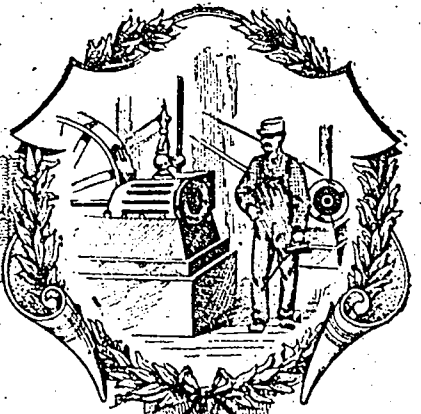


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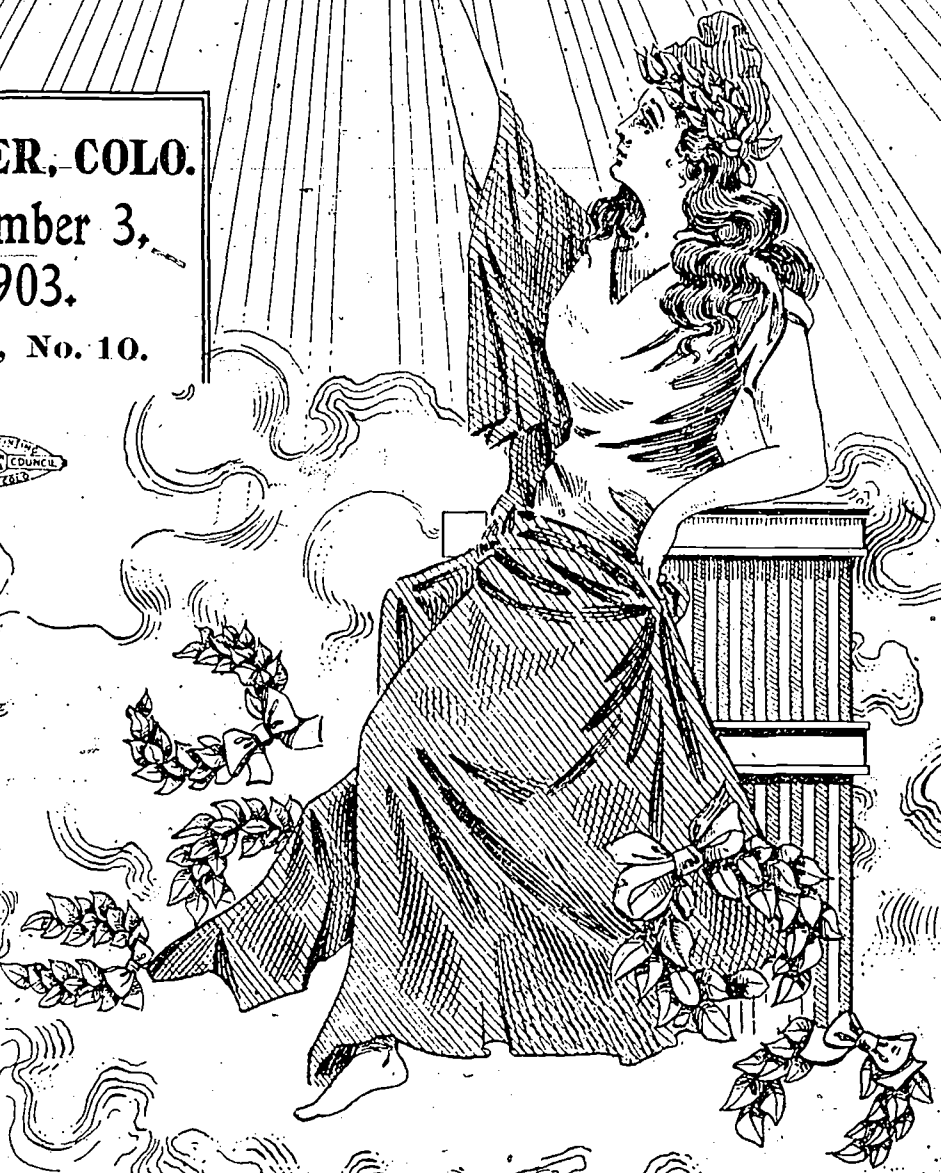
THE MINERS MAGAZINE

EDUCATION INDEPENDENCE ORGANIZATION

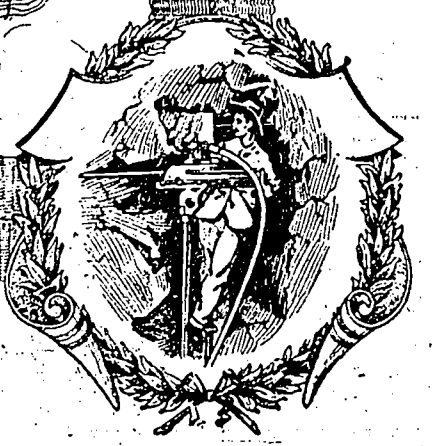
Published Weekly by the

WESTERN FEDERATION OF MINERS

DENVER, COLO.
September 3,
1903.
Vol. V, No. 10.



WEALTH
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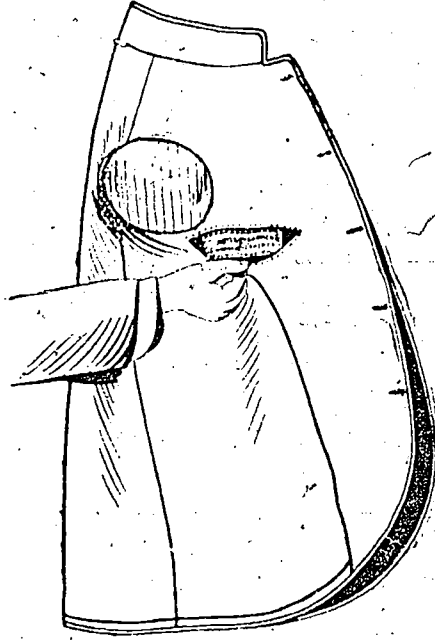
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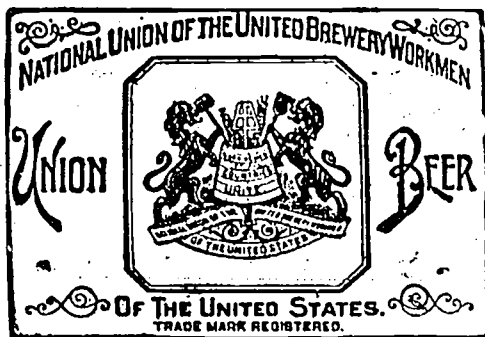


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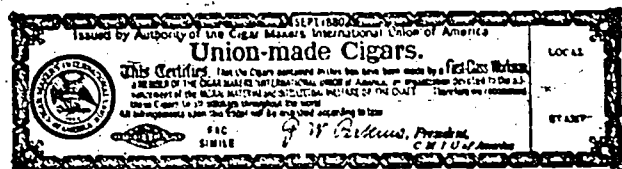


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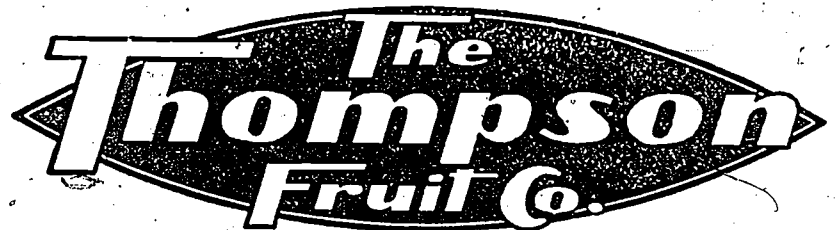
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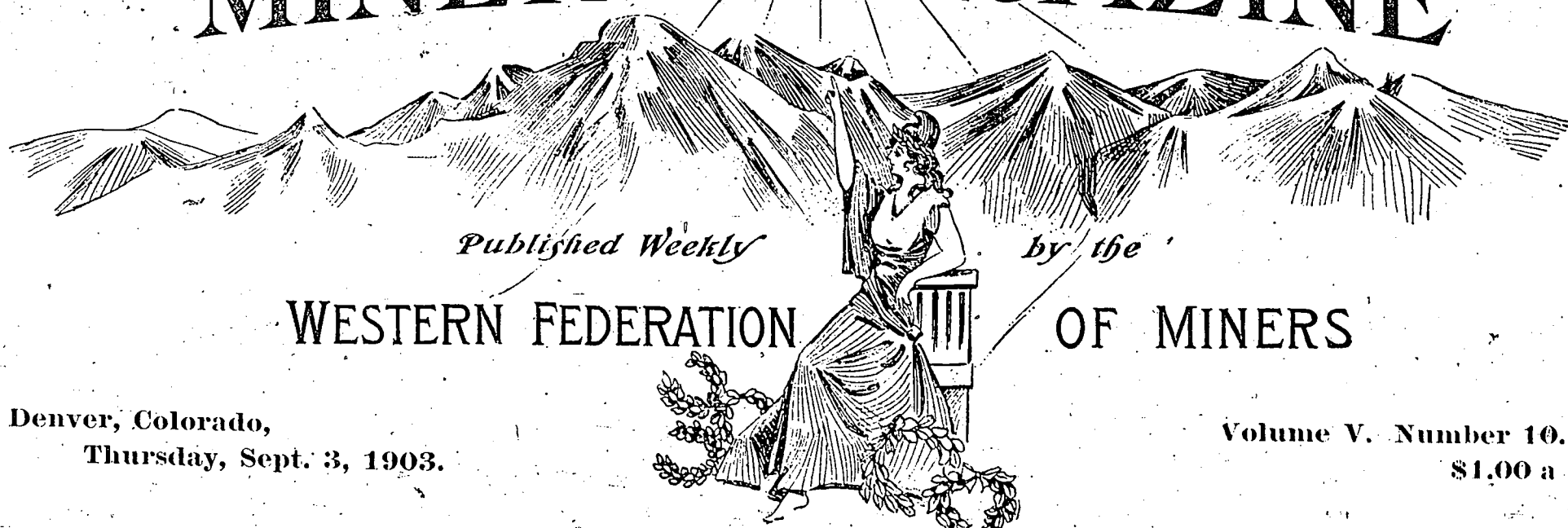
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EDUCATION INDEPENDENCE ORGANIZATION

MINERS MAGAZINE



Published Weekly by the
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Denver, Colorado,
Thursday, Sept. 3, 1903.

