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If you can't see right see me and I'll see that you see.

### THE WORLD BUILDERS.

(Dedicated to Fellow-workers Fredonia Stevenson and Ruby Idom and all the warrior women of the WORKING SOUTH.)

Gaze backward thru earth's veil of night,—  
Who broke our chains? Who gave us light?  
Who raised us up? Who brought the day?  
Was it imperial Cæsar, say!

O ye who bend the knee to kings,  
Who worship forms and gilded things,  
Lift up your eyes awhile and see  
The mighty ones who made us free!

Whate'er their creed, whate'er their clime,  
Their souls were strong, their faith sublime;  
They wore no crown, they knelt to none,  
They with the soul-truth were as one.

They dreamed the dream, they wrought the deed,  
They plowed the field, they sowed the seed;  
They sent hope's searchlight thru the gloom,  
And made the barren deserts bloom.

Thru them eternal right was taught,  
Thru them its wondrous works were wrought;  
With breaking hearts and bleeding hands,  
Stone by stone they built the lands.

With eyes afire and souls aflame,  
Up from the rank and file they came;  
These! These! the ones whose spirits make,  
Injustice quail, tradition shake!

By Covington Hall.

### RIGHT TO RIGHTS.

(By C. L. Filigno.)

If there is a word in the English language that has been misconstrued, misconceived and misunderstood, the word "rights" has suffered more than any other one. We have often heard of the workers' rights, we have seen that word in the magazines, newspapers and law books, we have heard the praise and rights of labor from the mouth of every scoundrel in the land and from every pimp of society. But we have never seen these rights spoken of, enforced, by anybody, and those that were enforced had to be done by the workers themselves.

All the songs of the poets, all the twaddle of the sophists, all the politician's panacea, and all the dupes' illusions hasn't altered one iota of the misery of the working class.

We have heard people express views in which they claimed certain rights. Now, let us be impartial, let us put the existing prejudices aside for the meantime, and let us look facts in the face, just as they are. In order to do this we shall turn on the light by unmasking the man-made laws and man-made morals, and by showing reasons in place of sophistry, logic in place of superstition, facts in place of fiction, and tests in place of suppositions.

Before we can reach an intelligent conclusion we must agree on the meaning of the word "right." So we shall look in the Webster's Standard Dictionary and see what Noah has to say about it.

*Absolute rights:* Those rights that are inherent in the individual, in-

alienable and indefeasable, as man's absolute right to life, liberty and personal security. In other words, anything that can be taken away, cannot be considered as rights, even your liberty and personal security are a sham, and how well we know it. You may have liberty providing you don't interfere with the bosses' profits; but just as soon as you intercept his rule your liberty isn't worth an oyster shell.

The right hand among the Hebrews was often used to denote power. The real fact of the matter was that the raising of the right hand meant to demand his rights by the power of his hands.

Amongst the Romans the extended right arm with a closed fist represented the rights of the Roman people; but we know that it was his closed fist, and not his pose or words, that indicated their rights.

The state has a right to do anything with its subjects, because it has the power, and it is almost universally admitted that the state cannot do wrong. *It is all powerful; how can it do wrong?*

The judges are sending people to prisons, electric chairs and the gallows almost every hour of the day. Most of these victims are members of the working class. Who gives the judge a right to pass a judgment on another man? It is the power of the state that's backing up the judges' decisions.

The soldiers have a right to shoot and kill whenever ordered, because they have the power of the state backing them up, and the more men they kill the greater they become in the eyes of the state.

The police, as a rule, are the most lawless set of men ever gotten together. Over 50 per cent of the total crimes are committed by these lawless and disorderly gents, and it is safe to say that another 25 per cent of the crimes are encouraged by them. After all this, the state will make a hero out of every policeman, and you workers know what you have been getting from them. They are the state, and you get the club.

The employers have a right to discharge (their) workers any time they want to. They can violate all the laws known, but there is never anything done to them. All the machinery of state is standing back of them in every move to crush the workers.

The workers never have had any rights at any time, regardless of what may have been said about their rights; e. g., in some places the employers refuse to hire workers because these workers happen to belong to the union. In other places they issue injunctions against the workers, so that they may be made to work against their wishes, or to keep them from going out on strike. But if you should speak about the workers' rights, most anybody would tell you that the workers have rights and that they can work where and when they please. The fact is, however, that they cannot, until they have power enough to enforce their rights, or what they so consider.

