

## EQUAL WAGES TO ALL SPECIAL PRIVILEGES TO NONE

Person, in the article republished on the fourth page, hits a sore spot eating within the Labor Organizations that is seldom touched on—the right of ALL workers to equal pay for services performed, whether they be men or women. As he correctly says, "If you can't understand that you are overestimating your own importance." And so you are. There is today no earthly reason why one worker should receive \$5.00 a day and another \$1.50, and for a longer day, for man has conquered the power to produce in abundance for ALL the NEEDS of life; so that the only reason (?) or excuse for inequality of income rests now in that narrow selfishness of mind the workers absorbed in the past from the bourgeois, whose only yardstick for measuring up men and women is the Almighty Dollar. "Have I more Dollars per day, or in my pocket, or in bank, than you? Then, by all the gods, I am your better." That is the bourgeois ideal, the sum total of distinguishment to him—the Almighty Dollar.

Yet to Labor, such an ideal is not only absurd but, as Person points out, suicidal, for Labor is the Creator and the Creator cannot distinguish itself by miserliness; and to deny to your brother or sister in toil the FULL ENJOYMENT of life IS MISERLY, and you do not distinguish yourself by so doing, but rather you degrade yourself.

Where is the gain? Look around you and see it if you can. Look at the so-called highly skilled and highly paid crafts, what have they gained by aiding and abetting the Bosses in this policy? I say NOTHING. Worse, they have done more than nearly all other forces combined to lower the level of living for the American workers, their own included. This may sound wrong. But take such so-called highly paid workers as the Locomotive Engineers, the Bricklayers, etc., and where is their gain? According to B. F. Yoakum, and you can be sure Yoakum put it at top-notch, the wages paid the Engineers, Conductors, etc., on the railroads has about doubled in the last 15 years, but (and this Yoakum did not mention) the cost of living has far more than doubled in that period; so that there has been no ACTUAL advance in the wages of these workers, but, on the contrary, their ACTUAL wages have been cut, not only by the rising cost of living, but by the FACT that they are today moving per crew far more freight and passengers than they did 15 years ago.

Not only in this true, but by holding themselves aloof from their lower paid fellow-workers, they have hastened the downward trend of wages paid to their CLASS, and so doomed thousands of their OWN children to lives a free savage would not peaceably accept. Further, the further off you get from USEFUL LABOR the higher your income tends to go; for under Capitalism the more useless your service is to society, the more parasitical your work becomes, the more of a "gentleman" you are, and gentlemen must be rewarded for the injuries they inflict on their fellowmen.

For instance, the men who sweep the streets, maintain the sewer and water system and clear out our cities of garbage—but for their labors no city could live a year, yet they are among the lowest paid and worst treated of all workers, while the doctors, whose only work is tinkering with effects, are a thousand times better paid and even the workers look upon them as exceeding wise men. Again, the engineer who does nothing but run a locomotive down a track hight to a train that the shopmen have made ready for him and over a track that the trackmen have seen was there and always in condition, thinks he is some more potatoes than the shopmen, clerks and trackmen, and is, by a sort of divine right, entitled to more pay than these other men and women without whose previous labor Mr. Engineer couldn't sell himself to the Magnates against his own class. If the shopmen, officemen and trackmen would unite in ONE UNION they could pretty soon force the roadmen to recognize their right to EQUALITY, and they are fools if they don't. And as it is on the railroads, so it is in all other industries—the REAL workers are degraded to a bare existence wage and labor is split against itself, against its class interests, against its children, to the end that a gruesome Plutocracy may revel like human hogs in troughs of gold.

And this is what they call "civilization"—workingmen denying no each other and to their women and children the full enjoyment of life. And this is done in a world where, but for the Profit System, men could produce more than mankind could consume. Let us waken from this savagery. Let us declare the EQUALITY OF ALL LABOR, THE RIGHT OF ALL WORKERS TO EQUAL PAY FOR SERVICES RENDERED. And thus begin "BLAZING THE WAY" TO FREEDOM.

