

REMEMBER THE CONVENTION CONVENES MAY 19th.

Organization  Is Power

# THE LUMBERJACK

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

VOLUME I "MIGHT IS RIGHT" NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1913. "TRUTH CONQUERS" NUMBER 19.

## To the Working Class.

Fellow Workers—

We, the strikers at Merryville, La., appeal to you to continue sending funds to assist us in our struggle against the *Union-hating* American Lumber Company. For six long months we have been in a death struggle to maintain our rights which were denied us when the American Lumber Company discharged fifteen (15) of our fellow-workers for no other reason except than that they obeyed an order of court to appeal as witnesses and otherwise in the Grabow trial. For this reason thirteen hundred I. W. W. Lumberjacks went on strike at Merryville, La., on November 11, 1912, fighting, not only the American Lumber Company, but the Santa Fe R. R. Co., as well. No worker, union or non-union, who has ever tasted the bitter fruits of this system, whether in the forests, the railroads or mills of the South, but knows the savage forces we are fighting; knows that in fighting these forces we are rendering a great service to the cause of all who labor; that in fighting for our rights we are also blazing the way to human liberty. For six long months we have fought this merciless combine of capitalists and gunmen. We have succeeded in keeping the mills closed down most of the time, and at present both mills are closed down. Despite the fact that every effort has been made by the company to get scab labor, the strikers have succeeded in calling out the scabs and heading off every move on the part of the company. The strikers have been reduced to their best fighters, and mind you, many of them who do picket duty are women, a task that but few men dare do. The strikers do not ask for your praise, they ask for bread. Food is the ammunition of war at Merryville. Fellow-workers, surely you will not deny them your assistance. This fight means too much for us to lose. To gain this fight, let it be ever so long, will mean that the I. W. W. will sweep the Lumber Districts of the South. Help us all you can. We know you will. Send all funds to Mrs. F. Stevenson, Box 106, Merryville, La. Register all mail containing funds. Send all foot-loose Rebels to the Southern Lumber Belt. It is up to the I. W. W. to win this fight. We have been boycotted by the A. F. of L. Machine.

Yours for the One Big Union,  
A. L. EMERSON,  
Organizer Southern District.

### WHAT THE STRIKE IS ABOUT.

The strike of the miners of West Virginia to suppress which the State and National Constitutions have been cast aside, human rights invaded, murder committed by legal authorities, and nearly all institutions that are supposed to safeguard human life overridden, is simply for the purpose of obtaining things already guaranteed by the statute books of West Virginia.

According to a letter from John P. White, President of the United Mine Workers of America, to the Governor of West Virginia, these things are demanded:

- (1) The right to belong to labor organizations without discrimination.
- (2) Semi-monthly pay.
- (3) A check-weigh man, selected by the miners, to secure honest weights.
- (4) That 2,000 lbs. shall constitute a ton.

The miners have asked over and over again for arbitration. They have agreed repeatedly to leave the settlement of their demands to an impartial body, selected by both sides. Neither the Governor nor the mine owners will agree to this, but insist on crushing out in blood the effort of the miners to enforce the laws, which the Governor has sworn to enforce, and which he has assisted the mine owners to break.



LISTEN, YOU BEHIND THE CAR!

"What is Freedom? Ye can tell  
That which Slavery is too well,  
For its very name has grown  
To an echo of your own.

"Tis to work, and have such pay  
As just keeps life from day to day  
In your limbs as in a cell  
For the tyrant's use to dwell.

"So that ye for them are made,  
Loom and plow, and sword, and spade;  
With or without your own will, bent  
To their defense and nourishment.

"Tis to see your children weak,  
With their mothers pine and peak,  
When the winter winds are bleak—  
They are dying whilst I speak.

"Tis to hunger for such diet,  
As the rich man in his riot  
Casts to the fat dogs that lie  
Surfeiting beneath his eye.

"Tis to be a slave in soul,  
And to hold no strong control  
Over your own wills, but be  
All that others make of ye.

