

Industrial Worker

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL!"

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Exposure of the San Francisco Labor Council by Thomas McConnell, Jr. Will Start in Our Next Issue!

SLAVE HERDING CONTRACTORS

FOLEY, WELCH & STEWART ARE SLAVE-DRIVERS-MINNEAPOLIS PAPER EXPOSES THE "MAN CATCHERS"—FOOD HIGH—WAGES LOW.

In the Minneapolis Journal for Nov. 20 is an account of conditions on the Grand Trunk Pacific construction work.

Men shipped from the twin cities and other Minnesota points to work on railroad construction in British Columbia are working in conditions of practical "slavery," according to Adrian Ogletree, Canadian government inspector.

Mr. Ogletree asserted that the men shipped from the United States are classified and work under a "man herder." He says the "man herders" exercise "authority in a forbidden way" and relates an incident where a man who quit his work was shot and wounded by "a driver of human cattle."

Mr. Ogletree said that the conditions of the men "would hardly have been worse under slavery" and asserted that.

Charges are made against employees "on every conceivable pretext" and that frequently at the end of the month the men owe the company instead of the company owing the men.

A hospital tax is levied on all men whether or not they need medical or hospital attendance.

The men are compelled to pay an excessive baggage rate and frequently do not get their baggage at all, as no checks are given them.

An assessment for mail delivered is taken out of their wages.

If money is advanced by the company 10 per cent interest is charged.

In the office of Foley Brothers, Welch & Stewart in St. Paul today, it was stated that B. C. Benner, secretary and treasurer of the company, was the only man who could make a statement and that he was not in the office.

A. O. Morse, secretary of Local 326, I.W.W., Box 197, Prince Rupert, B. C., writes that scabs are deserting about as fast as they get on the job.

At the company stores flour sells for \$20 per 100 lb., potatoes \$12 per 100, meat 50 cents per lb., overalls \$5, and other supplies in proportion. Board is \$7 to \$8.40 per week and wages as low as \$2.75 per day. No work is being done and the spirits of the contractors are falling together with wages and the mercury in the thermometer.

Any "bughouse" slave who want a job real bad or who wants a real bad job should start for the G. T. P. at once.

NOTES FROM PITTSBURG DISTRICT

(By George Speed.)

Pittsburg is the birthplace of the American Federation of Labor, yet there is nothing to show for thirty-two years of work but a living hell in which some 700,000 slaves, in a radius of 100 miles, are sweltering in their own sweat; their lives coined into gold for as hungry a bunch of pirates as ever trod the earth.

What the A. F. of L. has done in thirty-two years is to pit native against foreign born, skilled against unskilled, and to make organization a byword in the richest industrial center in the United States.

All the mills of the Pacific Coast would make but a junkpile for a modern plant like those in and around Pittsburg. Yet with all the latent power these workers possess, they are working 12 long hours under horrible conditions.

Discontent is rife and hope is present, but there is not yet a tangible result. This is because of the mistrust bred by corruption, defeat and betrayal by officials of the A. F. of L. There is today scarcely a vestige of real organization left.