### FRIENDS OF JOE HILL, NOTICE.

Scott & McDougal, attorneys defending Fellow Worker Hill, are anxious to hear from all of Hill's friends, with statements of his character, length of time they have known him, especially on the Pacific Coast. Take heed of this notice, fellow-workers, and do your best to enable his attorneys strengthen his defense. Address Scott & McDougal, Judge Building, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Ed. Rowan, Secretary 68

## THE GREAT MENTAL WEAKNESS.

Education is the strongest weapon in the hands of the master class as well as in the hands of the slave class. Organization on both sides is impossible without first having acquired education. The power the master class at the present time holds over the slave class has its foundation in education, that is class consciousness on their side, which means that they realize that whenever the slave class improves upon its conditions (shorter hours, more wages) they the masters are getting hurt. Therefore they will do everything in their power to hold the workers down.

Starting from the knowledge that education is that which gives them, the masters, power, they realize that this very same education must be withheld at any expense from the slave class, and they not only withhold from a working class a real working class' education, but give that class at the same time a slave education, an education suited to their, the masters', purposes. We know that they claim for themselves the worker's brain when he is a mere child, realizing that, when once certain ideas have been dropped into that brain, during the early years of its development, ideas which keep dripping into that brain regularly and steadily all the time, that brain, at a mature stage, will no longer be the worker's brain, but will instead be the master's brain, that it will not think along working class' lines of conduct, but along master class' lines of conduct, in fact, will be a mere automaton, having lost all power of independent thought.

It is very hard, if not impossible, to remodel that brain again, as it is hard to get a full-grown oak tree straight again after once the gardener has bent that tree when young in a certain direction, or as it is hard to make the surface of a stone level again, after water drops, by dripping down on the surface of that stone for ages and ages (drip, drip, drip, all the time) have once worn that stone's surface out into a hollow.

It is the environment to which all matter, whether organic or inorganic, is subject; once change the environment and you'll have changed the manifestations of the matter subject to it.

Such is the position of the working class today. From early childhood up to manhood they are (unconsciously in most cases) subject to a destructive environment. Their masters control the schools, churches, newspaper editors, etc., and even their very fathers and mothers, because these in turn have been subject to the same environment.

Besides environment there is the law of heredity to be considered. It is known that children, the same as all living beings, inherit the main characteristics, mentally as well as physically, as the parent animals possess, from these parent animals. I say the main characteristics, because the law of variation claims our attention, too, in virtue of which law the individuals in any family never resemble each other, neither the parent pair from which they have sprung, in every particular, mental and physical. For instance, one brother may have a bigger nose or bigger feet or bigger hands or may be taller or smaller than another brother of the same family. The other brother however, may have a better developed brain and therefore more intelligence and independence of thought than the first brother, and so on infinitely.

Now it is this very law of variation which has enabled the human race to climb to that step in the ladder of evolution on which it finds itself standing today, and from which it looks down on the lower forms of life from which it has come itself. Nothing in nature is fixed, everything changes continually. So does the environment. Suppose species were immutable (that is, there was no variation at all) and the environment started to change. In this case all of the species being exactly alike, there would be no variations suited to the new environment, not a single variation there would be to adapt itself to that new special environment, which environment would not allow the species, in its original state, to go on.

It is these very variations (those that can adapt themselves to their environment) that survive, whereas the unfavorable variations (those that can't adapt themselves to their environment) perish. Furthermore, in virtue of the law of heredity, these newly acquired characteristics in the species are handed down to the next generations until at last (taking it that the environment is continually changing) a new species, after probably thousands of years, will have been established.

How far do these natural laws effect the working class?

