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EDUCATION ORGANIZATION

Industrial Worker

VOL. 4 No. 20

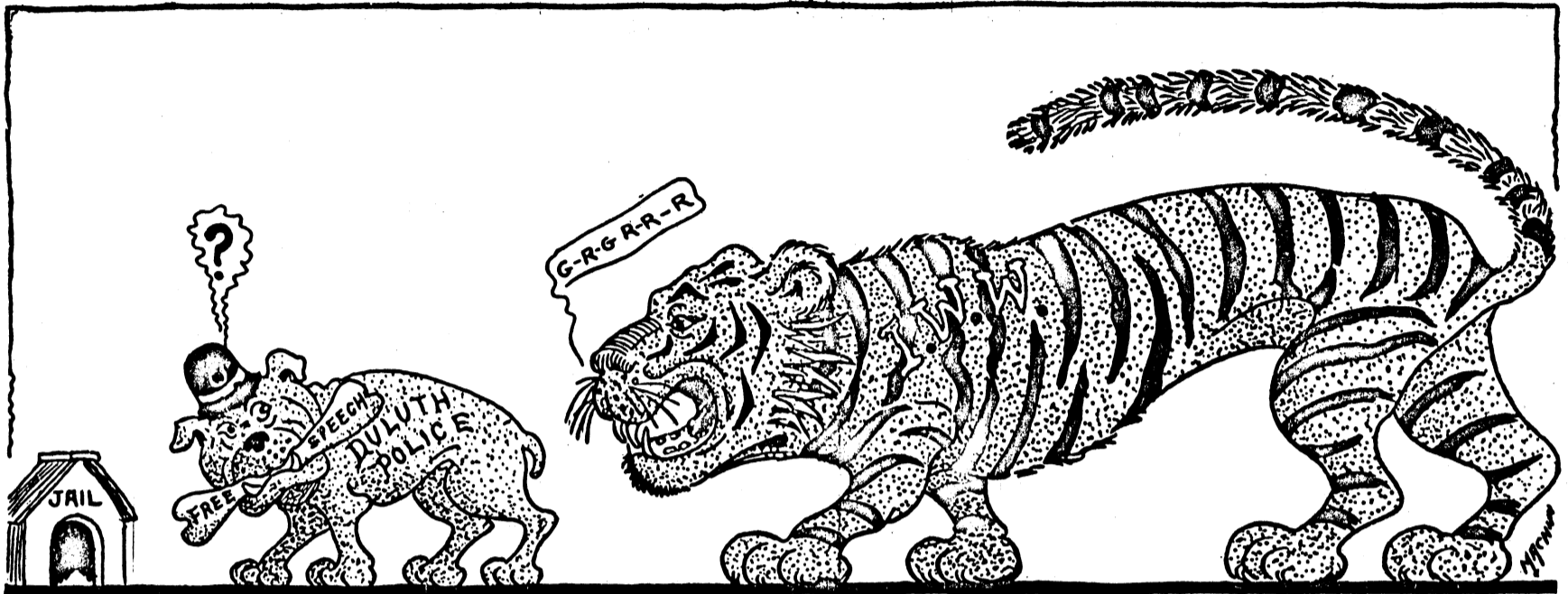
One Dollar a Year

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, AUG. 10, 1911

Six Months 50c

Whole Number 124

AGITATE—EDUCATE—ORGANIZE—FIGHT FOR THE EIGHT HOUR DAY



THE WRONG CAT

MASTERS AFRAID OF I. W. W., CLOSE DOWN ALL MILLS IN SOUTHERN STATES

MASTERS MEET IN NEW ORLEANS TO BUST TIMBER-WORKERS' ORGANIZATION—SOUTHERN SAWMILL OWNERS TAKE DRASTIC

OPERATORS DENOUNCE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD—HOLD EXECUTIVE SESSION HERE.

Eleven Louisiana lumber mills, employing 3,000 men, were ordered closed indefinitely, and the executive committee of the Sawmill Operators' Association was empowered to close any or all of over 300 other mills in Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana within thirty days, if deemed necessary, as the result of an executive conference at the Hotel Grunewald yesterday, when about 150 lumbermen from the three states mentioned and from Mississippi and Missouri met to plan war against the Industrial Workers of the World, an organization which the operators characterized bitterly as "socialistic and anarchistic."

The details of the plan by which the operators' association will proceed were not divulged. It was stated, however, that the mills are well stocked; that the market is quiet and that the owners are prepared to carry on the lockout as long as may be necessary. The Sawmill Operators' Association was organized in 1906, during the lumber labor troubles in Western Louisiana, and has remained dormant since, being revived with the organization of the laborers recently into the Industrial Workers of the World.

Mills Ordered Closed.

