

ORGANIZE! ORGANIZE!! ORGANIZE!!!

This is Number 60

Organization  Is Power

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THE VOICE of the PEOPLE

Owned by the Rebel Lumberjacks of Dixie ✕ An Injury to One is an Injury to All.

VOL. III—No. 9.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1914

MIGHT IS RIGHT

Carl Person.

Again I, Covington Hall, speak to you of Carl Person, and especially to speak to you, the Railroad Workers of America.

What are YOU going to do in defense of this MAN? Again I say unto you that he is not in prison for any crime. Again I tell you they are not after taking his life away from him but from YOU. The "law" does not hunt men like Person as individuals but because of the CAUSE for which they stand.

And again I say to you RAILROAD WORKERS that if the old fighting blood of our forefathers still flowed in your veins you would not allow them to EVEN TRY CARL PERSON on such a glaringly class charge. No, you would stop every wheel on every railroad on the American Continent before you would stand for their class committling such a crime against our class, and you would keep the wheels silent and dead until they are out of their prison hells EVERY worker now confined for the crime of faithfully serving his class.

There are times in the destiny of every people when, for a principle, they must challenge and rise and fight the ruling class or acknowledge themselves unfit for anything but slavery, and such a time the American Working People are facing to-day.

How, then, will we meet it—like MEN or like SLAVES?

Let your fathers' wary be our answer unto them: "MILLIONS FOR WAR BUT NOT ONE CENT FOR TRIBUTE!"

ON WITH THE SOCIAL GENERAL STRIKE!

All Woodsmen, Attention!

Fellow-workers and all slaves, stay away from Sweet-Home, La., Front. Local 275 on strike. The strike was called to keep one of the Company's old tricks off, trying to break the Solidarity and driving the workers.

But, as always, the I. W. W. got wise and beat them to it. The job is tied up right, not a man working. So all workers help keep it so by staying away until we drive the boss into submission, and prepare for the GENERAL STRIKE of all Southern Woodsmen and Sawmill Workers!

Yours for victory,
PRESS COMMITTEE, L. U. 275

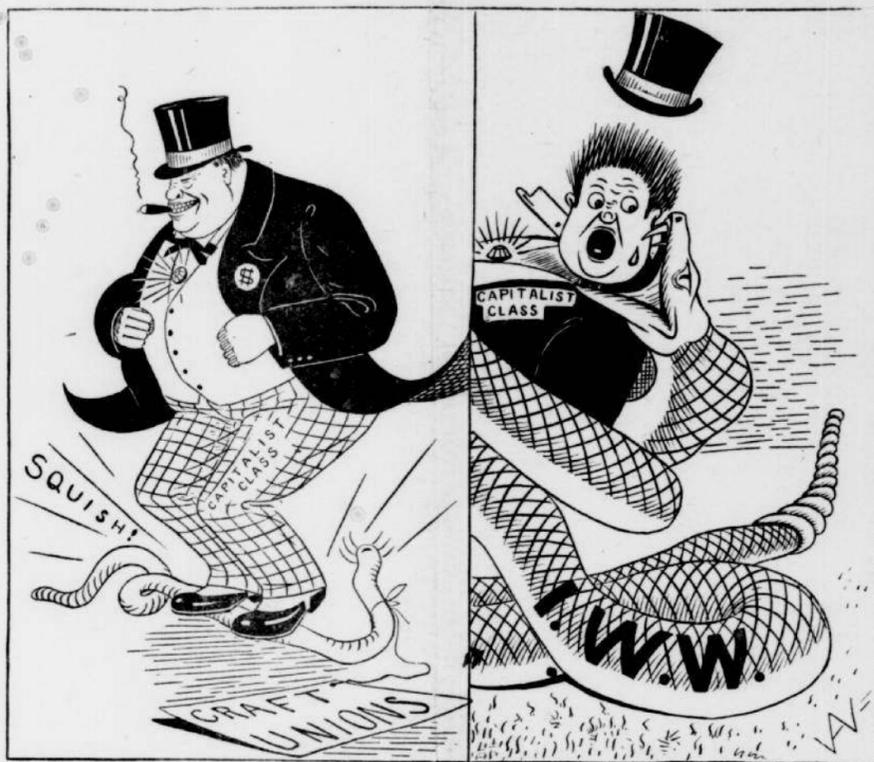
PRESIDENT KEEGAN NERVOUS.