Volume V. Number 10.
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UNIONS ARE REQUESTED to write some communication each month for publication. Write plainly, on one side of paper only; where ruled paper is used write only on every second line. Communications not in conformity with this notice will not be published. Subscribers not receiving their Magazine will please notify this office by postal card, stating the numbers not received. Write plainly, as these communications will be forwarded to the postal authorities.

JOHN M. O'NEILL, EDITOR.

Address all communications to MINERS' MAGAZINE,
625 Exchange Building, Denver, Colo.

THE UNIONS OF BOSTON have denounced Governor Bates because he vetoed the eight-hour bill. Denunciations are helpless, compared with ballots. Let the workingmen vote as they strike, and denunciations after election will be out of date.

IT IS SAID that 500,000 people in New York live in windowless shacks. How "Young America" must develop in these unsanitary habitations, where even Old Sol is denied the right to scatter his rays of sunshine? How appropriate it would be for Mark Hanna to advise these inmates of the hovels to "Let well enough alone!"

A TRUST has been established in New York City, known as "the United Tailors," with Charles M. Schwab, the former president of the steel trust, behind it. It is the purpose of this new-born capitalist organization to establish 100 retail branch tailoring establishments in Greater New York, where there are already 12,000 tailors. It is furthermore the purpose of the United Tailoring trust to establish branches in every city of the United States having more than 25,000 inhabitants. The trust has already obtained the output of one mill in Massachusetts, and negotiations are pending whereby the trust will operate its own mills. It is estimated that this trust will employ nearly a half million of men, and when once in operation the career of the small tailoring establishment is at an end. Schwab and his partners propose to clothe the masculine gender of America.

JUDGE RODGERS of the United States Circuit Court at St. Louis has recently rendered a decision which gives the employer the right to blacklist an employe. The judge has held that there can be no conspiracy in performing a lawful act; that an employer has the absolute right to discharge employes on account of their membership in a union, or for any other reason, and that the so-called blacklist may be preserved and circulated among other employers of labor.

Under the decision of Judge Rodgers, is there any right which organized labor has, except to scab? Would the same judge, who has rendered this decision (which will meet with the approval of Parry), maintain that organized labor has the right to boycott? The blacklist is the weapon of the corporation by which men with independent spirits are humiliated and starved into submission, while the boycott and the strike are the only potent weapons which labor can use in preserving even a remnant of their economic liberty.

The decision of Judge Rodgers will have a far-reaching effect, and will embolden other legal luminaries of the bench to strike another blow at organized labor and, ultimately, the army who performs the labor of the world will go to the ballot box and cast a class-conscious and class-loyal vote for the liberation of the working slave.

LABOR COMMISSIONER JOHNSON, of Kansas, has commenced a campaign in his state to force public officials to respect the provisions of the eight-hour law. Clerks holding appointments are being worked overtime, regardless of the law, and even the governor, himself, has declared that he "was not raised on an eight-hour schedule." The executive of the grain-whiskered Sunflower commonwealth seems to have but little respect for any law that has for its object the amelioration of the conditions of the man who performs labor. The gentleman will probably manifest some respect for "the dignity of labor" about the time when he desires to succeed himself.

THE INTERNATIONAL Typographical Union, which has been considered one of the most conservative labor organizations in the world, has taken a step forward and, by a vote of 76 to 18, appointed a committee to investigate taxation, wages and the advisability of nationalizing the trusts and monopolies. The debates upon the question of collective ownership were spirited, and the convention adjourned with every delegate having a broader conception of the problems that confront the real producers of wealth. Conditions are arising that will not down by the passage of mere resolutions, and the brain of the International Typographical Union must respond in meeting the emergencies of the future.

THE AUTHORITIES in Peking, China, want the head of an editor of a reform paper, and all other parties who are connected with the publication. The Russian, French and American ministers have, likewise, signified their willingness in favor of the decapitation of the editor, but the British minister has entered his protest. Is it not strange that an American minister, who is supposed to have breathed the air of a republic, which is proclaimed to the nations of the world to be "the land of the free and the home of the brave," would be outdone by a British subject? The man who has lived under the rule of a kingdom has greater regard for human liberty than the representative of Young Columbia, where we boast of the sovereign rights of citizenship. The adoration of the American minister for the magnate with the dollars has made him a blood-thirsty butcher.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL has issued an order which makes every railroad train a mail train. It is not a difficult matter to discern the object of this order. There seems to be a collusion upon the part of this dignitary of the government and the railroad corporations to make it an impossibility for the railroad man to engage in a strike. With every railroad train carrying United States mail, how will the railroad striker be able to avoid coming in contact with the federal statutes, which imposes severe penalties for obstructing the mail? With the postmaster general an ally of the railroad corporations, and the fact that twenty of the largest railroad corporations have consolidated for the purpose of establishing labor bureaus, where "free" labor for all branches of railroad service may be secured, it seems that the various brotherhoods of railway organizations will be called upon to do some serious thinking.

The Good Work is Spreading.

THE ARIZONA FEDERATION of Labor has held its second annual convention and, judging from the resolutions passed, the representatives of organized labor in Arizona are scrutinizing closely the industrial conditions which surround them, and are learning lessons from experience and observation. The most significant resolutions passed by the convention were the following:

"Resolved, That Article XXVIII of the Constitution, which prohibits the discussion of party politics in the conventions of this body, be eliminated, as it is the sense of this convention that all workingmen should discuss economies in their unions, that they may learn how best to further their class interests as the producers of wealth; and, be it further

"Resolved, That we are unanimously agreed that the industrial and social emancipation of the working class can only be secured by independent, class-conscious political action."

The officers elected were: President, H. H. Keays of Groom Creek Miners' Union; first vice president, J. W. Grau of Jerome Miners' Union; second vice president, L. R. Barrow of Prescott Typographical Union; third vice president, Kenneth Clayton of Globe Miners' Union; secretary-treasurer, Albert Ryan of Jerome Miners' Union.

The next annual convention of the Federation will be held at Prescott, Arizona.

Important Notice to Subscribers.

IN THE CONSOLIDATION of the Colorado Chronicle and the Colorado Socialist with the MINERS MAGAZINE it has become necessary to change the expiration numbers of the subscribers to the Chronicle and the Socialist to conform with the number which will run consecutively on the MINERS MAGAZINE. The initial number of this paper is Vol. V, No. 9. To determine when a subscription expires the subscriber will take the number printed on the label opposite his name, deduct nine, and the balance will be the number of weeks that the MAGAZINE will be sent to fill the unexpired time. This rule applies alike to all the subscribers to each of the three publications in the consolidation.

THE FOLLOWING IMBECILE DRIVEEL appears in the editorial columns of an exchange, which bears the brand of a labor journal:

"If labor and capital are ever to get together; if the employer and the employed are to be brought into harmony and work together, for the welfare of their trade, each must put himself in the other's place. He must consider the rights of the other, and, above all, learn not to misrepresent each other's claims."

How can the laborer, who is receiving but 17 cents out of the dollar, which he produces, put himself in the place of the fellow who gets the 83 cents? How can the fellow with the lean and hungry stomach be in harmony with the gentleman who sports a corpulent abdomen loaded with the luxuries of life? Can the robber and the robbed work for each other's "welfare"? How will the lamb put himself in the place of the lion after he has become a meal for the king of the forest? Labor and capital will never "get together" until the exploiter is hurled from his throne and capital becomes the inheritance of labor. It is idle to preach harmony between the laborer and the capitalist, when capitalism grows strong as labor grows weak. The labor exchange needs a new set of brains.

THE EMPLOYEES OF THE STEEL TRUST have had a rude awakening. They have received a jolt in the solar-plexus of their bank accounts that will give them a new conception of corporation benevolence. It is but a short time ago, when the big metropolitan journals of the country became bankrupt for language to praise the magnanimous generosity of the trust, when it opened its heart and permitted its thousands of employes to sign an iron-clad agreement and become partners in the water-soaked combination. The weather during the summer months has been exceedingly tropical in the vicinity of Wall street, and the irrigated paper has suffered from the extreme heat. Water worth nearly a half billion of dollars has escaped from the reservoir, and the employes of the steel trust are somewhat thirsty. The labor partners are chanting a requiem for the loss of their hard-earned ducats, and the journals that lauded the trust are not even handing out cheap verbal bouquets to console the labor fish in the misery that comes from a depleted purse.

THE ALDERMANIC BOARD of the city of New York has retired a policeman on the pension roll on account of "obesity." If the board had exiled the cop to the Baer dominion of Pennsylvania the gentleman who earned a pension on account of his flesh incumbrance would, in all probability, in the course of a year look like a stereotyped photograph of "before taking." There is no danger that corporations will be forced to pension their employes for waxing fat.

Observations that Raise Doubts.

SINCE THE EXPLOSION took place at Idaho Springs and the transformer plant of the Sun and Moon was destroyed, journals throughout the state of Colorado that have been generous and prodigal in handing out bunches of carnations and heliotropes to organized labor (during election campaigns) have bombarded unionism with the shells of hate and slander. Owing to the fact that a member of the Western Federation of Miners was found in a dying condition in close proximity to the property destroyed, it was taken for granted that he was not only guilty of crime, but that the whole organization of which he was a member was likewise an accessory in the demolition of mining property. The editors who wrote articles of condemnation had no opportunity for investigation, nor did they hesitate for one moment to ask themselves any questions concerning the guilt or innocence of the men who were charged by a lawless mob with being responsible for the destruction of property. Let us calmly survey the situation, when our minds have returned to a normal condition, and let us sift the statements that have been made by the press and ascertain by the use of reason and common sense as to whether the numerous statements that have been made will bear the searchlight of inspection.