Reports on the labor situation were received yesterday during the all-day secret session, and as a result it was determined to shut down eleven sawmills in the "infected" districts and to keep them inoperative just as long as the throw out of employment at once fully 3,000 men in the following mills:

Industrial Lumber Company, three mills at Oakdale and Elizabeth, La., 500 men; Fullerton Lumber Company, Fullerton, La., two mills, about 400 men; Long-Bell Lumber Company at De Ridder and Bon Ami, La., about 350 men each; American Lumber Company, at Merrivale, La., 500 men; Pickering Lumber Company, at Cravens, La., 500 men; Central Coal & Coke Company, at Carson, La., two mills, about 350 men in each. At each mill there is a commissary and a town which is composed of the millmen and their families, so it is probable that between four and five times 3,000 persons will be affected indirectly by yesterday's decision.

At the meeting yesterday C. D. Johnson of St. Louis, president of the Sawmill Operators' Association, was not present, but John H. Kirby, the millionaire lumber operator of Houston, presided. Other members of the executive committee present were: C. V. Sweet of Kansas City, Sam Carpenter of Mansfield, La., and Charles S. Keith of Kansas City.

George K. Smith, secretary of the Yellow Pine Manufacturers' Association, with headquarters at St. Louis, acted as secretary. The gathering represented a cut of \$4,000,000,000 feet of pine, cypress and hard woods, and invested capital of more than \$100,000,000.

To Fight to Limit.

It was declared that the object of resuscitating the Sawmill Operators' Association was to fight the Industrial Workers of the World of Chicago. This organization was roundly denounced as an "enemy to capital and particularly to capital invested in the lumber industry." It was stated that its chief organizers in the South are L. A. Emerson, a socialist of Chicago, and Jay Smith, a wood Sawyer of Angelina county, Texas.

The "infected" territory mentioned was stated to be around De Ridder and in various parts of Southwestern Louisiana and Texas. It is thought that the organization has several thousand members among mill operatives, and it was predicted that they would soon make demands of the operators' association, strikes had been declared already because Industrial Workers of the World had been discharged.

The operators stated that they would discharge members of the labor organization as fast as they were discovered among the employees of the mills, and if strikes ensued the mills would be closed down indefinitely. The demands of the workmen thus far were said to be higher wages, shorter hours and a recognition of their union. The operators said that this recognition would mean the practical turning over of the plants to the unions for operation.

Mr. Kirby stated last night at the St. Charles Hotel, shortly before his departure for Houston, that under the rules of the operators' association the executive committee had the right to take charge of and close or operate in their discretion, any and all mills in the "infected" districts. Whenever any efforts are discovered to organize the unions the mills will be closed and will remain so until the union is killed.

Denounces Organization.

Concerning the labor organization, Mr. Kirby said:

"This union proposed to affiliate with the Industrial Workers of the World of Chicago, a socialistic organization composed largely of foreign born citizens and whose teachings reject the Constitution of this republic and deny to any citizen the right to own property. The Industrial workers of the World organization seeks to destroy the American Federation of Labor and will put the latter out of business if it can.

"The American Federation of Labor is based on a recognition of the right of property and respect therefor. The Industrial Workers of the World declare that all ownership of any character of property is immoral and criminal.

"The Industrial Workers of the World would destroy the Constitution, plunge all the states into anarchy, and bring disorder and the rule of brute force into every community in America.

"But aside from these objections, based upon the soundest principles of public morals and peace and order, the lumber manufacturers cannot stand any present additional burden upon that industry and continue to operate. We are making no money. All we take in goes to meet the pay roll, and while the depression in the business, both from the stand-

point of labor and capital, is to be deplored, the condition cannot be remedied in the manner this dangerous and misguided organization proposes."—"The Times-Democrat," New Orleans.

WORKERS MUST STICK

TO THE SOUTHERN LUMBER WORKERS.

You have arrived at the stage in the work of organizing the workers of the world, where you have got to stand on your hind legs or sink to your knees in humble supplication to the feet of your masters, admit them to be your masters, the rulers of your destiny and the guardians of all your rights and those of your wives and children. The scheme of your industrially organized masters, is to force by threat of starvation, every lumber worker in the South, out of his labor organization and into the ranks of the army of individual workers with full and free competition to scab each other to death. You have little time to decide this question. It should not take an intelligent man long to decide it. The masters are organized to buy slaves in the cheapest market and sell lumber in the dearest. Times are hard, not only in Louisiana, but in every state and in every town in America. Long hours of labor and small wages, automatic machinery and the formation of trusts, which spells strictest economy, can do nothing else but cause panics. Hard times has not evidently effected your master Kirby of Houston, as he is entitled to that title of all inhuman and greedy hogs, MILLIONAIRE. How many millionaires can you name that are buying their food from the company stores and working in company sawmills for a mere pittance? How many millionaires can you name that are packing their blankets from pillar to post and who bear the title of LUMBERJACK? Have you one among your ranks? Is it not possible that one lumberjack or one sawmill worker can be found that has the same amount of brains as Kirby? Certainly there are thousands, but opportunity is gone and the resources of the country are in the hands of the few and if these leeches were absolute idiots, nothing could stop them from fattening and living in luxury from the toil of your labor. Kirby and his ilk are afraid you will raise your wages and shorten your hours of labor and thus make work for more men who are today tramping the railroad track in search of work. Kirby says we would bring brute force into action and cause a reign of anarchy. What is Kirby doing now but using brute force? Is it not brute force for a few parasites who toil not neither do they spin, and who are organized solidly together, to close down all the mills and camps and try by the starvation route to FORCE men back into

