since Aug. 1, have returned to work a new scale gives inside workers 5 per cent increase in wages, and outside men an increase of 10 per cent.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Co.'s cars shop in Altoona have received an order for 500 steel frame box cars. This will insure steady work in the cars shops during the winter.

Work has begun on improvements and additional building at the yards of the American Shipbuilding Co., at Lorain, O., which will cost about \$1,000,000, and will mean the employment of 1,000 additional men. The plans call for the erection of buildings covering an area of five acres, including a pattern shop, machine shop and foundry.

Contracts have been awarded for a number of buildings to be added to the present plant.
(Continued on Page Four.)

SOLIDARITY

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UNION OF THE I. W. W.

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INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD
General Headquarters—518 Cambridge Building, Chicago, Illinois.

GENERAL OFFICERS
Vincent St. John, General Sec'y-Treas
W. E. Trautmann, General Organizer

GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD
J. J. Ector, Chas. Sciarlock, C. H. Axelson,
Francis Miller, George Speed.

THE SITUATION IN AMERICA.

Christchurch, New Zealand,
Sept. 17, 1910.

Editor *Solidarity*,
New Castle, Pa.
Fellow Worker:

I hope you will have time to answer this note. My reason for troubling you is that a gentleman (a labor member of the legislative council) has been traducing the I. W. W. in a local labor paper. I am enclosing the cutting that all the row's about. You will see the sort of stuff dealt out by labor leaders, we have to fight against. I will be much obliged if you will send me a few facts that will refute such nonsense; say, an account of the labor troubles that the I. W. W. has dealt with, also a few of the troubles that the A. F. of L. has made a mess of.

The gentleman's name is the Hon. J. T. Paul, M. L. C. I have answered that statement of his, but I dare say there will be a bit of a controversy, so will want to be sure of my ground.

I may say that I am a member of the Christchurch I. W. W. Club, which has sent in a few subs to your paper, mine amongst them.

Yours in Revolt,
S. J. ROSCOE.

(Clipping)

"Again, the propagandists of the Industrial Workers of the World are sought to be introduced here. I am convinced that it is wholly ungrounded, and will likely be here what it has been in America—the most prolific source of disunion in the ranks of unionism, and possibly the most efficient method for obtaining industrial betterment."

New Castle, Pa., Oct. 28, 1910.
Mr. S. J. Roscoe,
Christchurch, New Zealand.

Fellow Worker:
Your letter of Sept. 17, with attached clipping, received. I shall endeavor to answer same as briefly as possible. Meanwhile I am having our business manager send you a bundle of literature and papers covering quite thoroughly the points touched in your letter.

Apparently your Hon. J. T. Paul is playing a similar role to that of some very noted labor leaders in America—that of making unsupported statements at long range in expectation that none of his readers or hearers will be in possession of the facts with which to refute them.

The labor situation in the Christchurch is somewhat peculiar, and possibly more difficult to understand on the outside than that of any other country. In fact there is little evidence that those in this country who assume the most prominent roles in the industrial and political movements known as the American Federation of Labor and the Socialist Party, have any-

thing like an adequate comprehension of the trend of social evolution.

The primary reason for this state of affairs is the lightning-like development of American capitalism in the past few decades. So revolutionary have been the industrial changes in that period that they have resulted in leaving the working class far behind in mental development—a prey to all the sophistry, false ideas and illusions of a most cleverly conducted system of miseducation.

The average American-born worker is still imbued with the idea that he is living in the land of opportunity whereas period of wage-serfitude need not be long, and where by thrift and hard work and devotion to his job he may soon escape and take a place in the ranks of the upper class. This "Yankee" attitude makes him in many instances an inveterate scab, especially in view of his race and nationality. prejudice kept alive by a fresh stream of foreign labor constantly pouring in from other countries. That prejudice is of course intensified by the miseducation of politicians, labor leaders, capitalist writers and others, all acting consciously or unconsciously under direction of the employers.

In view of this thorough organization of the capitalists and their reformist allies, together with the retarded mental state of the workers, an organization like the I. W. W., aiming at industrial unity on a revolutionary basis, has a tremendous task laid out for itself. It must needs attend to the destructive work of dispelling false ideas and illusions from the minds of the workers, and at the same time it must work for the upbuilding of the integral structure of the industrial union.

The Political State in America is not as yet the menace to our working class that it would appear to be judging by the socialist literature shipped out of this country. Here is where the Socialist Party has conveyed a false impression; apart from its absurd assumption that the State can function as the reconstructor of the new society.

As a matter of fact, the State, like the craft union movement, which I will deal with later on, has not kept pace with the economic development of capitalism. Such a thing as the mobilization of troops to run the coal strike, is as yet unfeared in the United States.

While soldiers and police are used regularly and effectively to break strikes, the average American slave does not fear these as much as he does the shop control of his masters. This same worker, who would readily engage in a street fight with a cop or throw a brick at a militiaman, will stand all a-tremble before his machine, for fear his bread and butter may be snatched away from him by the bosses' blacklist.

That terrible weapon re-enforced by a complete system of revolt while on the job is exceedingly dangerous from the average worker's standpoint, especially in view of the uncertainty as to how his fellow workers will act in case he is victimized. To escape, after being discharged in this manner is difficult, since his applying for work elsewhere he is usually required to describe in detail his last job, and his reasons for quitting it. A fine system for keeping the slaves in subjection and weeding out rebels and agitators.

So, whatever the State may become in the course of capitalist development in America, and we have no illusions as to its possibilities for oppression, it is not now the chief concern of the workers. They are most afraid of the boss in the shop.