In an interview with several gentlemen, who visited the scene of the explosion, we have gathered some interesting evidence that may enable some people to detect a cooq in the woodpile. There were two large buildings close to the transformer plant—the shaft house and compressor building—belonging to the Sun and Moon Mining Company. It was about 100 feet from the place where Fire was supposed to have loaded the beer kegs with dynamite to the transformer plant. The shaft house and compressor building are, approximately, the same distance from the spot where Fire is supposed to have rolled the loaded kegs. The place from where Fire is stated to have rolled the kegs is on the point of a hill, overlooking the three buildings. The ground is more or less uneven and precludes the possibility of a keg being rolled for any considerable distance with any degree of accuracy. Is it not strange and singular that if Fire had voluntarily come to the point of this hill within 100 feet of the three buildings, and was actuated by a desire to commit serious injury to the Sun and Moon Mining Company, why was it that he did not roll the kegs towards the shaft house or the compressor building? Why did he roll the kegs towards the transformer plant and take chances on missing the building with the missiles of destruction, owing to the fact that the transformer plant was but a small building covering an area of about 12 by 14 feet? Why did he not roll the kegs towards the larger buildings, where the destruction of property would have been far greater, and where the risk of missing the buildings would have been less?

If the beer kegs, loaded with powder, were rolled down the hill and struck against the transformer plant, why was it that most of the debris from the transformer plant was found upon the hill above the location where the transformer stood, and not below it? Is it not natural to suppose that if the loaded kegs were rolled down the hill and struck against the transformer plant, that the remnants of the building would be found down the hill instead of up? If the powder was placed in beer kegs and rolled down the hill to destroy the transformer plant, how did it happen that staves from the beer kegs were found with even the resin still intact upon the staves?

Any man who has used what is commonly called giant powder, knows full well that if there was any amount of powder in the kegs that was sufficient to destroy a building, that the kegs would have been blown to atoms and no one would have seen even the ghost of a stave as a relic of the nocturnal tragedy.

The press of the state, the morning after the tragedy, told of the shock that was felt for miles around, but if such was the case, how was it that not more than one-half of the window panes in the compressor building, not more than fifteen feet from the transformer plant, were broken; and how was it that not a single window pane in the shaft house, not fifty feet away, showed a fracture?

Fire, who died from his wounds, only lived twenty-five minutes after being brought into the shaft house. There was no one there to whom he could speak, except the paid hirelings of the corporation, who received a lucrative wage for carrying a rifle. If his friends had been present ere death had silenced his voice forever, a story might have been told that would have given the public a different conception of the tragedy. Fire is dead, and no one lives to tell what he said before he crossed the great divide, except the men who were paid to do the bidding of a master. The members of the organization of which Fire was a member were not permitted to visit the office of the coroner, who had charge of the body, for the coroner was against unionism and in sympathy with the commercial Kluklux, who considered every citizen an enemy who failed to place his name on the register of the Citizens' Protective League. The verdict of the coroner's jury revealed but little, and has been unsatisfactory to every man who believes in the fullest and most sweeping investigation.

The opening chapters of the Idaho Springs affair have been written, but before the last chapter is written, to complete the volume, there may appear some situations that will not be coveted by anarchistic plutes.

The Shriek of the Salida Record.

THE SALIDA RECORD seems to be on its knees to worship the system that makes profit for the exploiter and brings debasement and poverty to the exploited. The Record, in its eagerness to demonstrate its loyalty to the class which has obtained bank accounts on the labor of others, spews the following verbal defense in advocacy of the right of men with property to lead a mob and trample under foot the most sacred phrase that adorns the document of liberty. The Record relieves itself of the following:

"Of course the leaders of the Western Federation of Miners are fairly frantic at their defeat to institute a reign of terror in Idaho Springs and vicinity. They got a dose of their own kind of medicine, administered to them in a quiet and really lawful way—for the business and really responsible element of a community is the law of that community. The Federation leaders now invoke the law—with Judge Owers and Senator Patterson as the chief dictators of the law—to avenge themselves on the lawful citizens of Idaho Springs. The difference is that the Citizens' Alliance of Idaho Springs is made up of responsible men, therefore the attempt to punish them! In cases where an irresponsible element forces matters and takes up the law for quick administration there is no recourse, the parties being irresponsible. However, we think that the outcome will be that Judge Owers and Senator Patterson will find that the will of responsible people is stronger even than they."

The editor of the Record must have extracted from a bottle of booze a drunken dream, to have declared through the columns of his subsidized bucolic rag the uncalled-for and unsupported statement that the "leaders of the Western Federation of Miners are fairly frantic at their defeat to institute a reign of terror at Idaho Springs." The editorial scribe that performs stunts on the Record to meet the approbation of his owners, even exceeded the limit required by the "responsible men," who, according to the servile judgment of this journalistic vassal, had a legal license to become "a law unto themselves."

The Record becomes indignant that the miners who were expelled from their homes, through the physical force of a "responsible" mob, should appeal to the judicial department of our commonwealth, and demand that "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" shall be guaranteed to them, as it is written upon that charter that came from the best brain of the founders of this republic. Had the miners—"an irresponsible element"—driven out some of the mine owners, the merchants, the bankers, the members of the city council, the professional parasites, the coroner and the postmaster, who resolved themselves into a mob, and who (according to the Record) belong to the "responsible" element, there would have been an outburst of denunciation upon the part of the Salida sycophant that would have called for the immediate annihilation of the "irresponsible element," that dared to perpetrate such an infamy. A criminal with dollars can be inspected by the editor of the Record and pronounced a "responsible" man. A citizen exhibiting the external symptoms of penury, gauged by the Record, is a criminal without even the introduction of evidence.

The Record characterizes the action taken by the Western Federation of Miners, in invoking the aid of the law to insure the safety of the miners in their homes, as an act "to avenge themselves on the lawful citizens of Idaho Springs." How base and ignoble "the noblest work of God" can become, struggling to win the plaudits of a class, whose luxury and revelry are minted from the misery of the masses!

According to the Record the miners are "irresponsible" and the action taken by the "lawful" mob was justified, because they were business men, made up of mine owners, merchants, bankers, rum sellers and dance hall herders. Property, like charity, "covers a multitude of sins." Property is the god of the editor of the Record, and he who has a bank account "can do no wrong" in the purchased opinion of this scribbling chattel of the capitalist. Did the management of the Sun and Moon mine have no redress for an injury to property, except through the maddened passions of a "responsible" mob, who were pledged by an obligation to resist every demand of organized labor? Were there no laws upon the statute books of the state of Colorado to bring criminals to justice who had committed acts of vandalism upon property, or was there more morality, tinged with revenge, in banishing men, whose conceptions of economic liberty were not in accord with the "responsible" brigade, whose profits increase as the laboring man submits to lower wages and longer hours? The "responsible" element knew that the score of men who were made exiles through the hate engendered by union men struggling for better conditions, were not implicated in the blowing up of the transformer plant. If the "responsible" mob had a scintilla of evidence in their possession to convict, not a single miner would have been driven from Idaho Springs. They knew full well that the courts, with but few exceptions, are ever willing to mete out summary punishment to the evil-doer, providing that his worldly estate is valueless.

Has the editor of the Record no apology to make to the men who were discharged at the preliminary examination at the request of the prosecution? Are these men, who have been outraged and who have been legally exonerated from participation in the destruction of property, no right to appeal to a judicial tribunal for damages inflicted by the "responsible element"? Are men with property to escape with impunity?

This bought, yelping cur, that bends his caput to receive upon his neck the collar of his boss, would feel no twinge of conscience in beholding humanity chained and shackled, if the "responsible element" gained by the slavery of the human family and threw him a bone as the price of his dishonor. Microbes in the field of journalism will not be wanting as long as the capitalist is prosperous at the expense of the class whose muscle furnishes the sustenance. The Record, with the contemporaries of its class, are causing the laboring men of the nation to observe more seriously the conditions which surround them, and from their observations will follow results which will make it unnecessary for editors of the Record braud to pay homage to the "responsible element" and slander the "irresponsible."

The Black Hills Celebration.

THE MINERS and the laboring men of the Black Hills made the 8th of August a memorable event in the history of the great gold mining district. The mines of Lead, Central City, Terraville, in fact nearly every mining property closed down, and the employes took a holiday to commemorate one day in the year as Labor Day. The miners, as well as all other men in the various departments of labor and business, vied with each other in entertaining the great throng which gathered in Lead City park to do justice to an occasion that is sacred to every member of organized labor who understands the principles which unionism promulgates. The Central City Register has the following account of the celebration:

It was a great, big, glorious, glittering, scintillating success! That's what the Labor Day celebration at Lead City park last Saturday was, and the assertion will be enthusiastically agreed to by every one of the multitude present.

The day was perfect. For a time in the morning it looked threatening, and old Sol kept playing hide and seek among the clouds from the time of his first peep above the eastern horizon till he sank to rest behind the pine-clad mountains to the west. The temperature was ideal for dancing and for the out-door sports, and they were enjoyed to the utmost.

The parade, which formed in front of the Miners' Union hall at about 9 o'clock, was the largest and most imposing ever seen in the Hills, being made up of approximately 2,000 men. Two women, members of the Typographical Union, were also in line. The procession was headed by the K. of P. band of Lead, followed by the Bricklayers and Masons' Union of Lead; then came the Carpenters' Union, Typographical Union, Deadwood Miners and Millmen's Union and Central City Miners' Union. The Terry band came next, while the Lead City Miners' Union brought up the rear. The line of march was down Main street to Bleeker; north on Bleeker to Pine, east on Pine to Mill; south on Mill to Main; thence to the park.

Arrived at the park, the assemblage listened to a brief but very pleasant and appropriate address of welcome delivered by Mayor Irwin.