The Reporter of THE VOICE hears that President Keegan, instead of trying to devise ways and means to put a stop to the cutting of wages on the River Front via the new method of loan-sharing the men, is taking up a lot of his valuable (?) time going before the Colored Unions and advising them to "have nothing to do with the I. W. W. as they ain't nothing but a bunch of Anarchists." That's just how all the Bosses talk, including Crawford and the Stinger. It is said that President Workman is also getting nervous and we guess Slippery Jim Porter is too. Those famous contracts are enough to make all the Bosses perish of heartfailure as soon as the rank and file get onto them, for they are sure rotten double-crosses for the R. and F.

Just to hear the President howl, THE VOICE wants to know where all those strange and mysterious "union cards" are coming from that keep bobbing up on the River Front, and its going to find out yet, you bet, and publish it for the benefit of the R. and F.

Get busy, boys. Join a REAL LABOR UNION, the M. T. W. of I. W. W., and let's put an EIGHT-HOUR DAY, an overtime to be allowed, and FIFTY CENTS AN HOUR WAGE SCALE ON THE FRONT BEFORE JANUARY FIRST, 1915.

To live, or not to live, that is the question! Whether 'tis better in the end to serve our masters, of by opposing, cut the gordian knot which binds the slave with the oppressor. To act—to die! Perhaps, and in that death to ever live for glorious liberty! Throw down the gauntlet to the common foe, and leave the cowardice to tyranny. Freedom is life, and life is food and clothes and love and harmony.—Harriet T. Churchill.



FAT, spurn the worm but pause ye ere ye wake The slumbering venom of the fighting snake;
The first may turn—but not avenge the blow; The last expires—but leaves no living foe;
Fast to the doom'd offender's form it clings, And you may crush—not conquer—still it stings.

A LETTER FROM CHARLIE CLINE.

THE VOICE has received the letter published below, from Charlie Cline, one of the victims of Texas "justice." In simple language it tells more eloquently than any I could say the tragedy being enacted in the dungeons of San Antonio. Mrs. Stevens and all his old comrades and fellow-workers are requested by THE VOICE to write the boy and help cheer him up.

His statement that the letter was "smuggled" out shows the grim and terrible loathsomeness of all this heinous thing called Capitalist Society, for his letter came to me enclosed in an envelope from the office of John W. Tobin, Sheriff of Bexar County, and it had been opened, proving that the "friend" was but a stool-pigeon in the employ of the assassins of liberty. Why Sheriff Tobin saw fit to forward the letter bearing the frightful charges against that infamous prison, we do not know. Perhaps all the man in him is not yet dead. Perhaps Cline is now "getting his" for the crime of telling the truth. We do not know, but we do know that there are no prisons more hellishly inhuman than are those of the alleged civilized State of Texas. We have often wondered why this is so, especially when it is considered that Texas was practically conquered and settled by fugitives from "justice." We suppose it is the old, old story, though of making a slave an overseer, a trusty a convict guard, which accounts for the feindishness of the Texas penal system.

One thing that strikes us as strange is the silence of the REBEL and the Houston Chronicle on these barbarities, especially that of the Rebel, for THE VOICE expected of them that they would not be silent in such case. They are not helping the State of Texas by their silence nor themselves, for the word is going out into all the World and—shall it be written that no man in Texas raised his voice against the degradation of his native State? And the "crime" these are charged with is, by order of the President, no more a crime—yet they are to perish like dogs!

CLINE'S LETTER FOLLOWS:

San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 10th, 1913.

Dear Hall—Since writing you last I have been thinking about some of the old rebels, and I wrote them, but owing to the circumstances as I stated before, I could never get any word to them that I was still alive. So, Hall, if you will I wish you would write to Mrs. Stevenson, 737 W. Buchanan Street, Phoenix, Arizona, and tell her, and if you will please, notify

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TO THE OIL WORKERS OF LOUISIANA, TEXAS, OKLAHOMA.

The Oil Workers in the State of Oklahoma are waking up to the necessity of organizing Industrially, and in the two months since Local No. 586 of the I. W. W. of Tulsa, Oklahoma, has received its charter the pipe liners in the oil fields are coming in to the ONE BIG UNION at a rate of three a day which makes the local 180 strong up to date.

But this is not all; not a day passes but what secretary has received letters from wage slaves in the oil fields to come to different camps in the fields and organize the pipe liners in the ONE BIG UNION.

In sending organizers out in the oil fields the local has not been able to send an organizer out on the job because of lack of funds, but as the local has received about 30 new members this week it now has enough money on hand to send an organizer out on the job.

