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Industrially and Politically Organized Workers Would End War!

By Marvin Sanford, Oakland, Cal.

The desires, comforts and necessities of humanity are countless. For years we have used gigantic modern machinery for their production, and will continue to do so in the coming years, using, as we become more intelligent, better and better machinery and methods of satisfying our demands. The ancient and crude means of production are giving way to the new and the superior.

If civilization is to operate successfully the gigantic tools, co-operation is required, necessitating ORGANIZATION.

Such organization is prevalent, but not on a basis of equals, not on the principle of awarding labor the social value of its toil.

OUR SOCIAL ORGANIZATION IS ON A MASTER AND SLAVE BASIS, AND THE RESULT IS THE EVER-INCREASINGLY BITTER STRUGGLE OF THE CLASSES.

This struggle is perceived by the master class, and its members are generally thoroughly class conscious. Therefore, they control governments with their legislative, executive and judicial departments. **They do nothing to injure their class interests. They do everything to advance them.**

It is the task of the Socialist movement to teach the workers class consciousness, **that they, too, may see their interests are identical and opposed to the masters.** Then they may be in a position to fulfill their historic mission of freeing themselves from wage-slavery, and upon their emancipation, administrate in their own interest.

Any radical movement that does not teach the class struggle and the way to its removal by the supremacy of labor, is wasting energy and is a mind-befuddler.

Knowing the class struggle, knowing the way of its end by proletarian victory, which will abolish all classes and enthrone justice, is to be class-conscious.

The industrially and politically organized intelligent laborers will erect, upon the overthrow of the capitalist social system, an order of civilization wherein every member of society must perform for it some useful function in exchange for the means of a cultivated existence, and be assured the right to the earning and the possession of these.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IS THE ONE GREAT FACT AND VITAL ISSUE OF OUR DAY AND AGE.

Open Letter to the Governor of Utah

PROTESTING AGAINST LEGAL MURDER OF JOE HILL

Sir:—

It has been with deep interest and disgust that I have followed the reports of the trial of Joe Hillstrom (known to us as Joe Hill). It was with deeper disgust that I read of the decision of the law-makers of your state to murder him legally on the first day of October. We who understand something of the underlying motives of judges and juries know why he was thus condemned on the flimsy evidence presented.

Aside from the fact that no proof of this man's guilt was offered, this farcicial pretense of disapproving of murder comes with poor grace from a class who continually teach the fine art of professional murder, from the time a boy enters the kindergarten, until he is graduated as a finished product, decked in a hideous, garish uniform, with the implements of murder in his hand. I have served many years in the public schools of the country, and no one knows better than I do how well the murder-lust is cultivated in the hearts of little children. The public educational system is ably supplemented in this respect by the church, as exemplified by the careful nursing by it of the boy scout movement.

And slowly the masses are beginning to think. Slowly but surely they are becoming intelligent and class-conscious. A few more Ferrers, a few more Ludlows and Calumets, and one or two more Joe Hills, and the education will be sufficiently complete to be effective. I realize fully that your class are within their "rights" to murder legally, because you and your kind have made it lawful to murder legally. In short, you have the MIGHT. Therefore you have the RIGHT. You have been teaching us this for thousands of years. That lesson, too, we will soon have thoroughly learned. There is a time coming, and it is not too far off, when the millions of Joe Hills will realize their mighty strength. And in that day and hour, remember it will have been your class that has taught them THAT MIGHT IS RIGHT.

And another thing, too, should be borne in mind: Joe Hill will be more effective dead than alive. You can murder his body, and bury it a thousand feet deep, but you cannot murder his spirit, the spirit of rebellion, that will be nursed and fostered all the more because of the fact of his having been murdered, murdered by the class to whom the teaching of the art of murder amounts almost to a religion in all countries today. His life shall have been taken in cold blood, in malice prepense by a class that glorify the murderer, and that has put a federal law upon the statute books making every male between the ages of 18 and 45 a legal murderer UPON THE CALL OF HIS COUNTRY, which to us, who understand, means the call of a group of parasites who today conduct the affairs of the world for their own special aggrandizement.

On Wednesday, Sept. 22, the intelligent workers of Everett will hold a public meeting protesting against the deliberate shooting, in cold blood, of one of their class. And be certain that they will vote the sentiment of millions of the downtrodden and oppressed.

The law-makers of Utah should bear in mind when their hired assassins pull the trigger that puts out the life of Joe Hill that a dead martyr is more dangerous to their reign of blood and cruelty than a hundred live rebels. They would do well to remember that Ferrer lives in millions of places today, where he was not known before your class snuffed out the light of his beautiful, splendid life. Yours is the class that has murdered in vain all the great souls of history. The mills of the gods grind slowly, BUT THEY GRIND!