Still, and this follows logically from the situation, the American working class looks to the State as a means of protection against the economic tyranny of their employers. The average worker hopes in a vague sort of way that the government will curb the tyrannical power of the capitalists and thereby ease his burden. Thus, instead of depending on himself, he is in the habit of looking to the politicians for salvation. Here is a tremendous illusion, and one of the hardest we have in dispel. And you may be assured that the socialist politicians along with the others are playing upon that illusion for all it is worth.

In view of the above situation, the revolutionary unionists of the I. W. W. are logically impelled to center their attention upon and to bend their energies in the direction of bringing about unity and solidarity in the industrial field. Once having attained that in a measure, we hold that all secondary issues can and will be disposed of through the power of the industrial union of the working class.

But here, on the industrial field, we find ourselves face to face with an out of date craft union movement, which, far from

keeping pace with economic development, acts as a dead weight to prevent the organization of the working class. Some years ago, in fact, the Wall Street Journal described the A. F. of L. as "the strongest bulwark of capitalism in America." Among revolutionists here there is no doubt of the truth of that statement.

Instead of trying to unite the workers, our A. F. of L., under the leadership of every effort, keeping them divided along craft lines. This it does mainly by separate craft or district organizations, each having its own self-government independent of all the others in the same industry, and each making its own terms with the same employer. For example, in the building industry, carpenters, plumbers, masons, painters, electricians, etc., each has its separate union, and in case one craft gets into trouble with the boss all the others are bound by their sacred contracts to remain at work and send on their fellow workers to the same end.

Under the district form of A. F. of L. organization, there is no such thing as a union—the United Mine Workers of America—each district, usually embracing a state, is organized by itself and allowed to make contracts for its own section alone. In the coal miners' strike that broke out last April, several large districts, like Indiana and Ohio, settled up and remained at work while others were on strike. At this very writing in District No. 5 (Pittsburgh) the beauties of this system are seen: One section of the district is working under contract between the union and the operators, while another section of workers in Westmoreland county (both members of the U. M. W. of A.) has been on strike since March.

In a strike of skilled workers at South Bethlehem, Pa., last February, the entire body of skilled and unskilled to the number of 9,000, agitated in spontaneous revolt against brutal conditions. The A. F. of L. organizers took charge of the strike, started to divide the men into craft unions, and finally, in the eagerness of organizers to make terms for their respective craft unions, settled the strike on an open shop basis. The result was a complete defeat with the former abuses intensified. Similar settlements were made in the recent great clothing workers' strikes in New York City.

The A. F. of L. is essentially a "skilled" workers organization and operates on the "closed union" principle. This is, it may be stated, the chief reason why trades where specialized skill has not yet been wiped out by machine development. With this end in view, it undertakes to meet apprentices, manage their admission fees, establishes craft autonomy altogether, imposes barriers to industrial unity. And for this reason it is unable to deal successfully with mass strikes of unskilled workers.

In the great trusted industries, outside of coal mining, the A. F. of L. is a negligible quantity, the craft unions having been crushed or minimized by the organizing power of the employers, and the unions' own inability to cope with the conditions. Notwithstanding the A. F. of L. has organized and led the one-tenth of the American working class.

The influence of the I. W. W. is not yet shown by numbers. Its membership is yet very small, but already it is known and is being sufficiently everywhere, it appears, to instantly draw the opposition of all the reactionary elements above mentioned.

While so far the work of the I. W. W. has been largely in the nature of clearing the rubbish from the path of the revolutionary labor movement, still it has made some progress in organization and has conducted some noteworthy strikes. Of the latter, I may mention in particular the one at McKees Rocks, Pa., a suburb of Pittsburgh, in 1908. Here, with 5,000 steel car workers of many nationalities speaking a medley of tongues. They revolted spontaneously against conditions similar to those at South Bethlehem. Organizing in the I. W. W. during the strike, they were kept together for two months, in which time not a car was built by the few scabs who were able to get past the picket lines, and the Pressed Steel Car Company was brought to terms with increased wages and lessened hours. This practical illustration of the tactics of direct action has had much effect in strengthening our influence and making effective our propaganda.

You will see by this rapid survey of the situation something of what the I. W. W. has to contend with in this country, and will also perceive that the "disunity" which your Hon. Mr. Paul declares is due to the I. W. W., already existed in most deplorable form before our revolutionary union came. It still continues notwithstanding our heroic efforts to bring about clearness and unity in the labor movement of the United States.

But we by no means discouraged, and will keep on hammering away at labor misleaders and at the obsolete forms of craft disunion, with the assurance that industrial conditions now existing in our country will finally bring together the working class of America into the all-embracing ranks of the industrial union of the world's workers.

Trusting that this explanation will assist you in combating such clumsy performers as the Hon. Mr. Paul, I am
Yours for Industrial Freedom,
B. H. WILLIAMS,
Editor *Solidarity*.

PROTEST FROM FRANCE

Protest of C. G. T. Members and Union
Condern A. F. of L. for Attempts to
Foster Race Prejudice and Keep
Its Membership in Ignorance.

Readers of *Solidarity* will remember the case of Jules Scarciaux of Trenton, New Jersey, reported some time ago in these columns. Scarciaux was a delegate from the Sanitary Workers' Union to the Central Labor Union of Trenton, and while there undertook to distribute I. W. W. and other literature among the delegates. For this offense his credentials as delegate were revoked and he was barred from the central body. Appealing his case to President Gompers of the A. F. of L., the latter sustained the action of the C. L. U.

But the matter did not end there, as will appear from the following resolution of protest, signed by numerous members and officials of the General Confederation of Labor of France, who also bring up in connection with that incident, another matter relating to the Trenton C. L. U. reported in the columns of *Solidarity*. The original resolution in French with the signatures in autograph, is in our possession. Following is a translation:

Resolution of Protest.