Working class children are first of all being taught by their fathers and mothers, and afterwards in the schools, churches, on their jobs, in the army, etc., the slave philosophy; that is, they are taught that everything as it exists today has always been, and shall always be, because God made it that way, made rich and poor, made kings, law and all kinds of authority, etc., divine, and therefore punishes those with eternal fire who don't want to accept these things and revolt against them. Now this is the fundamental doctrine on which all the other and later teachings are based. It is the teaching of dependence, of helplessness, of fear, which make the workingmen's children, afterwards honor patriotism, love for country, queen, king, president, flag, masters, war and make them shrink from strikes, active revolt, sabotage, free speech fights, organization, self-education, agitation, which are the very means by which their class can come to liberty.

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As I have said, it is the environment, consisting of a wrong education, which does a lot to destroy the working class, but the environment is only secondary, it is of importance (great importance) in so far as it makes the workers more fully, more completely imbibe these fatal notions. But the first fact that has got to be considered in connection with the wrong ideas of the working class is the activeness of the law of heredity. The child, when still forming itself in the mother's womb, is inheriting (before any education takes place) the characteristics both mental and physical of its parents. And that means that its mind right there and then is already forming a faint, vague notion of fear, of dependence, subject as it is to the law of heredity.

The parents of that working child have through the long ages, by the law of heredity again, acquired a special mental trait, a special instinct, called the religious instinct, the INSTINCT OF FEAR.

Now as regards the law of the "Survival of the Fittest" and the law of variation, which latter law is necessary if the law of "the survival of the fittest" is to have any value at all.

Those workers whose mental state is too much degenerated, who can't think any other way but the way they have always been taught to think, by a capitalistic environment, are the workers who, as human beings, taken as a whole (including their generations) will be annihilated according to the law of the survival of the fittest; that is they can't adapt themselves to their environment. They don't resist while they are slowly being annihilated. They can't understand the system and blame themselves as the cause of their misery, not realizing that the real cause is monopoly, possession of the earth by a small class.

Only those variations in the species of the working class, that are able to rend the veil of ignorance, to tear themselves loose from the spell that has been on their class so long, will survive. They adapt themselves to their surroundings in such a way that they vary in intelligence, in perception-power, from the rest of their species, and understanding the system, will by the very education, included in understanding the system, have the greatest power in their hands, the power of organization.

These men in the working class who understand the system run in the millions up to the present time, and the most radical part of them constitutes the I. W. W.

So, workers of the world, UNITE, and become our fellow-workers by joining the I. W. W., the ONE BIG UNION based on scientific principles, having its roots deep down now already in the economic field. Don't only merely join the union but be independent, think and act for yourself, and moreover, fight with us now that the time is here to fight. We have got to make our union spread, spread all the time until at last it will cover all the industries all the world over, when our organized might shall sweep the capitalist class, as a class, off the earth. Remember this, that everything on this earth has been and is now and will always be gained by MIGHT. It's might that rules the universe and it's might that survives in the struggle for existence. Remember, MIGHT IS RIGHT.

Yours for the revolution, T. G. Gaveel.

A "Reformer" is a politician who is dishonest about his knavery.

### DON'T.

By Covington Hall.

Don't listen to the fairies, son, don't try to leave the clouds

To wander off in Eden with the children of the gods; Don't worry when the hunters hush the nest-notes of the dove,

Nor fret when gold is offered for the broken lute of love.

Don't listen to the fairies, son, don't leave the Land of Trade

To seek the laughing waters and the woodland's mystic shade;

Don't grieve because they leave you and don't answer when they call—

Their tongues are tipt with honey—they are lotus eaters all.

Don't listen to the fairies, son, don't watch the star that gleams

To guide you up the mountain to the throneroom of your dreams;

Don't turn aside to catch the light that showers from life's wings,

Lest you forget the ledger is the holiest of things.

Don't listen to the fairies, son, don't be a fool and quit

The sacred House of Dollars just at Music's feet to sit; Don't heed them when they whisper "in your higher longings trust,"

For all except the cashbox is as ashes and as dust.

Landlord plus Capitalist plus Gunman equals a "Government of the people, by the people, and for the people."