The rights of the individual are not based on the individual, but who the individual is and what position he holds in society. The rights of a class depends entirely on what class you are speaking of, and the rights of society are all conflicting, from the lowest to the highest strata of this so-called society, with the exception of those rights which are inherent, indefeasable and inalienable, that being truly the only reason. Therefore the rights of the workers are inalienable, as far as we know, as far as we will ever know, and until we become cognizant of that fact the workers as a class will remain in slavery.

The greatest of all the inherent rights the workers have is the right to think. That right cannot be chained, nor can it be controlled by any power as long as life itself exists. But still this great right, this most powerful right, has never been used, and it has been left virgin by the workers.

The doctrinaires who have gone before the workers have always taught them to believe, not to think, because if the thinking apparatus of the workers was ever put in motion, the very doctrinaires would have been thrown aside like an useless object.

Power is the only real right there is, because you have a right to do anything you want to, providing you have the power to do it with. This power we speak of can be gotten by thinking, by putting the thoughts into actions, and by solidifying yourself with the rest of your fellow-workers.

Man is his own fate, and in himself can make a heaven of hell, a hell of heaven. Fellow-workers, the only thing asked of you is to do your own thinking. Do not let some smooth-tongued grafter chloroform your mind.

The habit of looking upon life as a burden is almost universal, and it

only demonstrates how perverted man's ideas have become. But we know that life is not a burden, and if it is so, is because we have made it so. Moreover, it shall continue to be so until we change it.

The rights of the working class are similar to the rights of a small and growing nation; as the nation grows it will demand its rights; as it grows larger it would still demand more rights, and if it should become the most powerful nation it would have more rights than any other nation, for no other reason than the logic of power. You may say that the workers have the greatest numbers today, and still they have no (power) rights. It is all true, but you must consider that the workers are not standing together as they should, to possess the power you hear spoken of. The workers are divided against themselves in every conceivable way; they haven't yet realized the great battle cry, "An injury to one is an injury to all," and they haven't enlisted into the grand army of producers, where the workers' interest and welfare are identical.

Fellow-workers, organize into the *One Big Union!* By so doing you will have power; with that power you can demand your rights, because rights are not bestowed upon you—they are acquired by power.

Do you want your rights? If you do, help us to get them by joining the fighting union—the Industrial Workers of the World.

No one deserves his liberty who does not contribute his share to the emancipation of his fellow-man. Let us all do our part, and let no one shirk his duties.

### CRAVENS HOTEL.

Well, LUMBERJACK, I see they have completed the slave pen at Cravens at last. The NEGROES around here call it the "nigger pen," tho I think one inlet is all it has, at least that is all I have seen, to the walls of the pen. They are now putting the decorating touches on the nigger scab quarters, but, O my! how the white sucker quarters looks! They plainly show they don't care a dam about the white suckers, that it's the black scabs they want. Listen: the old set of flatheads cut 125 and 130 logs per day and got \$4.25 a day each; the green flatheads cut 115 to 120 logs and get \$2.40 each. How's this for a "green" scale? But we don't care if they get beat out of all the scale, do we? For, why don't they throw down these low jobs until they get the demands of the I. W. W., 75 cents per thousand? Then they would be men, but as long as the workers stand on their heads for the Boss, just so long will they go hungry and be clad in rags.

I wish some of the boys who are trying to kill themselves for the Boss would please tell me where they will go when the forests are stripped of their timber, which will be inside of ten years, and they have no jobs to suck and scab on? "To hell," I guess is all the Sawdust Ring will say and it will care less. You all know it, too, as well as us I. W. W.'s, but you are too much of a job coward just now to heed, tho we are fast closing the gap that is between us and, when it does close, woe be unto the Bosses! Up, boys, and get into the ONE BIG UNION! You have nothing but your chains to lose and a hallelolot to gain. Be a man, a free man, an I. W. W.

JOHN R. STROTHER.

### WHAT IS WAR?

Guy de Maupassant, the gifted Frenchman, answering the question, "What is War?" wrote these scathing sentences:

"Some hundred thousand of men come together, they march by day and night, without repose, without thought, without learning, without reading. Being useful to no one, they begin to putrefy in their own uncleanness; they lie in the mud like brutes, their minds stupefied. They plunder cities, set fire to villages, ruin nations. Upon meeting with a similar mass of human flesh, they attack it, causing blood to flow in streams, and cover the muddy, blood-filled earth with the pieces of dismembered human flesh. Mountains of dead bodies accumulate from which hands and legs have been torn and brains oozed out—of value to no one, finally to be thrown into a hole in some corner of the field, while at home the parents, wives and children perish from hunger—that is war!"