"The undersigned, union workers, belonging by their organization to the General Confederation of Labor, having learned that the Central Labor Union of Trenton, N. J., in its regular meeting of April 15, 1910, rejected the credential of Jules Scarciaux, member of the Sanitary Workers' Union and delegate of the same, because he, our comrade, had committed the crime of distributing unionist literature printed by the I. W. W."

"Moreover, having also learned that the Central Labor Union of Trenton, N. J., had addressed a letter to the city council asking that all municipal work be done exclusively by the workers living within the city limits of Trenton and having the right to vote, which means exclusion of immigrants for the work mentioned:

"Considering that in the presence of capitalism organized internationally for the exploitation of man by man, the workers' organizations of all countries must now do away with all racial and national distinctions in their organization of class:

"Protest energetically against the intolerance and tyranny of the trade unionist officers of the A. F. of L.:

"Do not recognize the so-called A. F. of L. as the true unionist organization of the American workers:

"Express the wish that in a very short time a true international organization of labor will be created by the diverse workers' organizations with clear revolutionary tendencies and the exclusion of all reformist bodies:

"Send their fraternal salutations to Comrade Jules Scarciaux, also to the I. W. W., and to all those on the two continents are fighting with us for the overturning of the capitalist organization and the triumph of a society of freedom and justice.

(Signed)

"A. Dufre, of the Union of Engineers of the Seine and delegate to the Toulouse Congress of the C. G. T.; Dubreuil, Richard, Plested, Fongere, Leblond, of the Engineers' Union;
"L. E. Verrier, Blanchard; A. Merrien (Secretary), Beauvais, of the Syndicat of Metal Workers.

"Grand Jouan, of the Syndicat of Lithographers.

"Gouture, secretary Syndicat of Building Workers.

"S. Boisson, of the Syndicat of Hosiery Workers.

"Marincks, of the Syndicat of Industrial Chimney Builders.

"C. Sandin, of the Federation of Book-makers.

"A. Girard, H. Ghilain, Boyenet, Maurice Hanot, Gomet, L. Mons, Schaffer, Armand Rouvier, Chaveau, Fontaine, Dupuis, Georges Rouvier, Amel, and others of divers syndicates."

WHAT WE AIM TO DO.

(Under this head we will endeavor to make clear, from time to time, the aims and objects of *Solidarity*.—Ed.)

Solidarity has been told that in some quarters, the attitude of the I. W. W. is not to be understood and needs to be more definitely expressed in order to gain wider understanding and support. With this criticism *Solidarity* is not wholly agreed. The attitude of the I. W. W. is simple. It organizes on industrial instead of trade lines; and for the final emancipation of the workers, as well as the improtinent

of their present conditions. It holds that industrial action is all-sufficient and embracing; that without it, working class unity and success in other directions is not only impossible but foredoomed to failure. With economic unity all things are possible to the proletariat. The attitude of the I. W. W. is so simple that it appeals most effectively to the working class, as will be seen in its increasing growth, despite adverse reverses and a manifold opposition.

Of course, this appeal can be made still more expressive and effective. It might be shown why industrial action is forced on the workers, or its tactics are preferable to the tactics of trade unionism. In brief, the simple understanding idea of the I. W. W. must be set forth in all its bearing; and with reference to the specific industries especially in order that its force may be driven home. This end can only be accomplished by the creation of I. W. W. literature. Trautmann's "Why Strikes Are Lost"; Williams' "Eleven Blind Leaders," and McDonald's "The Farm Laborer and the City Worker," are beginnings in this direction. More are needed. *Solidarity* aims to get more. For this purpose it again has recourse to its readers. Believing that the brains and brawn of the working class embody all that is necessary for the creation of the industrial democracy of the future, *Solidarity* invites the members of that class to furnish it with additional pamphlets and leaflets, confident of their sterling merit and ready sale and per-

Do not let this invitation go unheeded. Write to the end that the I. W. W. may flourish in the land.

MEAT PACKERS ON STRIKE

Pittsburg Workers Organized in I. W. W.,
Make Demand for "More Meat."

Just as we are about to close our files for the week, a report comes from General Organizer Wm. E. Trautmann, who has been working in Pittsburg for about two weeks, that 1,500 members of the I. W. W., recently organized, and employed in the meat packing industry, are on strike.

This strike is answered to a lock-out order in three big packing firms, the Zeller & Beinenman Packing Co., the Frieder Packing Co. and the Beck Packing Co. Wage increases had been asked for. A few firms were ready to grant the requests, but the big Chicago bosses who came to Pittsburg personally to whip the local packers in line gave orders so that the local packers were forced to lock out their employes. Trautmann writes:

"In this case the bosses, in conference with the committee, all American-born, tried the old game of prejudicing the Americans against the Hungkys."

"The manager of Schwarzschild & Sulzberger told the secretary of the union, who is himself an American, why he and hundreds of others should not make commu- nism with the 'ignorant hunkeys.' The answer was seen when the strike order was issued, or rather when the bosses precipitated the lockout. No more will be the infamous weapon of 'hunkey' and 'Jewish' employors, who have degraded the workers by using the foreigner to heat the native into submission in the past, work in this strike. Indeed this is progress."

"The outcome of this strike will show that the workers as a class are going to claim their own, are going to win better pay, shorter hours and finally citizenship. Thirteen hours work a day was the rule in Pittsburg packing houses. In the Pittsburg Provision Co. plant, where about 800 are employed, men did not make more than 88 or 89 a week."