"And at length when ye complain,  
With a murmur weak and vain,  
Tis to see the tyrants crew  
Ride over your wives and you—  
Blood is on the grass like dew!

"Asses, swine, have litter spread,  
And with fitting food are fed;

All things have a home but one—  
Thou, O Laborer, hast none!

"This is slavery—savage men,  
Or wild beasts in a den,  
Would endure not as ye do;  
But such ills they never knew.

"Men of Labor, Heirs of Glory,  
Heroes of unwritten story,  
Nurslings of one mighty Mother,  
Hopes of her, and one another!

"Rise like lions from your slumber,  
In unvanquishable number,  
Shake your chains to earth like dew,  
Ye are many, they are few!  
Which in sleep have fall'n in you—  
—Shelley.

## An Appeal From Treason.

The greatest act of TREASON an AMERICAN can commit is to assault the FREEDOM of the PRESS, but, in addition to all its other TREASONS, this is exactly what the LUMBER TRUST has done in its assault upon THE LUMBERJACK. Not satisfied with having ITS POSTMASTERS sabotage the paper, YOUR PAPER, the ONLY paper that has dared to publish ALL its crimes against the workers in the Lumber Belt, it, the LUMBER TRUST, now seeks to DESTROY THE LUMBERJACK by threatening publishers who print it with the BOYCOTT. This because the Lumber Kings FEAR that the continual agitation kept up in this paper of yours will finally end in blowing off the lid they have kept over the LUMBER INDUSTRY, a la Diaz, for nearly a generation and finally force an investigation, the results of which will stagger humanity, so merciless, cruel and sordid will it show the reign of these FOREST STEALERS to be and to have been, FEARING the consequences of the EXPOSURE, they know we are aiming at, knowing that nearly all their titles to these SOUTHERN FORESTS, as to all others, rest on the GROSSEST FRAUDS and VIOLENCE, and knowing that the great majority of these people are already deeply hostile to their TRAITOROUS reign, the LUMBER KINGS and LANDLORDS will go, as they have gone, to any extreme to silence, protesting voices. And so for this reason that they FEAR the TRUTH, they seek to destroy THE LUMBERJACK, quietly, if they can, violently, if they must, or so the message comes. Whether or not they can succeed in silencing THE LUMBERJACK, the only I. W. W. paper in the South, is, FELLOW WORKERS, for YOU to say. Its fate is in YOUR hands, not theirs, for their hope is to destroy the paper quietly, by crippling its finances, and this YOU, and you alone, can prevent, for you alone can send in the SUBSCRIPTIONS that MUST come in if we are to win the fight. It is YOUR paper. As Editor I have done all that in me is to make it voice YOUR INTERESTS. The cordial hatred of the LUMBER KINGS leads me to believe that I have not served in vain and, so, as the support of the EMPLOYER is the test of the SERVANT, I appeal to YOU, the WORKING CLASS, and especially to YOU, the LUMBERJACKS, to say whether or not the LUMBER TRUST shall silence THE LUMBERJACK. Let every WORKER who reads this send in AT ONCE but ONE SUBSCRIPTION and the LUMBER TRUST is beaten.

FELLOW WORKERS, in FREEDOM'S name, in the cause of INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY, I appeal to you!

COVINGTON HALL,  
Editor The Lumberjack.