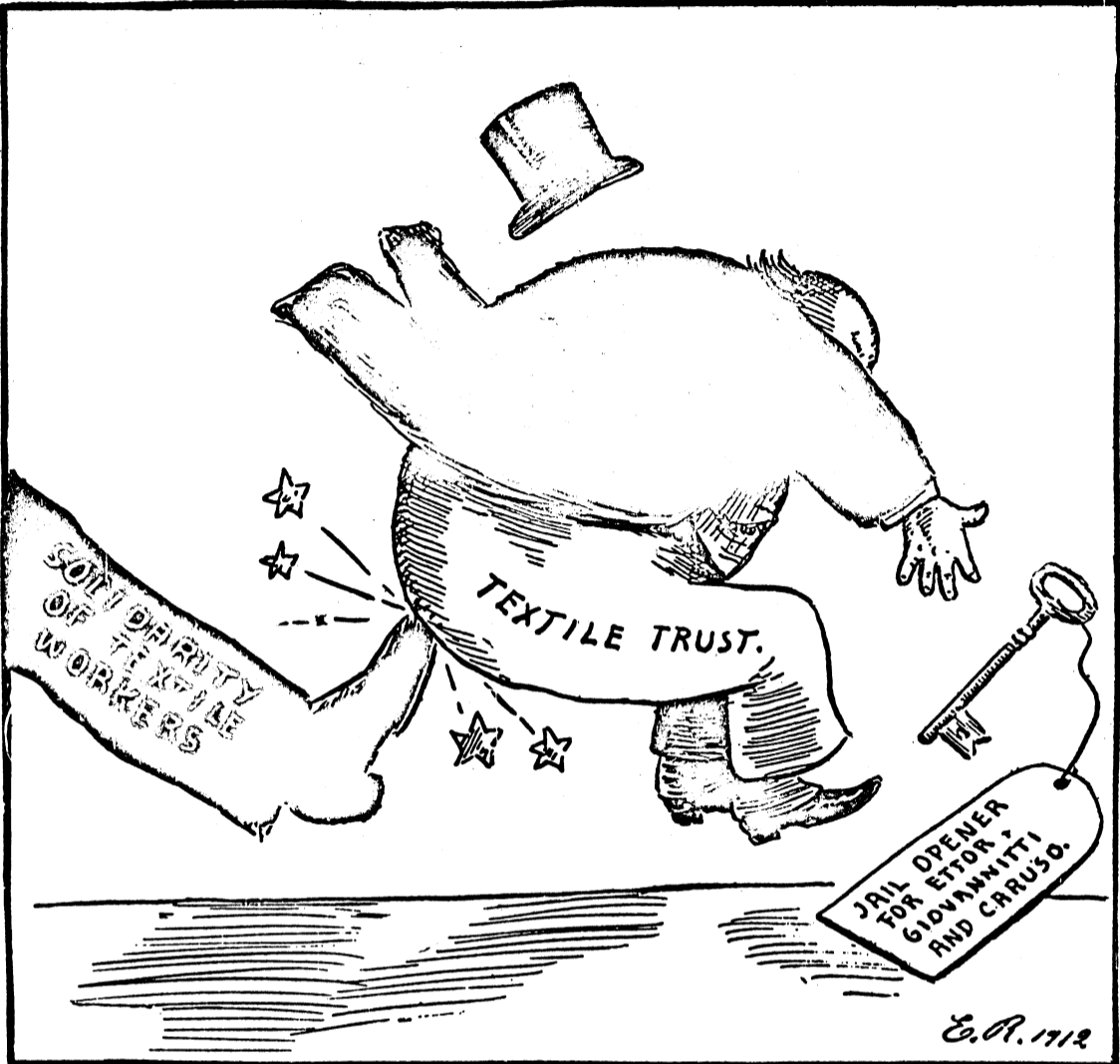
A few weak organizations exist by the good will of the bosses. It is the task of the I. W. W. to dispel the mistrust, organize the discontent and fulfill the hope of these workers.

To organize the workers we will have to cope with continued treachery on the part of the A. F. of L. and a well nigh perfect spy system of the employers.

An example of the readiness of the craft officials to do the bosses' bidding is at Woods Run pressed steel car plant.

Thirty-eight men struck. Trautmann took charge and in one week the plant was closed. Then in stepped J. D. Pearce, with several organizers of the A. F. of L. They hired a hall, paid for it a week in advance, and, with the support of the company police, tried to get the men back to work.

These organizers wanted to collect per capita and tie the men down with a contract. Their attempt failed. The company had to deal with the men through an I. (Continued on page 4).



THE GENTLE IMPULSE THAT CAUSED A JUST VERDICT

With the Van Guard Down in Dixie!

For nearly seven months, now I have been with the fighting lumberjacks of Dixie who, for two long years, have maintained a heroic struggle against the International Lumber Trust, which combine of forest-stealers and gunmen here styles itself the "Southern Lumber Operators Association."