"The rebellion was spontaneous, although the union packing, cause work was organized a year ago, just a week or two before the strike. I left the Pittsburg district after McKees Rocks strike."

"Drivers, engineers, firemen, butchers and laborers are striking in this strike. Once more will be made by the Industrial Workers of World."

"Send letters of encouragement contributions to these men. The C bosses know that a victory here would mean an end to the smelting of and barbarous conditions in the packing houses."

"Therefore, workers, come and get busy on the campaign for sub- stantial education and organization which will end to emancipat

THE STEEL HELLS OF THE PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

BY OBSERVER.

When Andrew Carnegie came into control of the Edgar Thomson steel works at Braddock and the Homestead works they were both 'union' works, running on eight-hour shifts. And while Andrew Carnegie never knew beans about making steel (he so admits), yet he was shrewd enough to employ the finest talent in the world to make it for him. Hence, in pursuance of this policy, he did not hesitate to pay the late Capt. Jones \$50,000 a year as a superintendent. And Julian Kennedy, as constructing engineer, was paid \$60,000 per year. These men received these salaries because they knew the steel business and got the results.

Carnegie, being backed and favored by the Pennsylvania Railroad, found profits flowing in to him in a flood. He was wise enough to give Jones and Kennedy a free hand while he himself stayed away and did not meddle. Indeed, Capt. Jones told Carnegie to stay away from the works and not meddle with things he knew nothing about. So much for the "superior intelligence" of our great "captains of industry." And this explains why Andy had so much time to splurge and play golf among the nobility of England and Scotland.

Under the progressive management of such men as Jones and Kennedy the Homestead plant, in particular, was practically rebuilt a number of times. Every new and improved device was constantly adopted, and along with the adoption of Schwab's continuous process, has reduced steel making to almost a fine art. During all these developments the tonnage rates of wages in these works had been undisturbed. Similarly, the tonnage, by these improvements, had greatly increased, until the skilled labor employed in these works were enjoying the highest wages ever paid in the history of the iron and steel industry.

Who Fathers the Twelve-Hour Day?

And yet the aristocracy of labor, the elite, i. e. the heaters and rollers, were not satisfied. They wanted still higher wages. And finding no plausible reason to ask for an increase of wages, they finally hit upon the idea of increasing the length of the working day. Accordingly, Carnegie increased the working day from eight to twelve hours, thus installing two shifts in place of three. And these were the "heroes" of Homestead over whom so much mawkish sympathy was wasted. These were the elite of organized sebery as represented by the craft union A. A. of I. and S. W. Carnegie, being a wise lad, readily granted this demand of his "union" employes, whom he lauded to the skies in his book, "Triumph of Democracy." Since then this criminal example has become the all but universal rule of practice all over the United States.

Two years before the Homestead strike Carnegie declared that he was "going to bar out competition." In order to carry out this declaration two things were necessary. First, another remodeling and reconstructing of the Homestead plant, which was forthwith undertaken and pushed through. And when the remodeling was done, it was again found that the capacity of the plant was enormously increased. The Bessemer department, in particular, being increased 150 per cent. So far, so good. A mighty stride toward Carnegie's ambition to "bar out competition." The next thing that Carnegie had to do was to rid his plants of this high priced "autocracy of labor."

It now suited his purposes to forget all his mushy gabble about "the dignity of labor," and his laudation of union labor in "Triumph of Democracy," etc., a change had come over his dream. He had succeeded in having himself elected President of the British Iron and Steel Institute. He had hobnobbed with the "captains of slavery" in England until he had spied out their weak points, and he was now ready to break their grip on the "world's markets."

Fancy Wages for Twelve-Hour Scapeheads.

The elite now had their twelve hour day, the plant had been remodelled up to date, everything was lovely, the heads of the elite were enormously swelled, and craft unionism was in its glory. Alas! "pride goeth before a fall." By this time men with little or no mechanical skill were making fifteen dollars per day in Homestead. Heaters were making thirty, and some of the rollers boasted of their fifty dollars per day. And by this time Frick had become a big man in the Carnegie company, and as Frick is a man of deter-

mination, Carnegie felt he could see him in a fight.

About this time Carnegie informed the elite that tonnage wages would be cut 10 per cent. Out of the 4000 men then employed at Homestead, but 386 were affected by his cut, these being the very high priced men herein mentioned. The cut was promptly refused and the strike came on.

Carnegie, anticipating trouble, makes his little sneak up to Scotland, but he had made the plan of campaign, leaving Frick and Schwab on the ground to do the heavy work. Up to this time Schwab had only been a "rising young man" in the Carnegie employ. Now he was made superintendent of the Homestead plant. And right then Schwab made his fortune by winning the Homestead strike. Since then he can spell his name SCHWAB.

As a matter of fact, those 386 men could have stood a ten per cent. reduction and not suffered by it. It is also a matter of fact that Carnegie wanted a strike and the open shop as a result of it. As a matter of policy then, it was good tactics to lose ten per cent. rather than lose a closed shop. But, when did ever the craft union have any wit or foresight.

However, as the strike progressed and became strenuous, the entire force at Homestead responded to the "sympathy strike," later the entire Carnegie interests struck likewise, and that too despite their sacred "contracts." As a result the entire system of Carnegie works was made "open shop," the back of the A. A. of I. & S. W. was broken, beyond all remedy, all to save the inordinate vanity of the 386 elite that had fastened onto the steel industry the curse of the twelve hour day.

Did Carnegie succeed in "barring out competition?" Five years later the Carnegie sales department placed a contract for 100,000 tons of plate steel in Australia at one pound English money below anything in England, Wales, Germany, Belgium or any other steel making country. He had won out, the craft union had played right into his hands and ruined itself in doing it.