Yours for a civilization in which the art of murder in all of its forms will be unknown.

KATHERINE H. HODGINS.
3118 Norton Ave., Everett, Wn.

MINERS OUST FIVE

The United Mine Workers' union struck a blow at the state militia when it ousted five of its members for belonging to the guards.

A crowd of 3,000 silk mill workers surrounded the Erie railroad station at Paterson, N. J., wildly cheering Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, the I. W. W. organizer, as Chief of Police Bimson and a half-dozen detectives forced her to go back to New York, following a decision of the mayor and chamber of commerce that Paterson will not tolerate the I. W. W. agitation.

WORKERS MUST PROTEST

October 1 has been named as the day on which loyal Joe Hillstrom is to be legally murdered by the brave officials of Utah, for a crime which he stoutly maintains he had no connection with, and for which no positive proof has been presented by the state of Utah.

Comrades, write a short note to the governor of Utah, William Spry, protesting against the execution of this unwarranted death sentence. **DO IT NOW!**

David Lloyd George announced that 180 additional plants making war munitions have been taken under control by the British government since Sept. 6. The total now is 715.

Patronize YOUR Advertisers

The Manly Report on Causes of Industrial Unrest

2nd Installment---"Need of Industrial Democracy"

ACTION IS IMPERATIVE

In an introductory statement congress and the public are urged to regard the question of industrial relations as "more fundamental and of greater importance to the welfare of the nation than any other question except that of our government."

"The only hope for the solution of the tremendous problems created by industrial relationship," says the report, "lies in the effective use of our democratic institutions and the rapid extension of the principles of democracy to industry."

The immediate effects of the form and character of industrial organization are held to be "greater and closer to the lives and happiness of all classes of citizens than even the form and character of our political institutions."

"The ordinary man," it is pointed out, "whether employer or worker, has relatively little contact with the government. If he and his family are well fed, well housed, and well clothed and if he can pay for the education of his children, he can exist even under an autocratic monarchy with little concern until some critical situation develops in which his own liberty is interfered with or until he is deprived of life or property by the overwhelming power of his tyrannical ruler. **BUT HIS INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DETERMINE EVERY DAY WHAT HE AND HIS FAMILY SHALL EAT, WHAT THEY SHALL WEAR, HOW MANY HOURS OF HIS LIFE HE SHALL LABOR AND IN WHAT SURROUNDINGS.** Under certain conditions where his individual or corporate employer owns or controls the community in which he lives, the education of his children, the character and prices of his food, clothing and house, his own actions, speech and opinions, and in some cases even his religion, are controlled and determined, insofar as the interests of the employer make it desirable for him to exercise his control. Such conditions are established and maintained not only through the dictation of all working conditions of employment by the employer, but by his usurpation or control of the functions and machinery of political government in such communities.

INDUSTRIAL FEUDALISM

"In the available time it has been impossible to ascertain how general such conditions are, but it is clearly indicated by the investigations that in isolated industrial, mining or agricultural communities, which are owned or controlled by single individuals or corporations, and in which the employees are unorganized, industrial feudalism is the rule rather than the exception.

"In such communities democratic government does not as a rule exist, except in name or form, and as a consequence there now exist within the body of our republic petty industrial communities, which are virtually principalities, oppressive to those dependent upon them for a livelihood and a dreadful menace to the peace and welfare of the nation.

"Such conditions as these are the direct and inevitable consequence of the industrial relations which exist in such communities. Political freedom can exist only where there is industrial freedom; political democracy only where there is industrial democracy.,

"Such industrial democracy has been established in a greater or less degree in certain American industries or for certain classes of employees. But between such conditions of industrial democracy and industrial feudalism, there are almost infinite gradations marking the stages of evolution which have been reached. In every case, however, investigation has shown that the degree of political freedom and democracy which exists is conditioned by the industrial status of the citizens who form the majority of the community."

POLITICAL LIBERTIES AT STAKE

"The problems of industrial relations, therefore, demand the attention of congress, not only because they determine the life, security and happiness of the twenty-five million citizens of the United States who occupy the position of wage earners, but because they affect for good or evil the government of localities and states, and to a smaller degree that of the nation itself. What each of these wage earners shall eat, what he shall wear, where he shall live, and how long and under what conditions he shall labor are determined by his industrial status and by his relation individually or collectively to the person or corporation employing him. Similarly and almost as directly this relationship determines whether the machinery of government shall be used for or against his welfare, whether his vote shall count for or against his own interest, whether he shall be tried by a jury of his peers or a jury selected in collusion with the employing company, or, under conditions of so-called martial law, by no jury whatever; whether in fact he shall be a free man or be deprived of every right guaranteed by federal and state constitutions, imprisoned without warrant for the commission of crimes of which he may be innocent, or forcibly deported from the community or state in which he has made his home. For these reasons, it seems desirable at the outset to suggest a recommendation to congress that these problems of industrial relationship should occupy their due prominence in the deliberations of that Honorable Body, and that the entire machinery of the federal government should be utilized to the greatest possible degree for the correction of such deplorable conditions as have been found to exist.