## ARE YOU SATISFIED?

To all unorganized Lumberjacks—

If you are satisfied with present conditions; satisfied to work from day light 'till dark for barely enough to keep soul and body together; satisfied to work ten hours for two hours pay; satisfied to build all the fine homes for the Lumber Kings and live in a rented shack yourself; satisfied to pay hospital and insurance graft; satisfied to be slugged by gunmen and imprisoned for daring to organize for better conditions; satisfied to slave all your life in order that your children may inherit an empty stomach; satisfied to see your children grow up to be the slaves of other men's children; if you believe that you were born to be a beast of burden that others might rule; if you believe all of this, you might as well chuck this in the fire at once. We I. W. W.'s can not make a union man, a free man out of such material. The Lumber Kings can use you, in fact they are looking for just such spineless creatures, they need you in their business. We are looking for men and women with enough backbone to stand straight up and look the boss in the face and demand a human life for all the workers. We are looking for men and women with too much self-respect to be the willing slaves of any one. If you belong in the dissatisfied class you might as well join the I. W. W. now as to wait and join it later. You will join some time. If on the other hand you belong to the satisfied class, we repeat we don't want you. You would simply be a draw-back in the organization and a

## "God's Number"

It is reported that certain irreverent persons, calling themselves "desirables," in and around the lawless peonies of De Ridder, Merryville, Ludington and Elizabeth, are desirous of knowing the "number of God's I. W. W. book," "and of what Local he is a member" and "where and when he joined." To all such scoffers we will say that in our articles on God's acts, we only followed the lines of "logic" laid down by the PRIESTS, PREACHERS and RABBIS, for do they not all tell us that "such signs as these devastations are the surest signs of the wrath of God," a notice to those sabotaged to "mend their ways and sin no more?" Else, "ye generation of vipers," "ye ask for a sign" and, when the signs are given you, ye say the "holy men," the high-priests and capitalists, are "liars," do you?

You would have the lumberjacks believe, would you, that its a "sign of God's wrath," where the Lumber Trusts stricken them with smallpox, meningitis, malaria and "law and order," but that it is "blasphemous" when we say he has turned his mighty forces, over which we have no control, loose on Long-Bell, Kirby and the Santa Fe to punish them, "is it"? Well, THE LUMBERJACK has just received this special wireless telegram: "Commune of Heaven, May 13th, 1913, Earth time—Fellow-workers, Covington, Imaginary State of Louisiana:—Number of God's I. W. W. book is the mystic winning number 4-11-44. He is a member of the famous HOBO CARPENTERS' Local number 23, which he joined in Jerusalem jail just before a mob of Priests, Preachers, Rabbis, Scribes, Lawyers, Capitalists and Cockroaches took him out and lynched him on Golgotha for preaching the BROTHERHOOD of MAN. ONE BIG UNION in full charge up here. Kingship overthrown. All who dwell in outer darkness released and happy. Keep up the good work on Earth. Peonies of Leesville and De Ridder not forgotten. All Rebels backing fight on LUMBER TRUST. Be of good cheer. REVOLUTION winning everywhere. Yours for LIBERTY, TRUTH and DEMOCRACY.

"LUCIFER."

Put that wireless in your pipes and smoke it, you Hessians of the Sawdust Ring. You worshippers of the ALMIGHTY DOLLAR, for the SPIRIT of the AGE is against you and your Masters and INSURGENT DEMOCRACY is once again, and for the last time, undermining and hammering down your stockaded world.

The DAY of the WORKERS, the AGE of HUMANITY is at hand. For, behold, it is less than eight short years yet already the sun never sets on the crimson banner of INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY.

Forward!

Let us rise and march, my comrades, to the song that Freedom sings. Let us hurl a Man's defiance in the ashen face of kings. Let us rise as one and gather 'round our war flags, flaming, red, 'till the whole world shakes and trembles to the thunder of our tread!

hindrance to the advancement of the working class movement.

It is said that the principles of the I. W. W. would give every worker the initiative to do his or her own thinking, and upon this basis the workers of the world would become educated through the ONE BIG UNION to work only for themselves; that is, the workers would get all they produce. It is also said that under such a government as the co-operative commonwealth or INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY there would be no sin, that this world be a sinless world, that being the case the preachers would have to go to work. Kick into the ONE BIG UNION of FOREST and LUMBER WORKERS. Let us pull all classes to work through the power of organization.

JAY SMITH,  
Sec. Southern Dist. N. I. U. of F. and L. W.