I know Carnegie to be a smooth, plausible, sneaking hypocrite. The management of his works is an organized crime. The blood of the "victims of industry" stains every dollar of his ill-gotten gains. His "libraries" are a disgrace to any community, wherever they stand. His church organs are the pride of clerical prostitution. But, he had learned by experience that the craft union was an unsound one. He knew that as a rule its "leaders" were ignorant and purchasable. The logic is plain. He has accomplished his purposes, while but enough of the A. A. remains to serve as an example to be shunned.

The Steel Hells, after all is said, and due allowance made for the brutality of the Schwabs, Carnegies, et al., are largely what the craft unions have made them.

And as I close these chapters of this miserable history of craft stupidity I record the latest dirty trick of the A. A. in scabbing on the Sons of Vulcan at Lockhart's mill, McKees Rocks, Pa. "Twas ever thus."

Surely, then, in the light of history written by craft unionism, it needs no argument to show that the labor union of the present and future has come to the parting of the ways. The principle and practice of organization will survive despite all campaigns for the "open shop." There is no real reason for discouragement. The lessons of the past mistakes are ours. The opportunity for men of grit and sense is now here. The premises are cleared for ONE BIG UNION of class conscious workers. And you?

Are you ready?

WALL STREET AND LABOR

BY JOHN D.

Wall street says that labor conditions in the iron and steel trade have passed the critical time of the year, when the unions sign their old scale or make new ones. The two largest organizations are the Amalgamated Association and Sons of Vulcan. The former as Wall Street understands it is composed of steel workers, with a few iron men. The steel workers include sheet, bar and tinplate men, and at one time the members of the latter trade were the strongest in the organization, but a year before the American Sheet and Tin Plate Co.'s order making it a non-union plant, the Amalgamated was going down in every way.

When the Tin Plate Co. won out, Wall Street says the back of the Amalgamated was broken, and today it is understood to have but 40 per cent of the membership in good standing in the lodge. Wages

paid at present are 3 per cent less than before the strike, but the union has suffered a complete rout. Skilled men in the plate work at present are at a drug on the market, on account of the great hands taken on and taught during the strike. The Sons of Vulcan have signed their new scale for this year granting them a small increase in their wage. Puddlers at the large 48 furnace plant of the Byers Co. at Girard, Ohio, are at present getting \$6.12-1-2 a ton.

Steel men in Wall Street state that laborers in the iron and steel business are receiving at present better wages. This class is composed of Italians, Slavs, and Hung. Andrew Carnegie wires Wall St. that his company has raised the wages of this class of workers 10 per cent twice in the past 5 years. The company is now paying 17-2 cents per hour as the average.

Carnegie says his workers are all satisfied with conditions. Schwab says the same in regard to his workers at Bethlehem Jones & Laughlin of Pittsburgh have told Wall Street financiers that they together with Carnegie have established safety devices in their mills, so that it is now almost impossible for a man to be injured in the ordinary manner. Pulleys and shafts are all protected in the mills, the set screw in the nut being even being inset to prevent them from being the clothing of the roller. The gears are all protected by rails and in some cases by sheet iron corners. Runways or guides for bars, rods or wire are also protected. Wall Street understands that every possible safeguard is being thrown around the workers at present in order to reduce accidents, etc.

Our Polish Paper

In a recent issue of this paper it is mentioned that something might be said soon about the Polish industrial paper, "Solidarnosc."

Six months have elapsed since in answer to demands from organizers, speakers, agitators and others this Polish I. W. W. paper was started. It even being inset to start; support was good, and we sailed along smoothly, but of late there has occurred a lull in receipts, which being unable to overcome ourselves, we are forced to ask you for financial support.

There are many reasons why you should help us out. The paper has gone too far now to let it drop. It has conscientiously worked toward its aim, and has done some good. Previously, in agitation, we were met with such objections as for instance: "No paper says anything about our people." Now they are handed a paper and they have no escape from an appeal to join. There has even been a demand that the paper be increased in size, as the Polish locals are growing and a paper becomes indispensable. Though we set out to issue semi-monthly, we came out once a month, but this has not discouraged anybody.

In order to increase our sub list, as well as to popularize our paper among the Polish workers, the Press Committee with the sanction of the local had arranged a raffle for a \$25 gold watch, with tickets at 25 cents apiece.

One of our fellow workers, Stenzel of Brooklyn, attempted to sell some of these tickets at a local meeting held under the auspices of the Polish Socialist Alliance, but he was thrown out of the hall and forbidden to re-enter. What does this incident show? Simply that I. W. W. principles are making headway among the Polish workers, in fact so much so that their spread must be hindered, and they attempted it in that way. To be sure, the politicians will deliver the suffering masses from the bonds of economic slavery.

The affair will not close here. Opposition will go on, and we must meet it. Now, if you fail to help out and "Solidarnosc" dies, we will be greatly handicapped. So this is another reason why you should rally to its support.

Still another reason. You non-Polish workers made it possible that "Solidarnosc" came out. Then the Polish workers came along, and continued it to this time. But now we must all come to the rescue. Will you let the paper you started die? Can you afford it? No! Emphatically no!

We ask you for only a few cents. If we asked for \$5 or \$10 you could justly say you could not afford it. You can help us. You must help us, if our press is not to diminish. You want to help us; and you cannot see the paper, then please advise you would not have helped us previously if you did.

Remember we are going to fight for the increase of the Polish membership of our union. We are going to fight for the Po-

I. W. W. PREAMBLE

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trades unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wages for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for the every-day struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

Knowing, therefore, that such an organization is absolutely necessary for our emancipation we unite under the following constitution.