"The lack of a proper industrial relationship and the existence of bad labor conditions is a matter of the most serious moment during times of peace, but the events of the past year have demonstrated how enormously their menace to the welfare of a nation is increased during a period of war. The present European war is being fought on the farms and in the factories as much as in the trenches. The effective mobilization of our industrial resources is as important simply from the standpoint of war, as the mobilization of our military and naval forces.

"It is equally important that action should be taken now rather than after war is a reality.

PEOPLE MUST KNOW FACTS

"An attempt is made in the succeeding pages of the report to suggest some of the measures which should be adopted, with a full realization, however, that no action will be effective which does not come through an understanding by the American people of the essential facts regarding industrial conditions. Practically, however, there are only two alternatives for effective action, first, the creation of a huge system of bureaucratic paternalism such as has been developed in Germany; or action which will remove the many existing obstacles which prevent effective organization and co-operation, reserving for performance by the government only those services which cannot be effectively conducted by voluntary organizations, and those which are of such vital importance to the entire nation that they should not be left to the hazard of private enterprise."

The introductory statement closes with the following quotation from Carlyle, the Scotch historian, which, it asserts, "contains in a few eloquent sentences the very heart of the situation in American industry":

QUOTING CARLYLE

"With the working people, again, it is not so well. Unlucky. For there are from twenty to twenty-five millions of them. Whom, however, we lump together into a kind of dim compendious unity. * * * *, as 'the masses.' Masses indeed: and yet, singular to say, the masses consist all of units, * * *, every unit of whom has his own heart and sorrows; stands covered there with his own skin, and if you prick him he will bleed. Every unit of these masses is a miraculous man, even as thou thyself art; struggling with vision or with blindness for HIS infinite kingdom (this life which he has got, once only, in the middle of eternities); with a spark of the divinity, what thou callest an immortal soul, in him!

"Clearly a difficult 'point' for government, that of dealing with these masses; if indeed it be not rather the sole point and problem of government, and all other points were mere accidental crochets, superficialities, and bleatings of the wind! For let charter-chests, use and want, law common and special say what they will, the masses count to so many millions of units; made, to all appearance, by God, whose earth this is declared to be."

That section of the report so far made public deals almost entirely with the causes of industrial unrest.

CAUSES OF UNREST

The report finds that the causes of industrial unrest "group themselves almost without exception under four main sources which include all the others. These four are:

1. Unjust distribution of wealth and income.
2. Unemployment and denial of opportunity to earn a living.
3. Denial of justice in the creation, in the adjudication and in the administration of law.
4. Denial of the right and opportunity to form effective organizations.

(To be continued)

Patronize YOUR Advertisers!

Joe Hill Mass Meeting

Called for Wednesday Evening, September 22

at the Peoples' Theater

To protest against legal murder of innocent victim of police.
Orator of the evening: James P. Thompson of Seattle
EVERYBODY WELCOME

The Economic Foundation of Freedom

By W. W. Passage

The Socialist Premise.—The foundation of fundamental justice upon which the demand of Socialism is based is:

1. Our equal and inalienable right to the resources of nature as our common heritage.

2. Our right to the socially necessary tools of production and distribution, both by reason of our part in their creation and as our heritage from the genius and labor of the thousands of generations of workers of the past.

3. Our right to the systematic co-ordination of our labor with the labor of our fellows, each to receive of the multiplied product of this perfected industrial order in proportion to the degree of skill and energy individually expended.

The Socialist Sequence.—In order to establish and safeguard this modern interpretation of the rights of man, Socialists hold that, just as through the substitution of public ownership of law and government, or political democracy we have escaped the tyranny of privately owned law and government imposed by the decree of a king, so also must we escape industrial despotism by substituting for private ownership of industry, industrial democracy, or collective ownership of industry; in short, socialize industry just as we have soliazled government.

The Socialist Method.—To accomplish this, it will be necessary to show the working class the fact and method of its exploitation, so that the workers may become conscious of the conflict of interest between capitalists and non-capitalists and also conscious of the necessity for a separate political party through which they may take possession of and use all the powers of government to inaugurate the Co-operative Commonwealth in which industrial class divisions, poverty and strife shall give way to fraternity, abundance and universal peace.