J. C. Clancy, president of the District Union, then introduced the orator of the day, John M. O'Neill, of Denver, editor of the Miners' Magazine. For an hour and a half Mr. O'Neill held the rapt attention of his large audience. He is one of the most eloquent and forceful speakers ever heard in the Hills, and his brilliant and impassioned arraignment of the capitalist class, his magnificent tribute to labor, and his stirring appeal to union men to align themselves with the Socialist party and quit scabbing at the ballot box, created great enthusiasm and called forth frequent applause.

The sports began immediately after the speaking, the first event being a base ball game between the Homestake upper and lower levels. But seven innings were played, but as the two teams were quite evenly matched the game proved a very interesting one to those who saw it. The lower levels won by a score of 11 to 10.

The other events occurred at the race course on the top of the hill, and lasted all afternoon. They were witnessed by a large crowd, every one of whom was thoroughly satisfied with the entertainment furnished. The winners were as follows:

Foot race, 100 yards—Fillion first, Holvey second. Time, :10.
Hop, step and jump—Ball first, Coolidge second.
Broad jump—Donovan first, Ball second.
Pole vault—Henning first, German and Donovan tied for second.
Throwing the hammer—Ball first, Donovan second.
Three-legged race—Snell and Gorman first, Ball and Holvey, second.
High jump—Donovan and Henning tied for first.
Boys' race—Trengrave first, Bandino second, Mosely third.
Girls' race—Carrie McLearn first, Isabel Rowe second, Carrie Wilmet third.
Relay race—Fillion, Holvey and Parker first; Henning, Coolidge and Campbell second.
Pillow and Pole—James Snell.
Sack race—Moye first, Parlin second.
One-hundred-yard dash—Fillion and Henning tied for first and second.

In the afternoon the park contained the largest crowd ever assembled in the Hills, it being estimated that over 6,000 people were present. The dancing pavillion was literally jammed from 1 o'clock until after midnight, the crowd being so dense that it was at all times impossible to dance with any degree of comfort.

The District Union, under whose auspices the celebration was held, as well as the various local unions which participated, and the committees having charge of the details, have cause for self-congratulation, for the affair was certainly the biggest and best thing of the kind ever pulled off in the Hills.

President Moyer's Address to the Cripple Creek Miners at Pinnacle Park.

CHARLES H. MOYER, President of the Western Federation of Miners, addressed the miners of the Cripple Creek district at a picnic that was held at Pinnacle Park on Saturday, August 15th, under the auspices of District No. 1, Western Federation of Miners. The following is a condensed synopsis of Mr. Moyer's address:

President Moyer in his address said:

"First I want to say to these people that the daily press of the past few days has stated that I, as president of the Western Federation of Miners, am responsible for the unsettled conditions in the state of Colorado. I am here to say to you that I am ready at this time to assume any responsibility that I may be responsible for in the state of Colorado. I am not shirking any responsibility that I, as president of the Western Federation of Miners, may be compelled to assume in connection with the fight for the cause of humanity, the cause of the miners of the Cripple Creek district. Any responsibility that is laid at my door I am ready to assume, but all I ask is that the responsibility of others in this state they be given credit for. I do not believe that the miners of the Cripple Creek district are responsible for the unsettled condition at the present time. I do not believe that the men of the state of Colorado who are producing and reducing the ore are responsible for the unsettled conditions, but I do believe that the responsibility rests with a few individuals in this state outside of the laboring class.

"Now I wish to go back a few years in order to lead up to the present trouble. In 1899 the Legislature said that in its opinion eight hours was long enough for any man to work in the mines and smelters. They passed a law to that effect. Immediately after the law was passed the smelting interests of this state and the mine operators began to use their influence with the Supreme Court, and it is unnecessary for me to explain to you the outcome of their efforts. The eight-hour law that was passed by that Legislature was declared unconstitutional, and the poor slave was compelled to go back into the smelters to work twelve hours out of twenty-four. I want to say that the smeltermen and miners who were working eight hours were very much discouraged at that time."

Mr. Moyer then sketched the history of the agitation for the eight-hour law subsequently and the failure of the Legislature to enact it. He then related at length the history of the trouble during the strike at the United States Refining and Reduction Company at Colorado City last spring, adding:

"Mr. MacNeill, who was the representative of the company and met the commission appointed by the governor, and myself, a number of times, promised the committee and promised myself as representing the men, that from that time on he would treat fairly with organized labor and promised that he would reinstate the men who had gone out on the strike; promised he would not discriminate against men for the reason that they belonged to organized labor. The committee applied to me as the representative of the men to give to Mr. MacNeill opportunity to show whether or not he was sincere. On the 18th day of March I decided to grant the promise of Mr. MacNeill, giving him until the 18th day of May to carry it out. Now, I am going to tell you how Mr. MacNeill kept his promise.

"He kept it in this way: Men who had been forced to go out on the strike and had been forced to discontinue work in that mill for the right to belong to organized labor, who had been on a strike for a month or two months, who had worked for this company from one to seven years, who had started at not to exceed \$1.75 a day and worked themselves into positions paying \$2.50, \$3.00 and \$4.00 per day, were offered positions at not to exceed \$1.75 for eight hours. This was the way Mr. MacNeill kept his promise to the committee. In two instances did he offer men re-employment at the same wages they were earning at the time they found it necessary to discontinue work. The armistice which had been declared was declared off again, and the United States Reduction and Refining Company was declared unfair by organized labor in this state.

"It has been reported by the press, and it has been claimed by the mine owners, and by representatives of corporations, that this was a sympathetic strike, and for that reason the strike of the miners of the Cripple Creek district was not justified, and that they were not justified in shutting down the mines of this district in order to support the mill men of Colorado City. I want to say to you people that this is not a sympathetic strike; that it is a strike of the Western Federation of Miners, of which the mill men of Colorado City are a part; the local union of Colorado City is a part and the local or District Union No. 1 is a part. The miners who compose the Western Federation of Miners in the Cripple Creek district have taken an obligation and pledged themselves to support their fellow workmen in any part of the jurisdiction of this organization, whether they be the men who are producing ore or whether they be men who are reducing ore.

"Now I want to go back a little farther and lay the responsibility for the conditions at this time at the door of someone else. The governor of this state, Mr. Peabody, in order to assist the United States Reduction and Refining Company to defeat organized labor, in order to intimidate the men in its employ, who had exercised their rights as American citizens to belong to organized labor, without any occasion whatever, without any justification on his part, at the request of Mr. MacNeill, through the sheriff of El Paso county, who was in the employ of that company, ordered out the militia in order to protect the non-union scabs from all over this country, who were picked from the shams to go in and take the place of the men who were striving to get their wages raised and to belong to organized labor; without any provocation, without receiving any reason, without the violation of a law, without the arrest of a single man having been made, he, at the request of this corporation, sent the militia of this state, at the expense of the taxpayers of the state, to assist the United States Reduction and Refining Company in overcoming these men. I am here to say to you now that if it had not been for the action of Governor Peabody in calling out the state militia to overcome these men, you would not be confronted with the conditions that now prevail in the Cripple Creek district, and I lay the responsibility to a great extent with Governor Peabody.

"Later on the governor had an opportunity to undo what he had done in connection with sending out the militia. When it was found necessary to call a special session of the Legislature the governor had an opportunity to insist that they carry out the wishes of the people, even if the Fourteenth General Assembly had violated its promises to the people. He said that the eight-hour law could not pass. I do not care, it was his duty to have gone to this Legislature and said: 'I will give you another opportunity to carry out your promises to the people.'"

"I just want to say one word in regard to my views about bringing about an immediate adjustment of matters in the Cripple Creek district. If the mine owners of the district desire that peace shall prevail in this district, all they have got to do is to say to the United States Reduction and Refining Company or Mr. MacNeill, 'If you desire to reduce our ores you must pay the men in your employ reasonable wages.' If the owners desire to continue the conditions that they have said prevail in this district and that have prevailed since 1894, all that they have to do is to cast their lot with the miners and say to the United States Reduction and Refining Company, 'You must be fair or we will see that you stop your dividends.'"

"I want to say a word in regard to the position taken by the business men. I was very much surprised to know that the business men of the district, not knowing how long the strike would last, at a date not exceeding three days from the time the strike was called, refused to give credit to the miners of this district, who have made it possible for the majority of them to continue in business and to make some little money for themselves. I am not taking the position that they are not justified in refusing credit. They should have said to the miners, 'While it is impossible for us to give you credit during this trouble, we will sell you what you desire at cost. We have no desire to make any money during this trouble, but we will sell to you for cash and give you the benefit of what we have been making for ourselves.' That would have been the proper thing for them to do.

"I sincerely trust that you will not permit the mine owners of this district to induce a man to violate his obligations to his organization or lay down his principles or assist the United States Reduction and Refining Company to continue operations in Colorado City. The Western Federation of Miners is going to do everything in its power. It is composed of miners all over the West from the Missouri river and throughout British Columbia. It is our purpose to throw the strength of the organization into this movement, because we believe we are justified in so doing. We are not shirking responsibility, and we are going to use the strength of the entire organization to put the United States Reduction and Refining Company out of business in this state, or force it to be fair to its employes. I sincerely trust and advise that nothing be done during this trouble that will be in violation of the law. If men should feel it their duty to take a position against you who are striving to procure your rights, you will do nothing but harm to your position by resorting to violation of the laws."

Rustling for Miners.

"THE NORTH AMERICAN," published at Philadelphia, has the following short article in its news columns to aid the mining corporations of Arizona and to swell the passenger receipts of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway. The article reads as follows:

From 500 to 1,000 miners and mine workers are wanted at once to work in the mines in the vicinity of Prescott, Arizona. The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railway has sent to its agents in this and other cities of the East announcement of the urgent need for miners in Arizona.

The following is the approximate scale of wages which is paid for the labor required: Stoppers, \$3 per day; timbermen, \$3.50; underground pumpmen, \$3.50; muckers, \$3; trammers, \$2.50; drifting, raising and cutting, \$3.25; sinking, \$3.50.

The officers of the road report that the wages paid are good, and that because of the mild winters there is steady employment the year round.