"In other words, to invade a country, to the man who defends his own home, to set fire to the hovels of the poor and miserable who now have not even bread to eat, to break up, furniture, to steal the smaller objects, to drink the wine in the cellars and allow the rest to flow away, to violate women and girls they meet on the street, to destroy millions of value and leave behind them indescribable misery and the cholera—that is war."

### STARKS NOTES.

Business is picking up in our Local, I. W. W. No. 394, since Emerson spoke here. The Union boys are lining up fine and are bringing in new members every day or two now. Our meeting days are the first and third Sundays of the month at 9:30 a. m. All rebels welcome all the time.

Yours for the ONE BIG UNION,  
ROBT. CLARK.

### FOREST DEVASTATION.

New Orleans Picayune: Charles S. Elms, who has handled some large timber deals in recent times, has returned from Chicago, where he and his associates hold an option of 36,000 acres of fine yellow pine stumpage, located in Sabine parish. Mr. Elms arranged for the bond issue, and the Chicago banking interests have sent their experts to confirm the survey of timber.

It is intended to erect two large band mills on the tract. Several Cal-

casieu parish timber men were in the city the first of the week.

"Fifteen years, or a little less, will tell the tale in old Cacasieu," said one. "At the end of that time there will be no more longleaf yellow pine in the parish, and what is true out there is nearly true in the state. We of the South must soon look to the Pacific coast for our lumber. They have seventy-five years' cutting in the far Northwest. In fact, it is the only timber reserve in this country."

### MORAL.

If you lumberjacks want any of the honey, canvassback and champagne YOU cross-cut out of the forests, YOU had better get busy and get it TODAY, for the forests will be gone in less than ten years, and YOU WILL BE A LONG TIME DEAD. Give the capitalists HELL, let the priests and preachers have HEAVEN, but let the workers TAKE and HOLD the EARTH. If not, what are YOU going to do when the forests are gone,—be TENANTS on TRUST-OWNED FARMS? It's up to YOU.

## Red Cross Drug Store

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ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA

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Drugs, Medicines, Drug Sundries and Toilet Articles

Our Prescription Department is in Charge of Skilled Registered Pharmacists, and only Highest Grade Materials Used.

Mail Orders Filled Immediately on Receipt. Safe Delivery by Parcels Post Guaranteed. No Order too Small for Our Best Attention and Service.

TELEPHONE NUMBER 212

## CONVENTION CALL!

TO ALL SECRETARIES AND MEMBERS:

Fellow Workers:—The Second Annual Convention of The National Industrial Union of Forest and Lumber Workers is hereby called to convene in the Hall of the Southern District at Alexandria, Louisiana, on

Monday, May 19th, 1913.

All Local Unions are requested to immediately begin making preparations for the Convention, to see that all old members are paid up and as many new members as possible initiated in order that they may be represented by a full quota of Delegates.

Speakers of international reputation will attend and address the Convention, which promises to be the greatest ever assembled by the Lumberjacks of North America.

By order of the General Executive Board.

FRANK R. SCHLEIS, Secretary, Western District.

JAY SMITH, Secretary, Southern District.

National Industrial Union of Forest and Lumber Workers, I. W. W.

## The 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 trade 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 in 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 on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage 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 everyday 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.

## To All Members.

Pay no money to any one for Dues or Assessments unless a stamp is placed on your membership book therefor. The stamp is your only receipt for Dues and Assessments, and your only evidence that you are a member of the Union. Unless your book is correctly stamped up to date, you will not be recognized as a Union member, either in the Southern or Western District. All Local Secretaries have, or should have, on hand a supply of stamps. Insist that your book be stamped for every time you pay or have paid your Dues and Assessments. A book is the only evidence you have paid your Initiation Fee.

This notice is issued because the General Organization and its Local Unions have lost hundreds of dollars through the members failing to insist that Secretaries place Dues and Assessment Stamps in their book at the time payment was made. Cease this loose method. Demand a book when you pay your Initiation Fee and a stamp every time you pay Dues and Assessments.

N. I. U. of F. & L. W.  
By Jay Smith,  
Secty. Southern District.