I have been with them in their convention, with them in their homes, with them at their barbecues and meetings, with them when they were ordered off the public roads and threatened with violence for trying to exercise their "constitutional" right of free speech, with them when mobs led by managers, superintendents and deputy sheriffs, hoodlums led by hoodlums, followed them for miles on the public roads beating tin cans and circular saws, gathering around the union's speakers and drowning out their voices, hoping, the fools, to stifle in a din of rancorous sound the message of the One Big Union. And I have seen them thrust into putrid jails, and I have seen them brought before the bar of "impartial justice," accused by the lowest set of were-wolves on earth today,

the Burns Detective Agency, prosecuted by a United States Congressman and their lives placed in jeopardy because they would submit to peonage no more, and I saw them beat the capitalists in their own courts, and I saw them leave the jails and their wives, mothers, sweethearts and daughters throw themselves, weeping for joy, into their arms. And I saw the whole town of Lake Charles cheering their victory and welcoming the released. And then I saw the supreme contempt in which the gold-craved Plunderbund holds the mass of mankind today. I saw Edwards, Doree and Filigno thrown into jail on a detective's word and bond in the sum of one thousand five hundred dollars demanded for their release pending a trial. And I saw the men return to Merryville, and I read the order penalizing them for having been acquitted and for having borne testimony in behalf of their brothers. And I heard them, thirteen hundred strong, rise as one, fold their mighty arms, and say: "An injury to one is an injury to all—we will stand for this no more, my masters." And the whirring of the saws

was stilled and the forest no longer resounded with the crashing thunder of falling trees. Silence reigned in the great plant, for the workers, the representatives of industry and life, had withdrawn, and only the representatives of plunder and death, the gunmen, were there. Then came the "Citizens League," and the high and mighty of the Santa Fe Railroad system, which owns the mills and forests there, and the militia, which fraternized with the strikers and was withdrawn, and the deputy sheriffs with their pump-guns and pistols, and the kept writers with their polluted pens, and Burns' carrion crows, and the gaunt ghost of hunger, but, with folded arms, the vanguard of Dixie's freedom met them, saying, "Here, if our fellow workers will it so, here in our Brotherhood we mean to starve and die or win the right to be masters of our own destiny."

Fellow Workers throughout all the states and nations, in our Mother Labor's name I appeal to you to go at once to the aid of her regiment fighting there in Merryville a battle for the freedom of your class! COVINGTON HALL.

Damnable Slavery Among the Alaska Salmon Packers!

Fellow Worker Jose Narvaes of the Latin Branch of the San Francisco I. W. W. tells of experiences among the Alaska Salmon Packers. We give the story as nearly as possible in his own words.

"Let me tell you the story of the Alaska Salmon Packers' Industrial Union No. 280, situated in this city. Last year, 1911, the Alaska Salmon Packers were unorganized. When the season opened the wage workers organized under the temporary name of Filipinos Labor Association. Demands were made for more wages, better food and good accommodation. The organization was too weak to succeed.

"I was temporary delegate in that movement. After the strike the workers went to Alaska, and there faced starvation, as usual. This starvation happens every season, and I will show how it goes, for I have been in Alaska.

"The Alaska Packers' Association here in San Francisco gave the contract to Mr. Chinaman, second hand capitalist. Mr. Chinaman made money from the Alaska Packers' Association. Now Mr. Chinaman gave the contract to Mr. Jew and Mr. Jew makes money from Mr. Chinaman. The third class capitalist, Mr. Jew,

gives the job to the labor fakir, who is the fourth class contractor, who must get enough men to work the canneries. Three hundred men and up are needed in each small cannery, so the labor fakir pays to each man \$150 for six months' slavery. The men are taken to the steamer and shipped to Alaska.

"On board the steamer we eat worse than dog food. The labor fakir owns the store on the ship, and the price is too high, as it is the only store. Only one-half cup of water each day is given to the workers. Three slaves must sleep on each floor, and the place is very narrow. The labor fakir marks in the book more than the workers take, because the most of the men cannot read or write.

"Some boats take 45 days to get to Alaska, and during that time the workers are kept under very bad conditions. When the slave workers get to Alaska they start to work at 6 a. m. and work until 6 at night, with poor meals or Chinaman grub, and poor accommodations. In some places there is no doctor and no drug store. The boss Chinaman comes along with a gun to make us work as hard as we can. He has the power of the gun. The

cost of food takes up all of our wages.

"When the fish season comes we go to work at 3 o'clock in the morning and work until 11 at night. We hardly have time to eat or sleep.