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lish industrial press, and this is reason enough to appeal for aid.

We are appealing to you in the name of our press, in the name of the thousands of economically oppressed Polish workers, smarting under the capitalist lash, looking for an avenue of escape from Russianized America.

What will your answer be? Tickets will be sent to all locals. Let the secretaries look to their disposal. If every local will sell but ten or fifteen, which is not impossible, this paper will continue indefinitely.

Let the good work of "Solidarnosc" go on. For the Press Committee and Local 317, I. W. W.

A. A. ZIELINSKI, Editor,

Buffalo, New York.

MOST IMPORTANT WORK.

Solidarity

I have just read your last number (43) of Solidarity on organizing the slaves of the U. S. steel mills of Pennsylvania. As a fellow worker I believe it is the greatest and most important item the I. W. W. has undertaken. It is the place where all organizers should be and where the I. W. W. should build one solid foundation for the steel workers. It is most important than anything else the I. W. W. has un-

dertaken.

The A. F. of L. has been wiped out in the mills and it's up to the I. W. W. to go into that section with all its forces and concentrate all its organizers there. First get those workers educated to I. W. W. principles and the good work is done. It would be far better to send speakers and organizers into the steel mills than to send them roaming around the country.

The U. S. Steel corporation's highest aim is to have low wages; and long hours with a scab shop, so it can defy the world in competition.

Yours for the organizing of the wage workers in the I. W. W.

C. E. HOPKINS,

Los Angeles, Calif.

SITUATION IN TACOMA.

Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 27.

Solidarity: A few lines to let you know we are still existing here in this hoosier burg. Slaves blowing in and right out again, all going south. They report that hungry slaves are falling over one another for jobs, and bumping one another for the price. Lots of the mills are closed down and others cut wages. We are holding street meetings every night the weather permits. Had a good speaker here this week. Sold a few more papers on that account. All our soap boxes have gone to Fresno.

Yours for the works, JOS. WILSON, Sec'y.

BOY SCOUTS

Every workman, woman, or child in the country should get busy and agitate against the latest weapon of the employing class, the exploiters of men, women and children, to keep the coming generation in abject subjection, ignorance and slavery.

What is this weapon of the bosses? It is the "Boy Scout Movement," endorsed by the Catholic church, President Roosevelt, the heads of the legal murder machine, the army; and by all the great captains of industry. That should be warning enough to the workers.

This is where the women and even the children can do a great deal of real good for the revolutionary movement. Talk against this teaching the child to murder his brother; talk against the "school for the education of slaves," or otherwise known as the boy scouts. Tell your children about it. Let them tell their boy friends.

Here are some of the oaths the Boy Scouts take when enrolling in the Boy Scouts:

Boy Scout's Oath.

"On my honor I faithfully promise:
"To do my duty to God and my country."
"To obey all orders."

"To be loyal to my country; my parents, and MY EMPLOYERS, and to stick to them through thick and thin, against anyone who is their enemy, or who even talks badly about them."

"To obey all orders of my parents, patrol leader or scout master, WITHOUT QUESTION, even if I do not like, and to act as a soldier or sailor does, because it is my duty."
Now, you wage slaves, what do you think of that? You who have been fighting militarism had better get busy harder than ever!

The Catholic church has taught us a lesson. We know that when such influences as religious superstition or so-called "patriotism" is steeped into the minds of the young children, that they are crippled for life, crippled mentally.

Just think of teaching children to obey their masters at all times without question, to stick to them through thick and thin, to fight for their employers against anyone who is their enemy. Mr. Worker, are you going to stand for it? Teaching sabbath at the cradle?

I personally think that the I. W. W. of America and England, where this boy scout movement flourishes, should get out some real anti-militarist propaganda and distribute it. All revolutionists should get busy on this.

Yours for the enlightenment of the slaves.

"M.U.D."

STIRTON IN BOYNE CITY

Boyne City is a town in Northern Michigan of about 6,000 population and containing approximately 700 or 800 wage slaves, all unorganized. The principal industries are lumber, a chemical works, round house, and most important of all a tannery employing when in full operation 300 hands, and locally claimed to be the largest tannery of sole leather in the country.

The town is practically owned outright by some 4 or 5 men and the prevailing wages paid are \$1.75 for ten hours work. A few receive \$2.40, and a very few, not more than 25 outside of the bosses, \$3.00.

Fellow Worker Stirton having developed a good interest in industrial unionism during the summer was urged by many of the workers to return, and determined to do so on completing his Grand Rapids dates. Accordingly dates were secured for him beginning Oct. 14, a hall rented from the Woodmen and bills printed. Meanwhile Stirton came into conflict with those who were police and went ahead to those who were promoting the meetings asking that his dates be postponed for a week. They had already paid the rent in advance, taking a receipt from the mayor, W. R. McCuiston who acted as agent for the Woodmen in renting the hall. This McCuiston, by the way, was elected mayor on a so-called "laboticket" and is now running as a quasi independent candidate for the legislature on the same. Those who were promoting the meetings now asked him if it would be all right with regard to the hall to have the meetings postponed for a week and he agreed that it would.

Accepting his word in good faith they thought it unnecessary to have the specified date changed on the receipt, and thereby hangs a tale.

Stirton came to Boyne City on the 14th

to do a little preliminary work and see that all preparations were in hand for a successful series of meetings. Meanwhile bills had been gotten out and posted announcing the meetings, some to be held in the park if the weather proved favorable, and the opening gun to be fired in the Woodmen's hall on Friday the 21st.

Wednesday and Thursday passed and no announcement from the Woodmen that anything was other than satisfactory. Late on Friday afternoon two officials of the Woodmen informed one of the workers who was interested in promoting the meetings, that they had changed their minds and we could not have the hall.