Organizing on the job will start the first part of next week. Fellow-worker Jack Law will go to Ryan, Oklahoma, where 27 pipe liners were lined up in the ONE BIG UNION this week by local organizer Jim Quinn and Fellow-worker Briningham and, after Fellow-worker Law has been at Ryan for a few days, he will go to other oil fields in Oklahoma and Texas to organize the pipe liners in the ONE BIG UNION, and also to open branches where they will do the most good.

Now, a few words with the pipe liners in the oil fields.

You worked long hours for short pay all your life, and you are no better off than you were when you first started.

The longer hours you work, the more money you put in the Bosses' pockets. What is the matter with cutting some of the long hours you work down to eight hours a day? But cutting the hours down to eight a day you will be raising your pay at the same time, because when you shorten the hours the Boss will have to put more pipe liners to work in order to get the same amount of work done that you are doing now.

By the Boss having to put more pipe liners to work after you have gotten the eight-hour day it will mean that there will be less pipe liners looking for a job, and in order for the Boss to get enough pipe liners to work he will have to raise your pay.

See how easy it is; all you have to do, Fellow-worker, is to get the pipe liner working along side of you, and tell him how the eight-hour day will help him, and then when you have the pipe liners working in the same camp with you line them up;

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Same Old Gompersism.

The Tactics The "Timber Workers Union" Are Using. The Point They Are Aiming At.

This question of Tactics is a question that more or less occupies the time of all labor organizations, but, after all, Tactics are but the reflections of the intelligence of an organization, Tactics must always conform to the FORM of organization as well as the purpose that that organization has set to accomplish. It would be absurd for a Craft Union to declare for a General Strike, it would be equally absurd for an organization representing one Industry, an industrial organization at that, to declare for the Social Revolution. Why? Because they cannot carry out their declaration, their organization is not organized on that basis. It will be easy to see that the Tactics which will be used by a Revolutionary Industrial Union, cannot be used by an International representing one Industry, any more than a Craft Union can use the Tactics of an Industrial Union.

You may say that we don't care how we get the shorter work-day just so we get it. That a shorter work-day secured by and through the efforts of the I. W. W. would be of no more advantage to the Lumber Workers than the Shorter Work-day secured by and through the efforts of the Timber Workers Union. I deny this, every word of it.

Did you ever stop to think that to go to the employers of labor with the argument that, by shortening the work-day that his slaves would do as much work as before, that he would be assured of greater efficiency without cost to him; that he would pass it out to you with a smile? Yet this is the material being fed to the Lumber Workers of this country by his new "Union," The Timber Workers. It is a plain compromise.

You may argue that once the work-day is shortened and the slaves once feel the advantage thereof, that they will resent any attempt the employers may make in again lengthening it. Rot! The fact that the work-day was secured without cost to the employer, and without effort on the part of the Slaves, is itself evidence that the Class War, the class conflict did not express itself in the transaction at all. The hostility between master and slave that must sooner or later express itself, is therefore unknown to both parties.

What is the idea left with the Slave when demands are granted through bargaining, bartering and scheming? Why, it is the idea that Capital is the friend of Labor, and that both are necessary in the production of wealth. With this idea, it will be hard for the Lumber Workers to make much headway in bettering their conditions.

After all, have the workers gained anything of real value to them? Have they gained any real advantage over the Boss? Can the Boss not take from the workers that present he has given them as matter of business? What have the workers really done that will tend to make the Boss fear them? What weapon of warfare have the workers forged that will enable them to hold that which they have secured through Barter?

The point that the "Timber Workers Union" is aiming at is to secure recognition of their union by the lumber trust; to do this, they will use any means regardless of their effect on the workers involved in the struggle.

The next article will deal with Job Organization, and why the lumber workers should organize in the I. W. W. rather than the "Timber Workers."

Yours for Industrial Freedom,

FORREST EDWARDS.

Sec. Treas. N. I. U. of F. and L. W. Western Dist.

COMMENT BY C. H.—Bearing out the above contention of Fellow-worker Edwards as set forth above, I quote you the following sentence from "The Timber Worker," of Feb. 2d., 1914:

"NO INCREASE IN WAGES ASKED FOR.

"We do not ask for a 20 per cent increase in wages as inferred by the editor; nor would an acceptance of our proposition increase the cost of production 20 per cent, nor an increase of 20 per cent in labor cost. We propose an eight-hour day with a one-fifth reduction of the daily wage of all men, from \$2.80 per day and above that figure, i. e., a man drawing \$2.80

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