disorganization where they will be the "easy pickings" of this organized band of thieves? We want FORCE and we will have it and it is this very FORCE that these leeches are afraid of. They well know that when the army of toilers who produce everything are organized industrially and are trained to protect each other and fight for each other, that the day of persecution and brute force will be over and these leeches who would starve men to death if they had their way, would then have to do their share of the work of the nation. These owners of sawmills and logging camps are organized to protect their own selfish interests and you are organized to protect your lives, your homes and your families. If you allow your organized masters to be your guardians, it would be ten thousand times better if each and every one of you would take a rope apiece and hang yourselves to the first tree in sight. When the hope of the slave is dashed in pieces and he can see no ray of light ahead, nothing but long hours and grinding toil, then life means nothing. The boss would be glad to have you a "commodity" fighting each other for a job and scabbing each other to death. He loves disorganization among slaves that he has to buy but he loves ORGANIZATION in his own ranks so that he can charge the highest possible price for HIS lumber that YOU produced.

Don't allow these millionaires to frighten you with their threats. They cannot sell their lumber at present and are using the lull to make believe that they will keep their plants inoperative till you have been subdued and you have surrendered at their feet. The master would not be rich without slaves. He must have you when he starts his mills as he has not yet enough automatic machinery to totally displace you. The Seamen and dockers forced out of business in less than three weeks the organization known as the Shipowners' Association and this happened only lately. The I. W. W. is fighting every corner of America and is not overlooking the center. Remember it's a matter of education and once we have enough workers to understand the class struggle, where we are robbed and how, the job will be settled and all the cry of anarchy, etc., will avail of nothing. How well this fellow Kirby that is a millionaire knows that the I. W. W. fights the A. F. of L. How well he knows the difference between the two organizations. He has studied the question, so the next thing you can expect is a few national organizers of the A. F. of L. who will come and pat you on the back and tell you how much money they have in the treasury, etc., and how that they are able to protect you, etc. Turn them down like you would any other company tool. They have used these tactics in Montana, in Goldfield and in the shoe workers organizations of the east. What Kirby and his ilk would have would be a curse to you. Your interests are not those of the master class. He wants profits and more and ever more profits, while you want wages and more wages and shorter and shorter hours and some day and as soon as possible you want the full product of your toil. The man that does not want what he produces is a coward. Wanting

a thing and being able to get it right away are two different things. We cannot get what we want until we have economic FORCE enough to TAKE it and when we have that, we care not how many meetings are held by the Yellow Pine Manufacturers' Association or any other body of parasites. We will be able to dictate terms when we are strong enough. Put all your money in organization and education and always, remember that no slave can save money enough to whip millionaires. Organized POWER and EDUCATION is worth ten times more money than all the money Kirby possesses. He cannot whip intelligence. He wishes to keep you divided and ignorant. Do what the Sawmill Owners Association does not want you to do and you will be doing right. Join some labor organization that is endorsed by Kirby and you had better take the money that you would pay into dues and buy rope to hang yourself with. The master class hates the I. W. W. because they know that the I. W. W. is a coming power, that it aims at the destruction of capitalism and they know that an organized working class will have the POWER to do as they wish and thus TAKE their rights. The I. W. W. wishes you success and is ready to help in any way possible. We trust you will stick by your colors, will keep on organizing and educating and will never flinch in the face of persecution or threats. That you are hated by the parasites in the South is all the proof we need of your worth in the labor movement and the good work you are doing.

WE SHALL NOT BEAR IT THEN.

We shall not bear it when the workers get out of their heads that they are but an appendage to profit-grinding; that the more profits that are made, the more work at higher wages there will be for them, and that therefore all the incredible filth, disorder and degradation of modern civilization are signs of their prosperity. So far from that, they are signs of their slavery. When they are no longer slaves they will claim as a matter of course that every man and every family should be generously lodged; that every child should be able to play in a garden close to where its parents live; that the houses should be their obvious decency and order be ornaments to nature, not disfigurements of it. All this, of course, would mean the people—that is, all society—duly organized, having in their own hands the means of production, to be owned by no individual, but used by all as occasion called for its use; and can only be done on those terms.—William Morris.

The man that keeps his skin full of booze is an enemy to himself and the working class in general. The man that sticks to a craft union when the master class is united in Industrial Associations, is likewise an enemy to himself and all other workers. Meet the enemy with their own weapons or better if possible. Everything is fair in the class war. The war between luxury and misery.