Workers Rebel Against State's Injustice

DEMAND RELEASE OF PERSECUTED WORKERS

GOV. HIRAM JOHNSON WARNED

"Direct Action" In Progress

Governor Hiram Johnson announced last Saturday that Industrial Workers of the World and other persons had threatened wholesale devastation of the industries of California, "and even worse," unless Richard Ford and Hermann Suhr, two members of the organization serving life sentences for murder, were pardoned by a certain date, which has passed. The statement came upon the heels of reports from the California and Oregon hop fields of widespread incendiarism. The governor declared that so long as incendiarism and other such acts continue he will not listen to any appeals for executive clemency.

Ford and Suhr, it will be remembered, were "convicted" and sent to prison for life because they were so bold as to organize the hop pickers on the Durst ranch, in California, so that certain insufferable conditions might be removed.

Gov. Johnson has had two years now in which to right the wrong done by capitalist courts to these two working-class martyrs, and he has seen fit to serve the interests of those to whom he is politically indebted,—the capitalist class. Now he declares that he will "listen to no appeals for executive clemency" whilst incendiarism continues.

The capitalist governor, "friend of Labor," is a few hours too late. It'll be up to his class to appeal to the I.W.W. for "executive clemency" from now on, if reports in the daily press are to be credited. (Generally they are not; this time we believe they are citing facts.)

If the I.W.W. have entered upon a campaign of "direct action," brute force, incendiarism, "or worse," in defense of their martyred comrades, the ruling-class of California have no one to blame but themselves. Advocates of rule by brute force themselves, they cannot logically complain if the victims of their law-and-order brutality emulate their methods, fight them back with their own weapons, to-wit: brute force, violence, "or worse."

Governor Johnson and his class may be sorry they got such a firm hold on the bear's tail before this fight is over, no matter which side wins in the long run.

THE WHEATLAND RIOT

We have not space here for the story of the riot on the Durst ranch, Wheatland, August 3, 1913, but we feel that **no real understanding of the present situation** can be obtained without a reading of an article quoted in this issue from the July 31st issue of **Solidarity,** official organ of the I.W.W. It is worth reading, as a record of one phase of the class struggle in our own times.

The Northwest Worker does not sanction the direct- action, or "sabotage" tactics of the I.W.W. We prefer the Socialist method of capturing the police powers of the state by the peaceful methods of political action. **We are willing to leave violence and lawlessness to the capitalist class and the I.W.W.**

"HAVE NO VOTE"

The I.W.W. truthfully state that the master-class election laws deprive the migatory workers of the suffrage, so that they can have no redress for grievances through use of the ballot. They are, therefore, so they claim, left with but one resource—sabotage.

We'll leave the answering of this argument to the gentlemen who make the election laws.

Legal Murder In Benighted Utah

JOE HILL TO PAY PRICE OF BEING A REBEL

When the police force of a community can't find the real murderer, it is customary for them, in most communities, to select a "goat" to be sacrificed to hide their own inefficiency. The writer has records on file of many such cases.

Down in benighted Utah they are about to legally murder a rebel poet, Joseph Hillstrom, better known as Joe Hill. He was accused of having shot and killed a merchant in Salt Lake City about a year ago. The only evidence the prosecution had, was that on the night of the murder Joe Hill applied to a physician in another section of the city, and had a bullet-wound attended to. He refused to give particulars as to where he got the wound, claiming only that it occurred in a fight over a woman, whose name he would not divulge. Not a shadow of other "evidence" was produced to connect Hill with the crime for which he was charged. But Hill had been an active I.W.W., much hated and feared by the Utah Construction Co. and other corporations in that benighted section. So he was convicted by the lower court, and sentenced to death.

An appeal was taken, however, and the execution stayed pending the outcome of this appeal. The Supreme Court of Utah passed upon the case, and although the prosecution was plainly unable to connect Joe Hill with the crime, this higher court sustained the verdict of its predecessor, confirming the sentence of death. Under the Utah law, a prisoner condemned to death may choose the manner in which he is to be "legally" murdered. Hill has chosen to be shot.

The case amounts to about this:

Joe Hill gets into a row over a woman, and in the altercation is shot in the arm. About this time a merchant is killed by an unknown person. On the basis of a mere coincidence, Joe Hill is accused of this crime, the powers that be not liking him anyhow. Now "Joe" couldn't prove an alibi without at the same time ruining the reputation of a woman friend. So he is to take his medicine like a man, with his lips sealed.

The authorities have "nothing on him" to connect him with the murder excepting, as stated above, that he had a bullet-wound in his arm.