The man in Pennsylvania who reads this inducement for miners to come to Arizona will not be told that the members of the Western Federation of Miners are making a determined stand against the encroachments of the Mine Owners' Association of the territory of Arizona. They will not be told that organized labor of Arizona is waging a fireless battle to force the mine operators to respect the provisions of an eight-hour law, which went into effect on the first day of June, 1903. The union man who leaves the eastern states without any investigation of the merits of this advertisement will be confronted with a situation in Arizona which will appeal to the obligation which he has taken in the presence of his brothers in the lodge room. The mine owners, as well as the railway corporations, can always act in concert when it comes to an assault upon the rights of organized labor. The miners and laboring men of the East who are in sympathy with the eight-hour movement will be acting judiciously to give Arizona a wide berth until the present battle has been fought and won by the determined men of the West.

THE SOUTH IS DOTTED ALL OVER with little churches, indicating that they are attended by the people themselves instead of by aristocrats able to put up big monuments to their commercialized religion. These churches appear in the very communities where human beings have been slowly roasted to death and otherwise subjected to torture that tests the limit of physical sensibility. Many of those who gather to see these awful scenes, and who therefore are as much participants as the rest, call themselves Christians and are convinced that there is a further existence there! What sublime assurance! Or, shall we call it blasphemy? —Social Democratic Herald.

Colorado's Dauntless Judge.

HON. F. W. OWERS, who is serving a second term as district judge in the courts of Colorado, is today beyond a question, one of the most fearless men that wears the ermine of the judiciary throughout the length and breadth of this country. If the courts of this nation had men of the Owers character to interpret the law and administer justice, the pauper in his rags would have a standing in court as well as the moneyed magnate, whose coffers groan with the wealth of millions. Judge Owers knows neither friend nor enemy in the discharge of his official duties upon the bench, and no man has risen so high in the firmament of the financial world who will escape the just rebuke of the judge when he merits the punishment of a transgressor of the law. The political accident, who happens to fill the gubernatorial chair of Colorado, in order to prove his loyalty to the corporate interests, took a fling at the judge because he had the courage, the manhood and the sense of justice which the governor lacked to enforce law and order in Idaho Springs. The following letter from the pen of Judge Owers shows the character of the man, and shows up the superciliousness of the chief executive of the Centennial state:

To His Excellency, Hon. James H. Peabody, Governor of Colorado:

Dear Sir—In the News of Saturday, the 15th inst., you are reported as having in an interview on the labor troubles at Cripple Creek, spoken as follows:

"I anticipate no trouble, however, neither here nor at Cripple Creek. The miners are beginning to understand that they can not violate the law. They can not assassinate men, neither can they destroy property. Not even if they do have the protection of District Judge Owers. For that reason I do not think we will have to order the militia out any place. But they must all understand that order must be preserved if they do not want the state to take a hand."

When I casually read the interview I dismissed it from my mind as an error, on the theory that no man occupying the position of governor of this state could be so lacking in all sense of decency and justice as to make such a statement about a member of the judiciary. It occurred to me that you, as a gentleman, would naturally seize the first opportunity to correct the error in the evening papers and thus attempt to acquire some portion of the public esteem.

This you have not done, and I now realize that you are not entitled to the benefit of the doubt and that even had you done so, your effort would have been futile, as the matter could then have resolved itself into a question of veracity between yourself and a reporter.

In your interview you give the miners credit for "beginning to understand that they can not violate the law." Do you fix the intelligence of the Idaho Springs rioters at so low a standard that you were unable to state that THEY, too, are "beginning to understand," and if so, when will you inform THEM in the words used to the miners that THEY also must all understand that "order must be preserved, if they do not want the state to take a hand?"

In the interview, you directly charge the miners of the state, as a body, with violations of the law, assassination and destruction of property, and me, as a district judge, with protecting them in the commission of each and all of these crimes.

The law presumes all innocent until proven guilty.

I have not seen, and I have not heard that any miner has yet been even tried, let alone convicted, of any crime connected with recent labor troubles in this state. I have not heard that any miners, either as individuals or as a union or otherwise, have openly boasted of the commission of any crime or misdemeanor or openly avowed responsibility for and approval of the same in any manner, let alone by adopting and publishing resolutions approving thereof, and offering to aid and abet the same.

On the other hand, it is a matter of common knowledge that in Denver, Idaho Springs and elsewhere throughout the state an organization exists known by some such name as "The Citizens' League" or "Union," which has openly assumed the responsibility and boasted of its pride in the recent mob violence and outrage at Idaho Springs, and concerning which you have not so far raised your voice in condemnation or protest.

I regret that, lacking the advantage of blood, breeding and education which are yours in so eminent a degree, I am not gifted with that delicate sense of discrimination which enables you to distinguish so nicely between a mob led by a banker and a dance hall proprietor, and one led by a miner, and which makes it possible for you to regard an actual trespass upon human rights with equanimity, while you look upon even a threatened invasion of property rights as, by comparison, an unpardonable sin.

When the expelled men from Idaho Springs appealed to you to be restored to their homes you were prompt with a denial of help, based on a technical interpretation of your duty. You advised them with many platitudes to appeal to the courts for redress. They asked for bread; you gave them a stone, yet they followed your advice, and when the court appealed to restore them to their homes and families, doing in two days what you dared not attempt in two weeks, you hasten with characteristic vacillation to serve your masters by expressing your chagrin and disapproval of the action of the court by publicly insulting the judge who presided and who had the courage to perform the duty you recognized, but shirked.

I fear that had fate been so unkind to Colorado, as to have made me governor, I should be brutal enough to disregard the frantic appeals of hysterical sheriffs for militia whenever the destruction of a chicken house should be threatened, and I might even insist that the power of a county should be used before disgracing the state by ordering militia at enormous expense to climb a hill and then climb down again. I might even, through lack of moral sense, were I governor, if appealed to by men claiming to have been expelled from their homes by a mob, feel it my duty, in defiance of precedent, to use the militia to restore them to their wives and children, and enforce the rights guaranteed my fellow beings by the constitution and law. I might even, in such event, be impolitic enough to disregard the fact that the expelling mob was composed of "our best and most prominent citizens."

Not having passed my life in the arduous toil of calculating interest at two per cent. per month, I naturally have not that fellow feeling which, judging from your conduct, exists among bankers as a class, and I might, therefore, if I were governor, do as I am doing, enforce the law without fear or favor; treat a riot as a riot; call a mob a mob, whether led by banker or pauper, and order the militia to restore men to their homes, and instead of writing platitudes and insulting courts and judges I should endeavor to prove that through the courts sure and swift punishment will be visited on offenders of both high and low degree, and thus, in the only way possible, as I believe, stop mob violence and the appeal to that "higher law," which is but another name for anarchy.

Permit me to thank you for the compliment you pay me, by your disapproval of my attempts to enforce the law.

In conclusion, may I venture to hope for a reply to this letter through the public press, as soon as you can get someone to write an answer for you, and will you kindly therein particularize your grounds of complaint against me? Respectfully,

FRANK W. OWERS.

Denver, Colo., August 15, 1903.

The governor has failed to answer the letter of Judge Owers. He has been as silent as a clam, and even the literary celebrities, whose brains and editorial ability are mortgaged property, have manifested no disposition to come to the rescue of the governor with a written reply.

The Strike Situation in the Cripple Creek District.

THE SITUATION IN THE CRIPPLE CREEK DISTRICT has not materially changed during the past week to any great extent. The drainage tunnel is being operated under an armed guard, but the class of miners who have become allies of the Mine Owners' Association are making slow headway in completing the bore which is expected to save the mine owners the expense of pumping. The Portland Mining and Milling Company has resumed operations and the old employes are being taken back as rapidly as room can be made for them. The settlement with the Portland has been satisfactory and James Burns, the president and manager of the greatest producer in the Cripple Creek district, is receiving the maledictions of the autocratic crew, who have sworn eternal war against the Western Federation of Miners.

The miners of the Cripple Creek district were taken by surprise on Tuesday evening, August 25, when a gentleman who has figured prominently in the United States Navy, tendered the executive committee of District No. 1 a check for \$500 to aid them in fighting the battle of right against might.

A correspondent of the Denver Times in writing of the visit of the veteran of the sea to the Cripple Creek district, had the following to say:

"The visit of Captain H. M. Burge, a senior commander in the United States navy, to the greatest gold camp in the world will be blazoned in history as the red-letter event. Fifteen minutes after he dropped anchor in the port of Cripple Creek last night every union miner was toasting his health, for his purse strings were open, and when he learned that the miners felt that they were fighting for a just cause he swelled the strike fund by a donation of \$500. Shortly after he arrived in company with J. M. Hower and C. B. Hower, owners of the Dorcas mill, whose guest he is, he met a delegation of union officials who came to the National to hold a conference with the Hower brothers.

"He talked freely with the union men as to the reasons the strike was instituted, and when assured by them that they were convinced they were fighting for honorable principles he took out his checkbook and wrote out a check for \$500 on the Metropolitan Bank of New York. 'If this will relieve suffering among you,' he said, 'you may take it, and remember that there is more where this came from.' The union men were struck dumb for a moment, but when they recovered from the shock it took all their manly strength to keep them from embracing the man who has sailed the seas under the Stars and Stripes since the days of Farragut.

"Captain Burge has all the characteristics of the veteran far even to the extent of being extremely liberal on shore leave. He has a lumbering carriage, but his martial bearing gives him the air of a man who was born to command.

"He regaled a half-dozen newspaper men with stories of the sea until past midnight, and it was unanimously declared by those who listened to him that Captain Coghlan of 'Hoch Der Kaiser' fame was a poor second to him when it came to reciting the poetry of all nations. It was even thought that he eclipsed Funston, although he had none of the egotism of the Kansas swimmer. The philanthropic man is the talk of the district, and every other topic is to-day subsidiary."

The men of the Cripple Creek district will treasure the memory of this man's generosity and all over the jurisdiction of the Western Federation of Miners the name of Burge will have a pleasant sound to the ears of every brave man who is making sacrifices to better the conditions of his fellow man. This gallant captain, whose hairs have grown gray in the service of the navy, and who happens to be blessed with a bank account, has not forgotten that "man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn." If the members of the Mine Owners' Association had one iota of the spirit which actuated a Burge the present conflict would end ere another sun opened the portals of another day.