## BOSTON M. T. W. NOTES.

Local No. 2, M. T. W., is forging steadily ahead, although we have one of your "Giddy" unions here in addition to a benefit association operated by the Eastern Steamship Corporation. The Giddy outfit here has four men chasing over the front, while the Eastern Steamship Corporation. The Giddy outfit operates the most damnable blacklist against any and all men who even speak about the I. W. W., let alone joining it.

The local is clear of all debt and has a small surplus on hand which is going to be used for organization work. The fight is an uphill one but nevertheless we join on an average of 40 new members every month. The local has shown a steady gain for the past five months, and if we could progress during the industrial depression of this winter we certainly ought to make the fur fly during the summer, when the industry will be busier.

All work during the winter was confined to the firemen, who had been members before and to putting the local on a self-sustaining basis. The local is not only self-sustaining now but there is a small surplus each week which will insure a continued campaign of agitation and organization. I want to see every local carry on its own organization work and not lean on others for support, as is the case with most locals in the M. T. W. at present.

I expect to be able to leave this port in August with the I. W. W. in complete control of the water front and the fishing industry. I will then go to Philadelphia and try to repeat the dose there before the winter sets in. With Philadelphia to the south and Boston to the north to draw upon for support we should be able to tackle New York in earnest, which will be about as big a job as the I. W. W. has handled to the present time.

Well this is about all for the present. Best wishes to all and tell the boys in Local No. 7 to shake a leg as they are making a damn poor showing.

Yours for industrial freedom, Warwick.

### I. W. W. PHAMPLET IN SWEDISH.

The Scandinavian Branch of Local No. 322 has printed a pamphlet called "Loneslavens Organization" written by S. G. Johanson.

It is written for workmen in the camps.

Price 10 cents. To Locals 5 cents a copy.

Send orders with cash to Gust Hill, P. O. Box 511, Vancouver, B. C., Canada.

### FREE FORD AND SUHR.

All locals are requested to instruct their speakers to dwell at every talk upon the defense of Ford and Suhr for at least five minutes. Old Roman Cato brought about the destruction of Carthage by closing every speech of whatever nature with the words, "Carthage must be destroyed." Our cry should be "Ford and Suhr must be freed."

Also have the speakers especially in California urge the strike, which will be called next August.

Don D. Scott, Secretary.

### IN THE RACE.

In the Race we are born, in the Race we live, in the Race we die. All that injures the Race hurts us. This is the supreme law of human morals: To hold the welfare of the Race above all else. As Prudhon well and truly says, "no man can die a happy death" until the Race is free, for until then HE is not free. So all property rights are subservient to the interests of the Race, all States, Empires, Kingdoms and Republics, all Gods, all institutions, all must serve the Race or perish. And to this end, the interest of the Race, the Capitalist System must be destroyed, peaceably if it will, forcibly if it must. In this isto die the "happy death," fighting like a MAN for the freedom of the RACE. Voc, The Barbarian.

### STOCKTON NOTICES.

A. L. Hall has been elected Secretary L. U. No. 73. Address is Box 845, Stockton, Cal. We have two camp delegates perfecting job organization in shops. Good soapboxer wanted. No vaudeville artist need apply. Mail here for: Albert R. Sails, John Ball, Albert Venille, A. Ehlert, Alex Allan, Peg Horoland, Arthur Grunmons, C. M. Hendricks, T. C. Lane. A. L. Hall, Secretary No. 73.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS NO. 79.

Local No. 79, I. W. W., Calgary, Canada, has moved to 548 Ninth avenue, West. ALL members welcome.

### LOST CARD.

Card No. 81,858, John Lane, Local No. 79, lost between Bridgeport, Ohio, and Holoway, Ohio. Any one finding same please return to John Terrill, Secretary No. 79.

The word politics is said to be derived from pol, a talking bird, and tic, a blood-sucking parasite; hence, a politician is one who looses you to sleep with luscious language while he is sucking the sap from your arteries.