McCuiston, the "labor mayor," who had received our money and whose name was on our receipt, refused to even use his influence to secure us a fair deal, saying that the receipt called for its use on Oct. 14 and not on the 21st. When reminded of his promise that we might have the hall on the 21st instead, this precious labor mayor attempted to crawl out of responsibility saying that he had acted only as agent. So the door of the hall was shut in our faces at the last moment.

The night was dark and rainy and so the next best thing was to look around and get another hall for the following evening. After some difficulty one was secured, and such advertising was done as could be accomplished by passing the word along, chiefly in the tannery.

On Saturday evening Stirton spoke to a fair sized audience on the subject, "Whose Hides are we eating?" showing the tanners by facts and figures that they were familiar, that about \$7.00 a day was taken out of THEIR hides by the bosses and that similar conditions afflicted the other workers in Boyne City and throughout the country. Pointing out also the remedy in industrial organization and showing many reasons of local application why industrial organization was peculiarly desirable and effective for Boyne City. This was well received and although organization has not yet been effected, the prospects are bright for the near future.

Stirton says the workers everywhere are talking industrial unionism and all that is necessary now is to overcome their timidity and get them to take decisive action.

FIRST DAYS OF STRIKE.

Continued From Page One.

To-day the newspapers publish the order of mobilization, which is to be the prelude of still more numerous dismissals. The order of mobilization is illegal. All the measures that it will engender with it will be illegal; null and void. The government has not considered that the law of June 9, 1887, chapter 5, article 230, provides that in the time of peace, the men mobilized have 15 days in which to respond to the mobilization order. As the government's measure is illegal, it is also in vain, for none of you will respond to the notice that will be addressed to you. None of you will let himself be troubled by the combined accusations of M. Briand and M. Sarraute, that our strike is "political and revolutionary." Our claims are co-operative, and it is to our co-operative action alone that we can appeal for success. Comrades, the strike has been declared on all the roads. Public opinion that knows our misery is with us. Let us struggle for our right to the end, to the last energy (ditch). You will not respond to the mobilization order. Vive la greve!

STRIKE COMMITTEE.

The renegade Briand has also other laws at his command that he has threatened to use liberally in this affair. One of these is one making the instigators of acts of sabotage accomplices in the crime. Quite a nice conspiracy law of the usual elastic nature. "La Guerre Sociale," that has all along strongly advocated the sabotaging of the railroads, dares Briand to put his threat into action. The strike committee notified him that they could be found in the office of "Humanite," "Jean Jaures" paper. Last night (Wednesday), the 17th a party of gentlemen, led by the notorious Lepine, chief of the Parisian police, paid a visit to "Humanite," and put the committee's men under arrest. The visit was expected, and Jaures and some dozen other socialist deputies were present to witness this dirty work. Even they, long since dead to the real working class movement, were aroused by this piece of Briand's work, and they unmercifully gouted the chief of police and the slaves accompanying him.

There is a great commotion at the moment, as was sitting in the old editorial chair of Briand's, the one in which the latter wrote his well known plan of the general strike. Surely Briand is proving a treasure to the

direct action movement of the world by showing how completely even a radical revolutionist can forget his principles when embroiled in the devastating influence of political action. The arrest of the committee has not hindered the prosecution of the strike in the least, as there are provisional committees ready to come forward whenever their services are needed.

Hundreds of arrests are being made all over France. Briand has issued an order to his subordinates to use every known militant direct actionist under surveillance and to arrest them on the slightest pretext.

The tie-up has affected the prices of food stuffs already in Paris, and the problem of getting provisions into the city is pressing. The plan now being advocated is to take advantage of the fine canal and river system and bring food in that way. Now if the employes of the canal could develop a little class solidarity and refuse to carry any freight to Paris the strike would soon be settled. Four million hungry stomachs in Paris would force the government and private railroad companies to come to time in spite of the few thousand soldiers and gendarmes that the latter have at their disposal.

The railroad strike has fanned into flame the smouldering protests of other workers, and a veritable epidemic of strikes of minor proportions has occurred in the last 24 hours all over the country. Not a single Paris paper has yet published an estimate of the number of men on strike. The number is either so great as to forbid it being made public, or else the telegraph and telephone system is so disorganized that no trustworthy estimate can be made. Judging by the spread of the strike during the last 24 hours the future looks bright for the long mediated general railroad strike. Let us say in hearty accord with the cheminots (railway workers), "Vive la greve!"

W. Z. FOSTER.

SHOE WORKERS

Of Greater N. Y. Joining I. W. W. Organizer Etor Doing Good Work.

(Special to Solidarity.)

Brooklyn, N. Y., Oct. 30. Joseph J. Etor, member General Executive Board and organizer of the I. W. W., is still in New York City, where he is making large additions to the ranks of industrial unionism. Since Oct. 9, the date of his last letter to Solidarity, Etor has held 5 big meetings among the shoe workers and tailors of the metropolis. As a result, Shoe Workers Local No. 168 of Greater New York has now over 500 members; with prospects of still greater growth in the near future. The shoe workers of the East are in revolt against Tobinism; and the field is ripe for action.

Last Saturday evening, Oct. 29, in the Assembly Cafe, 308 Fulton St., Brooklyn, N. Y. Over 300 workers were in attendance. Etor spoke in both English and Italian. S. M. Giovanni, editor of "El Proletario" also spoke in Italian. The speeches were well received, and more members enrolled. In addition, the work of organizing every shop in Brooklyn was systematically taken up. Shop committees were appointed to work to this end, in conjunction with the executive board and the organizer. Another meeting will be held in the Assembly Cafe, 308 Fulton St., Brooklyn, on next Saturday, Nov. 5, at 8 p. m. Shoe workers are invited to attend.