The District Union has opened stores at Cripple Creek, Independence and Victor and the business men who decreed immediately after the strike was declared that the miners must pay cash for goods are handling but little "coin of the realm." It is reported that a Citizens' Alliance has been organized in Cripple Creek with a real estate shark for president. The miners of the Cripple Creek district are standing firm and have every confidence that victory will reward the justice of their cause.

Demand for Eight Hours.

THE SAN JUAN DISTRICT UNION, NO. 3, of the Western Federation of Miners, held a convention in Telluride in the early part of the month of August and before adjournment passed the following resolutions:

Whereas, The people of the State of Colorado, at the last general election, voted to create an eight-hour day for the workmen of Colorado, and

Whereas, The representatives of the people, both in the upper and lower houses of the State legislature, have grossly and flagrantly violated every obligation placed in them by a confiding constituency, and have not only juggled and compromised an eight-hour measure until it is beyond recognition on the original intention of the people, but utterly failed to pass a legitimate measure of any kind; and

Whereas, The creation of an eight-hour day had reverted to the people by reason of the incompetency and faithlessness of legislators as a body, and by reason of being derelict in duty that body has shown little or no consideration for the voice of the people, and by their action is entitled to no confidence from the voters or workingmen at large; and

Whereas, While champions of the cause of labor did their utmost to promote labor's interest, they were handicapped by the majority who were pledged to accomplish the same end; therefore be it

Resolved, In order to inaugurate and promote the eight-hour system which was demanded by the mill and smeltersmen throughout the state, in addition to the miners, that San Juan District Union, No. 3, use every honest and consistent effort to secure what the people's servants in the legislature failed, neglected and refused to do at the demand of the polls; and be it further

Resolved, That San Juan District Union, No. 3, in convention assembled, unanimously declare for an eight-hour day for all millmen, smeltersmen and miners within its jurisdiction; and be it further

Resolved, That this convention use every honest effort in the furtherance of that end, and that the intent of the union be executed not later than September 1, 1903.

The executive committee of the San Juan District has presented the demands of the above resolutions to the mine owners, and from present indications it seems very improbable that a strike will be averted.

Strike at the Telluride Mill at Colorado City.

ON THE AFTERNOON of August 25 the employes of the Telluride mill at Colorado City walked out on strike. There has been considerable friction in the mill for some time over the fact of a few men employed in the mill who seemed to take a special delight in giving utterance to language that had a harsh and grating sound to men who believe in the principles of organized labor. This friction resulted in an altercation between a member of the Mill and Smeltersmen's Union and a non-union employe. Manager Fullerton became incensed and gave expression to his wrath in the following significant letter to the Mill and Smeltersmen's Union:

Colorado Springs, Aug. 25.—"Mill and Smeltersmen's Union, No. 125, Colorado City, Colo.—Gentlemen—When our company informed you that it was our intention not to discriminate against union men when hiring our force of workmen, we understood that your union was not to discriminate. One of our best men, Mr. Keene, has just resigned from our employ because of actual bodily violence and because of threats on his life made by a mob of your union in our employ.

"Our company will not stand for any such system of dictation by any union as to whom we may or may not keep in our employ, and we give you notice that Mr. Keene did not resign with our consent; that we are well satisfied with him in all respects and that had he been willing to remain in our employ we would have stood back of him in all events, and that if any such system of dictation is again attempted by your union our company will discover which of our employes belong to your union and at once discharge every single union man for the sole reason that he is a union man, and we will thereafter conduct our mill as a non-union mill. Respectfully,

"H. W. FULLERTON, General Manager."

The executive committee of the Mill and Smeltersmen's Union, after receiving the curt letter of the manager, asked for a conference, which was immediately granted. The conference failed to bridge the gap, the committee contending that Mr. Fullerton assumed an arbitrary position and absolutely refused to make any concession that was asked by the committee. The committee returned to the mill and an order was issued for all employes to cease work. All men employed in the mill responded to the call with the exception of one man. The strikers immediately placed pickets on all roads leading to the works and have been successful by peaceable methods in persuading all workingmen to keep away from the Telluride mill.

Manager Fullerton made the statement after his employes had walked out that it was only a question of a short time until his plant would have been forced to shut down, owing to the scarcity of ore on account of the Cripple Creek strike.

The press dispatches of August 27 contain a report that the Telluride Reduction Company has sold its Colorado City mill to the General Metals Company of New York. What effect the property changing hands will have upon the strike is problematical. The mill men are still out with but little prospect of an immediate settlement.

Dry Climate Cigars

MADE OF NEW CROP HAVANA.
BETTER THAN EVER.

The Solis Cigar Co., Manufacturers, Denver, Colo.

Expelled for Embezzlement.

C. L. LAMB, a member of Excelsior Engineers' Union, No. 80, W. F. M. of Victor, Col., has been expelled for appropriating the funds of the union to his own use. The following is a copy of the papers filed against the defaulting treasurer of No. 80:

Excelsior Engineers' Union, No. 80, W. F. M.

Charges filed against C. L. Lamb, Victor, Col., July 29, 1903:

To the Officers and Members of Excelsior Engineers' Union, No. 80, Greeting.—Whereas, C. L. Lamb, a member of this union and formerly treasurer of same, did unlawfully and contrary to his obligation as a member of this union, and in violation of the constitution and by-laws of this union, appropriate to his own use a sum of money belonging to this union to the amount of five hundred and eleven dollars (\$511), and,

Whereas, the said C. L. Lamb has departed himself in a manner to cause reproach to be cast upon this honorable order, and in a manner unbecoming a member and a gentleman, especially in the matter of gambling and frequenting questionable resorts, and practicing deceit in his dealings with fellow members;

Therefore, your trustees beg that this union take action upon this matter and punish the said C. L. Lamb as in their discretion may seem most wise.

FRANK AKINS, Chairman Board of Trustees.

Committee appointed to try Charles L. Lamb on above charges were: C. W. Bush, D. H. Randall, M. W. Rogers and W. D. Seighman.

Victor, Colo., Aug. 19, 1903.

Report of trial committee, case of Charles L. Lamb for embezzlement:

To the Officers of Excelsior Engineers' Union, No. 80:

Brothers: We, your committee appointed in the matter of charges against Charles L. Lamb, beg leave to submit the following:

We have been unable to locate the said C. L. Lamb, but find him guilty as charged. Signed

C. W. BUSH,
D. H. RANDALL,
M. W. ROGERS,
W. D. SEIGHMAN,

Committee.

Report received and Charles L. Lamb was by a unanimous vote of the union expelled from this union, and that the same be published in the Miners' Magazine.

W. A. MORGAN, Secretary.

The money embezzled by C. L. Lamb was recovered in full from the bonding company and he has disappeared.

W. A. M.

Strike of the Smeltersmen at Durango, Colo.

The Smeltersmen's Union of the Western Federation of Miners of Durango, Colo., have demanded an eight-hour day and in furtherance of their demands presented the following letter to Manager McLean of the American Smelting and Refining Company at Durango:

"Miners and Smeltersmen's Union, No. 58, Western Federation of Miners, Durango, Colo., Aug. 28, 1903.—Mr. Dan McLean, Manager of American Smelting and Refining Company, Durango, Colo.—Dear Sir: At a meeting of the Durango Miners' and Smeltersmen's Union, No. 58, Western Federation of Miners, held August 27, 1903, it was resolved that a demand be made on your company for the establishment of an eight-hour day for employes of the Durango smelter. The undersigned committee was appointed to present the matter to the management and arrange for a conference to agree upon a scale of wages for an eight-hour day. Kindly give this matter your immediate attention and oblige.

"F. J. COX,
"J. D. HERNANDEZ,
"F. VANDEWIEDE,
"Committee."

The manager refused to treat with the representatives of the union and as a result 175 men walked out. The press dispatches state that about twenty-five men remained who are engaged in cleaning up, but it is said by the union men that these twenty-five men will soon join the ranks of the strikers. The sheriff has appointed a number of deputies and the city authorities have added to the police force. The Citizen's Alliance has issued an order offering protection to all strike breakers who are willing to take the places of the striking smeltersmen. Everything is quiet at Durango at present writing.

WESTERN FEDERATION NOTES

Black Hawk Miners' Union, No. 137, have completed arrangements for the celebration of Labor Day. The principal features of the celebration will be a grand parade, a rock drilling contest, racing and ore shoveling. John M. O'Neill of the Miners' Magazine has been invited to deliver the address.

Dillon Miners' Union, No. 189, of Dillon, Wyo., has commenced the erection of a hall. The Dillon Doublejack has the following kind words to offer in praise of the energy of the representatives of the hammer and drill: The building will be a two-story structure and will cost in the neighborhood of \$3,000. It will be a decided ornament to the town and will be a source of pride not only to the miners' union, through whose enterprise the structure is being erected, but also to all the citizens of Dillon.

The hearty co-operation of the citizens of Dillon, and the assistance rendered by friends in the surrounding towns have added greatly to the possibilities of ultimate success, and all are receiving the honest thanks of the Dillon Miners' Union.

The hall will be the first structure in the nature of a public building and it is befitting that the miners who represent the producers of wealth in our district and to whom we owe the existence of our town, should be in the lead in such an enterprise.

The Miners' Union Hall will encourage the erection of other buildings and is another bound in Dillon's rapid progress.

The members of the Western Federation of Miners in the Territory of Arizona are undismayed in their fight for upholding the eight-hour law, and are ever vigilant in thwarting the efforts of the Mine Owners' Association to fill their places with usurpers, who are strangers to the qualifications which are requisite in the makeup of full-fledged MEN. The Mine Owners' Association, with the services of a subsidized press, have resorted to every scheme and measure to bring about a break in the ranks of the unions that are struggling and making a brave fight for the maintenance of a reasonable remunerative wage and the establishment of the eight-hour law as it is written upon the statutes of the Territory of Arizona, but every hatched plot upon the part of the mine owners has been met and foiled by the alert leaders, who understand their rights and are waging a lawful battle to secure them.