"After we have shipped all the cases from Alaska to San Francisco we go back to San Francisco ourselves, but the most of us have no money coming. We have spent nearly all our money for excessive priced food. On board the ship there is gambling, robbery and assassination, but even then some good slaves save a little money. But when these good slaves ask for their money they have to come back to the office day after day and then are robbed of part of it. If the slaves ask for assistance to get their money they are robbed of every cent.

"This is the story of the present, but I have more to tell about in the future.

"Here is the story of my services offered to the Alaska Salmon Packers' Industrial Union: "Last March we signed up for a charter of the Alaska Salmon Packers' Union No. 280. After a week we received it from the General (Continued on page 4)

MORE ARRESTS IN LITTLE FALLS

PINKS, PIMPS AND POLITICIANS FIGHT LITTLE FALLS WORKERS—BRUTALITY IS THE RULE—STRIKERS FIRM.

Little Falls, N. Y., Nov. 22.—The right of free speech is again abrogated in Little Falls and it looks as if the battle won by Mayor Lunn and the Schenectady Socialists will have to be fought all over again.

About fifteen new special policemen and detectives arrived in town last night and this morning and today when the strikers' speakers went to Clinton Park to continue the noon meetings which have been held all this week, they found the park thickly planted with cops who announced that no more speaking would be allowed. Miss Helen Schloss, the tenant investigator who quit her position to aid the strikers and afterward got ten days in jail for it, had intended to speak at Third and Main streets, a corner usually allowed street preachers and free-lance speakers of all kinds, but was told by Chief of Police Long that if she tried to speak she would be arrested again.

"There ain't goin' to be any more speakin' in this town," said the chief.

This is believed to be the result of the open air campaign recently opened here by Messrs. Clark, Hobe and Arndt who came from the northwest to help in the fight. Clark's arraignment of the mill owners for their starvation wages and of the respectable citizens of the town for their public approval of police brutalities, was especially displeasing to the local authorities, not to mention the money that he collected for the strike from the crowds who listened to him. Clark went to Utica last night and held an open air meeting in which he prophesied that unless Manager McLaughlin of the Phoenix Mills in Little Falls soon settled with his people, his Utica plants would be tied up. This so alarmed the employers of Utica that Clark was arrested and this morning was sentenced to six months in jail.

Arndt is already serving thirty days in Herkimer jail on a charge of shouting "scab." Hobe was seized from behind by three big "specials" yesterday and searched for weapons but none (Continued on page 4)

A STEEL TRUST LOCK-OUT

The Algoma Iron Works of Sault Saint Marie locked out its employees on Nov. 11 because they asked for time and a half for overtime and Sundays off except in cases of emergency. This had been the rule until the Steel Trust gained control of the plant.

The managers refuse to treat with the men and no settlement is in sight.

A few more jolts like that and the workers in the steel mills will join in an uprising that will make Lawrence look like a very small affair.

THE CLEVELAND STRIKE

At the Cyclone Wire Fence Co. of Cleveland, Ohio, the Slavonian members of Local 33, I. W. W., are putting up a stiff fight for better working conditions. The usual brutalities of the employers against foreign speaking workmen is present. The strikers need assistance. Men are needed who are willing to go to Cleveland and obtain work in the plant if necessary. Local 33 also needs finances to carry on the strike. Each local is asked to send at least a small donation to help the men on the firing line. Send money to B. C. Banyard, Room 18 Kelly Block, 602 W. Superior St., Cleveland, Ohio.

CONDITIONS IN HONOLULU

The I. W. W. is making remarkable progress in the Islands. Meetings are well attended. Much enthusiasm is shown. Literature sales run from \$5 up each meeting. The growth is an intelligent one.

Labor conditions are bad. Longshoremen on the docks get 20 cents per hour or \$2 per day, with 40 cents for overtime. Plantation workers get 75 cents to \$1.25 per day, the larger sum being paid to teamsters. City draymen average \$40 per month. Laborers working in the city of Honolulu and for the city receive \$1.50 per day. Work is scarce for all workers including the skilled tradesmen.

Hawaiian papers express fear that the I. W. W. will cause an uprising among plantation laborers. Unless conditions are changed there will be some sudden demands made. The I. W. W. has a mighty hold on the unskilled workers.

As the organization appeals to all wage workers, no matter what their color or nationality, it is the topic of conversation among the slaves. The oppressed workers are strong for the only organization that recognizes no dividing line in society except between master and slave.