Next Wednesday evening, Nov. 9, a joint mass meeting of tailors will be held in Teutonia Assembly Rooms, 3rd Ave. and 10th St., New York City. This meeting will be addressed by Etor, in answer to a representative of the A. F. of L. Ladies' Garment Workers Union. He was present at the previous mass meeting of the I. W. W. and given the floor. While occupying it, he sought to persuade those present from joining the I. W. W. The joint mass meeting is a result. In addition, a challenge has been issued to that same union. This has been published in two languages. So also has an open letter to Arturo Carotti, a prominent Italian socialist, who has gone over to the A. F. of L. There is much satisfaction among the Italian socialist workmen over the recent "victory" of the cloakmakers. I. W. W. organization is growing among them.

WORLD OF LABOR

(Continued From Page One.)

plant of the National Bolt & Nut Co., of Pittsburg, which, with the added equip-

ment to be installed, will make the plant the largest of its kind in Pittsburg. New buildings, a new 150 horse power engine, not presser, nut tappers, machine shop tools, etc., are included in the new equipment.

The Pittsburg Machine Co. has purchased a plot of ground in Braddock, known as the Dawes tract, and will erect thereon a factory for the making of tools and machinery. It is stated that when completed the plant will employ more than 300 skilled mechanics.

The American Can Co., at the earnest solicitation of the American Sheet & Tin Plate Co. here, concerning experiments in the making of light tin boxes for the cigarette trade. These experiments are now being carried out and have gone far enough to justify the forecast that cigarettes of the near future will be bought "by the can." The tin plate being used is known as No. 38 gauge, or 1-38 of an inch in thickness. The cost of a box made of this is actually less than that of a box of the kinds now in use under the present high cost of paper and cardboard. In addition to this, there may also be considered the salvage on tin boxes, the tin in which can be used over again. The American Can Co., which has so many patents on cigarette boxes, will, it is understood, start some of its large factories making such boxes exclusively.

Mexicans Organizing

(Special to Solidarity.)
San Diego, Calif., Oct. 26.

Word has been received here that the slaves in Mexico are organizing a revolutionary syndicalist union. Help is needed. The Mexicans, after trying to overthrow their masters with the ballot through the Liberal Party, are fast coming to see that industrial action is all that they can ever expect to get results from.

The Spanish speaking workers in the United States are also ready to organize in the I. W. W. All that is needed is to get the message to them. There are several Mexican workers who are well educated in both English and Spanish who would undertake to do the work if they received backing from the General Executive Board. Therefore, the two locals in San Diego sent the following to the G. E. B.:

Inasmuch as there are thousands of wage slaves in the states of California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas, who have been oppressed until they have reached the point where a larger percent of them will organize to better the wages, shorten the hours of toil and get more of the wealth they produce, we think that the time has come to teach these wage slaves the principles of industrial unionism and organize them in the Industrial Workers of the World.

Therefore we ask the General Executive Board of the I. W. W. to take steps immediately to accomplish this end, by appointing and supporting a Spanish speaking organizer for these states.

Local Union No. 15,
Public Service Workers' Industrial Union, No. 378, San Diego, Cal.

BIRDSEYE VIEW OF PORTLAND.

Portland is a beautiful city. It is a city of sharks. There are suckers coming here every day from the East to buy land from the real estate sharks on the installment plan, and which they never pay for.

Then there is the workman that comes out here to get big wages, but he finds they are paying \$1.75 a day in the saw mills of this golden west. No, it is not a city of roses; it is a city of employment sharks, the open shop city, the city of ten cent restaurants, and the city of scabs.

Young man, don't take the advice of the sharks' agents of the "Rose City," as there are more men here now than there is work for. All that they want here is the man who will work for next to nothing and become a good scab.

Get next; join the union of your class, the I. W. W.

G. W. REESE,

Sec'y I. W. W. Local;
681-2 N. 2d St. Portland, Oregon.

Denver, Colorado.

Local Industrial Union No. 26 has just re-established headquarters and a reading room at 1109 18th St. Public meetings will be held every night at the hall, and at the corner of 17th and Market when weather permits. Business meeting every Thursday night. All meetings start at 7:30 p. m. JAS. L. CORBIN, Business Agent.

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MISSOULA I. W. W. LOCAL
The I. W. W. at Missoula, Mont., is located in a first class hall at 211 Stevens St. The members invite all wage workers to call and get acquainted. Jas. B. Shea is the secretary.

The I. W. W. free speech fight goes merrily on in Fresno, Calif. At the last report, nearly 60 men were in jail, and more were registering every day at union headquarters. Still the demand is for more men; and everyone who can possibly get to Fresno is urged to do so at once. More details will be given in the next issue of Solidarity.

An organized gang of rioters, engineered by employment sharks recently attempted to break up I. W. W. meetings in Duluth, Minn. A detailed account of the affair, which arrived too late for this issue, will appear next week.

The Minneapolis locals are booming. Ten to fifteen new members are joining every week. A new hall has been opened at 104 Hennepin avenue. The locals are paying \$65 a month rent.

The Chicago locals are holding good meetings. Otto Jush spoke on the north side to big crowds recently. General Organizer William E. Trautmann held two organizing meetings, one in the stock yards and another before the Carrage and Wagon Makers' Union. The latter organization is arranging for a big meeting in the near future, with Trautmann as the speaker. Karl Raye and Fellow Worker Catalano have also done effective work in door agitation. Progress is being made in Chicago.