As a sample of the duplicity of the members of the Mine Owners' Association of California, an employment agency of Joplin, Mo., has been authorized to scatter thousands of dodgers containing the following glowing advertisement:

MINERS, ATTENTION! HO FOR CALIFORNIA!

Come at once to Joplin Employment Agency, 716 Main street. Transportation to gold fields. Best climate; steady work and the comparative safety of miners. Open only till Sunday, 2:30 p. m.

The miners of Joplin can be deceived no longer by hand bills picturing an oasis in the mining camps of the West and have defeated the object of the Mine Owners' Association of California by having printed and circulated the following dodger:

NOTICE.—To miners and workmen to stay away from Randsburg, Calif., where the men have been on strike for two months for a living wage of \$3 per day. Pay no attention to advertisements or reports to the effect that miners have left there or were run out, or are foreigners. It is not true, but to the contrary, the whole people are with the boys that are on strike, and they are mostly all Americans. By request of Joplin Miners' Union, No. 195, of the W. F. M.

The Mine Owners' Association of Arizona is not confining its advertisements for miners to American publications, but have invaded Canada and are scattering circulars to the effect that miners are wanted in Arizona. The mining camps throughout every state and territory of the West are crowded with idle men, and the advertisements which appear in the journals of the Eastern States and Canada are for the purpose of inducing men to come to the metalliferous regions of the West to be used as strike breakers. All labor and Socialist publications will confer a favor on organized labor throughout the Rocky Mountains and Pacific Slope to give as much publicity as possible to the brazen infamy of the exploiters.

Frank Schmelzer of the Silverton Miners' Union sent the following telegram August 31 to Secretary Haywood in reference to the situation at Durango, where the smelter men walked out on strike for an eight-hour day: "About twelve men working out of 300 at smelter."

The daily press of Denver has contained statements to the effect that the members of the union of Idaho Springs have made overtures to the mine operators to bring about a compromise, but the following statement issued by a committee of the union disproves the press report:

"We have talked with several of the mine managers and they have admitted that they need union men in their mines, and have also admitted that they are unable to get enough men to operate the mines. We are out for a fair wage and a fair number of hours, and

our union has never thought of severing from the Western Federation of Miners. We have never thought of disbanding at any time, and the Western Federation has at no time refused us any aid. We will carry the present law suits to the highest courts. We have no reason for compromising on any law suit.

(Signed.)

"A. D. OLCOTT,

"A. I. BEAN,

"E. C. COMPTON."

The following letter has been sent to the mine operators of Searchlight, Nev., by a union committee and citizen's committee with a view of bringing about a settlement of the labor troubles in the Searchlight mining district:

Searchlight, Nev., Aug. 26, 1903.

To the Mine Owners and Operators of the Searchlight Mining District, Los Angeles, Calif.

Gentlemen: At a joint meeting of the executive committee of the Searchlight Miners' Union, No. 164, W. F. of M. and a committee of the business men of Searchlight held this day for the purpose of devising possible ways and means of bringing about an amicable settlement of the existing labor troubles here in Searchlight, it was voted that you be asked to confer with the executive committee of the Miners' Union here in Searchlight on Friday, September 4.

As the question of a settlement is of vital importance to all concerned we earnestly hope that the above request will meet with your approval.

(Signed.)

J. H. VAUGHAN,

E. BURTON,

D. CONORS,

A. J. HIGGINS,

J. McDONALD,

Union Committee.

R. H. McELWAIN,

J. C. WALTER,

E. B. SCOTT,

T. A. BROWN,

H. A. PERKINS,

Citizens' Committee.

On the afternoon of August 31st, at 2:30 p. m., O. M. Carpenter, Secretary of Telluride Miners' Union No. 63, received the following communication from the Mine Owners' Association:

O. M. Carpenter, Secretary Telluride Miners' Union—
Dear Sir: Your letter of August 30th received and contents noted. In reply we wish to call your attention to conditions now existing in this section. The ore being mined is now so low grade as to make it unwise and practically impossible to grant any change in wages and hours that will add even slightly to costs of operation. These conditions have forced the San Juan Mining Association to feel the necessity of maintaining existing scales of wages and hours and conditions of labor. We are therefore unable to grant the request made in your letter.

(Signed) THE SAN JUAN MINING ASSOCIATION.

By CHARLES A. CHASE, Secy.

On the same afternoon, two hours later, the following notice was posted by Telluride Miners' Union No. 63:

Notice to Millmen and Cyanide Men:

You are hereby notified to cease work at 7 a. m., September 1, 1903, as the hours and wages adopted at the regular meeting of Telluride Miners' Union No. 63, Western Federation of Miners, held August 29th, has been rejected by the Telluride Mining Association.

(Signed) CHARLES TRIMBLE,

President.

O. M. CARPENTER,

Secretary.

FATHER THOMAS McGRADY will tour the West, beginning at Omaha on October 9, and going direct to the coast as follows: Omaha, October 9; Denver, 11th; Aspen, Colo., 13th; Murray, Utah, 15th; Park City, Utah, 16th; Pocatello, Idaho, 17th; San Francisco, 19th, and Los Angeles, 20th and 21st.

There are open dates between Denver and Aspen, Colo., between Aspen and Murray, and between Pocatello and San Francisco. Places which are located between these points can secure these open dates if applications are made at once.

Following the Los Angeles engagements the route has not been decided definitely, but it will be either up the coast through Oregon and Washington into British Columbia and Montana, or up the coast to San Francisco and return by Montana via Denver.

The return route will be held open until September 20th, and all applications from the comrades for engagements which are received before that date will have attention. All places having dates for Father McGrady on the return trip will be advised of the definite date on or before October 1st.

All comrades desiring lectures for these open dates, or, on the return trip, should write W. G. Critchlow, Dayton, Ohio, before September 1st.





Correspondence

Financial Secretaries, Take Notice.

Kofa, Arizona, August 21, 1903.

It has been a matter that has caused considerable discussion at the meetings of our union, how it is that transfers sent for are not immediately forthcoming. Our secretary has had to write as many as three letters for one transfer, and we, as a union, entertain the opinion that this could be avoided. It would be more to the good and welfare of all unions if the secretaries would be more prompt in their duties.

R. KITCHEN,
President, No. 98.

The W. F. of M. at Mercur, Utah.

Editor Miners' Magazine—Beat the drum and ring the bell! Another big gun has been mounted for the defense of human rights in the camp of Mercur, Utah. The place, heretofore known only as a scab hatchery, where the mining companies allowed their men to work, but denied the right to organize, has become unionized. On Saturday, August 9, 1903, the curtain was drawn aside by a meeting at the opera house, in which the missionary work of two secret meetings was amalgamated by 209 men placing their names to a list requesting a charter from the Western Federation of Miners.

The new union will be known as the Mercur Miners' Union. Its presence will be hailed with delight by the locals of the entire state. A number of the residents, who had witnessed two attempts at organization, quickly crushed by corporate opposition prophesied, that the mine managers would move their mines to another locality rather than allow them to be worked by men organized for their own protection. The business-like manner in which the boys conducted their third and finally successful attempt, without consulting their employers or the timid business men, has caused all to realize that the union is here to stay, and hereafter is to be regarded as a factor in the operation of the mines within its jurisdiction. The following officers were elected:

President—A. Crawford.
Vice President—Lewis Roberti.
Financial Secretary—Charles Bradd.
Treasurer—Peter Targhetta.
Recording Secretary—James Bruno.
Warden—Peter Milano.
Conductor—Frank Maio.

Thursday was selected as our regular meeting night, and visiting brothers of the Western Federation of Miners will always be welcomed.

COMMITTEE.

From the Colorado Coal Fields.

Superior, Colorado, August 22, 1903.

Mr. D. W. Haywood, Denver, Colorado: Dear Comrade—Our Local Union No. 84, United Mine Workers of America, has contributed \$10.00 toward your eight-hour fund, which the secretary has no doubt sent you by this time, and, in connection, I wish to say a few words, as an individual, upon the labor situation in the northern coal fields.

The sum of money sent is not very large, and was intended mostly to show the feeling of the union men of this place towards the Western Federation.

During last summer and fall the miners of northern Colorado contributed \$16 per capita to the national organization of the United Mine Workers of America, which is now piled up in the national treasury at Indianapolis, and for this assessment we have practically received no returns whatever from John Mitchell and the other members of the National Civic Federation, except sugar-coated platitudes about the "rights of capital and labor," and the "friendly feeling" that should exist between the master and slave.

It does not require a prophet to say that unless the United Mine Workers of America does something this winter to secure better living conditions for the coal miners of Colorado, that they will turn their eyes towards the brave young organization that is fighting the battle of humanity against greed in every state and territory of the West.

Socialism is spreading rapidly among the coal miners of northern Colorado, and they will soon break away from the would-be labor leaders, whose noggles are clogged with the moss of the past ages.

Let the Western Federation never fear the outcome of the battle it has begun, although the future may at times look dark. Your fight has awakened in the hearts of those who never before dared to hope, a cause that some day they will die rather than give up.

With best wishes for success in the Cripple Creek district, from yours fraternally,

R. R.

Observations from a Pedestrian.

Editor Miners' Magazine—As there has been and is considerable talk in the newspapers of the Buffalo Hump country; what a great camp it is going to be; what a rich camp it is, and how they can't keep miners there very long on account of their going prospecting, etc., I wish to state that it's all a lie.

As regards a scarcity of miners, or men of any trade; as regards the richness and future of the camp; well, she may become a Leadville, Butte or Cripple Creek in the course of half a century, century or century and a half, but at the present time she is not much for those who are looking for work at day's pay. But it is, or seems to be, the program of mine owners to boom their different camps and deplore the scarcity of men to the reporters, thus insuring publicity and causing the unemployed to flock to the different camps they read about, and creating a greater supply than demand for labor. The Buffalo Hump country is eighty-five miles from the nearest railroad, and after reaching the end of the railroad, it is a case of hike from there on. Of course, if one had money, he could walk or go on a pedestrian(?) tour, according to the amount of money one possessed; but, as the miner is seldom supplied with a superabundance of this world's goods, it is a case of hike, with no time for practical illusions, allusions, exclamations or pratings—just hike; no musings in sylvan glades, rhapsodies by babbling brooks or calm, serene, ecstatic bliss in moonlight walks or watching a glorious sunrise; no, but just hike, like Johnny hike, hike, till you strike the Hump, and there you will find five or six little mines, or, rather, prospect holes, employing from forty down to two or three men, all full-handed, and men rustling for jobs.

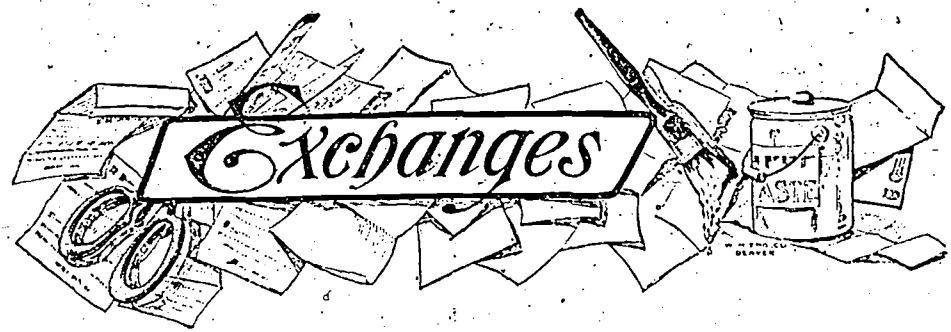
The Jumbo mine employs at the present about forty men, mostly on the outside, building a mill and trails. They laid off fifteen men on the 8th of August and will be laying off about twenty in a couple of weeks, when everything will be finished. The Atlas mine is shut down. The Big Hump has about eight men. The Cracker-Jack a few; as well as the Wise Boy. The mines are situated around the different gulches and are from one to five miles apart.

There is no union here; ten hours and \$3.50. The work is not so awfully hard or the ground so horribly stiff. Meals and beds, fifty cents whilst loafing. With each drink of whisky you can have a fit, and they'll give you a broom to dust your clothes with after the fit. In winter time the snow is fifteen feet deep on the dead level. If you want to come, come. It's a nice hike—eighty-five miles, woody and shady, hilly and rocky, grassy and gravelly. Mail tri-weekly; tries to get there three times a week. Bunk houses, where you are penned up like so many hogs; grub, bum. Great, glorious and free country! Great to walk, glorious to be able to walk, and free to walk. Walk for what? Walk for a job, a position, a situation, in order to be able to live, to exist; in order that you might not become an object of charity, an incumbrance to your friends, a loafer, a nuisance to yourself. Walk! why, sure, walk; walk out of the haunts of civilization; walk to hell; walk off the face of the earth; but sure, and get a job; and don't forget to vote the Republican or Democratic ticket, as they are the ones that give us such good times, with the privilege of walking. They are the ones that bring forth a greater supply of labor than demand, therefore vote for 'em, you saphead; vote for 'em!

I see that the convention did not make the Magazine compulsory. 'Tis a pity. Where there is compulsory education there also is greater enlightenment; where there is more reading there also is more intellect. "Reading maketh a full man," so saith Bacon, and if the Magazine was to be taken by every member of the Western Federation of Miners there would be lots of our boys, in isolated camps, who, having more time to read, would become enlightened as to Socialism and keep abreast of the times, as well as giving information to those that are not in the fold that may be working with him. If the magazine was to be taken by every member of the Western Federation of Miners there could be communications written in every language that would interest the brothers that can not read English; each nationality would have a column of their own, and thus all would keep in touch, all would be abreast of the times; we would become as a unit in our work for our own uplifting and enlightenment, as well as helping out our treasury. Let us hear from you brothers concerning same. Why not have every local vote on it and see which local will be first to adopt the same? Bring it up in the meeting and force it to a vote; talk it among yourselves and see if you can not have the honor of being the first local to have every member of your local subscribing for the Magazine.

JOHNNY HIKE

Concord, Idaho.



Editorial Flashes from the Social Democratic Herald.

IF you do not look after your rights as a citizen and a producer of wealth, do not expect the exploiting class to look after your interests for you. It isn't human nature, under capitalism.

AN ENGLISH STATISTICIAN has found that out of every \$5 of money taxed from the people to support the poor, \$3 is required to pay for the work of getting it to the poor. This is an eminently characteristic piece of capitalistic management.

NOW COMES WORD that the railroads are about to form a solid front against labor organizations to oppose the demands for better pay. Good. If the railroads will really do this and force the railway brotherhoods to become unions in fact as well as name, it will be a great thing for organized labor. Such an attitude on the part of the railways will tend to wake the rank and file of the brotherhoods to the fact that they are mere dummies and that the railroads have for years decided who were safe men to officer the organizations of the men. But we suspect that the railroads are only bluffing and that they are too smart to let go their present hold on the brotherhoods.

THE UNION MEN in the government printing office who struck because a foreman who was dropped by the union was taken back in the office, have decided to give up the fight. Roosevelt took a hand. He threatened to put typesetting machines in the government office, thus dispensing with the labor of a good many men. The union gave up, but it is said the president (who carries an alleged union card) has got the machine idea into his head and they will be installed. See how Teddy loves the workers! See how ready he was to turn modern invention against the right to earn their daily bread. We are not saying the machines ought not to go in in the interest of progress, but the point is that the capitalist government has scored a point in the intimidation of labor. Better let well enough alone, the president says in effect of the economic slaves in the government pen, or some of you may lose your jobs. Thus whipped, it is probable the slaves of the wage system will behave better next time!

THE MEN OF MEDICAL SCIENCE seem to be doing what the men of social science have been doing these many years: Refusing to face the real, common sense, simple fact, and hunting for ingenious ways to avoid the plain truth. Instead of admitting that disease is the result of intruding impurities in the body resulting from wrong habits of living, and that the changing of these wrong habits is the primary need, they want to put the blame on microbes, which are merely nature's scavengers trying to clear up the waste caused by disease. Just so the social scientists have avoided the fact of a wrong social system and have hit on endless reasons and cures that are only so much rubbish—some of them even claimed that panics were due to the spots on the sun! Now the new mineral, radium, is heralded forth as a sure death to microbes in the body, especially the microbes of cancer, and we are told that if these microbes are killed there will be no more cancer. What would you think of a man who seriously proposed to kill off all garbage collectors as a sure solution of the garbage problem! When you hear of a thing being scientific it's dollars to snowballs that it is the acme of foolishness.

IF SOME of the agonizing hearteries that escape from the torture room of capitalist industrialism could pierce the tough epidermis of the contented rich, there wouldn't be so many smiling faces in "sassiaty!" The capitalist system turns the world into an inferno from which the shrieks that rise mingle with the hum of revolving wheels and the screech of whistles and blends into the "song of prosperity" so delightful to the profit-skinning plutocrats and Parry-sites, and their editorial and pulpitorial flunkies. Scarcely a week passes but we receive letters from victims of capitalism that tear one's heart to read. Small wonder, if we sometimes write in bitterness and feeling. There lies before us at this moment one of these tragic, heartrending missles. "Dear Comrades," the man writes. "What I expected long ago came to pass tonight at 6 o'clock. I got the rum. It was known over town before I knew myself that it would happen. Do not know what to do—not much chance to get work again at my age. Yet I am used to it, it is the fourth time in my life. **BUT I FEEL SORRY FOR MY FAMILY.**"

Can you read those brave, pathetic words without a lump in your throat? If you can you are not fit to mingle with the human species! The saddest feature of this intolerable system under which wealth is produced to-day is the uncertainty under which the workers live—and starve!

WE SOCIALISTS CHARGE the capitalist system with being against the home. We charge it with wrecking the homes of the people, and yet when we point out the proof—proof that is overwhelming—up-jumps some capitalist editorial hack or mammon serving priest and warns the people against Socialism "because it will break up the home!" Where are our homes to-day? Who among the working class owns his own home? Capitalism lowers wages and raises the prices for necessaries so that the young man is actually afraid to ask a girl to marry him and live on his slender income. And what results? The girl seeks self-supporting employment, at a wage that brings her into competition with the man, thus bringing down the rate of his wages, and the man, prevented from setting up a home of his own, turns, in too many cases, to the "gay" life that means late hours in questionable places and a menace to the purity of womankind. Thus the girl drags the man down and the man drags the girl down, and there you have it! And in spite of this the press and pulpit try to blind people's eyes to the present situation and impudently sound their hypocritical warning: "Look out for these awful Socialists; they want to break up the American home!" Pah!

Employing Under False Pretenses.

The employment agencies of Joplin, Mo., are employing men under misrepresentation, as the following will show, clipped from the Joplin Daily Globe:

"Some of the employment agencies in Joplin are again up to their old tricks, and men are being shipped to Western mining camps to take the place of striking miners, entirely ignorant that there is any strike on.

"One of the latest schemes of the men dealers is to advertise for men to go to a town where there is no strike, but according to letters received from some of the miners who have gone to the West, as soon as they arrived at what they supposed is their destination, they are told that no men are needed there and that they will be taken a few miles further on, and then find that they are to take the place of union miners who are out on a strike for more wages.

"A short time ago a number of men were shipped from Joplin to Randsburg, Cal., and they have written back to their friends asking them to warn the Joplin miners against going there, saying the miners are on a strike asking \$3 per day, which is barely living wages in that country. Yesterday the Joplin Miners' Union issued circulars warning the miners to stay away from that place."



Whereas, The grim messenger of death has summoned from our midst our esteemed brother, John W. Zwank, of Greenhorn Mountain Miners' Union, No. 132, of the Western Federation of Miners; and,

Whereas, We have recognized in our deceased brother those sterling traits or manhood that made him a dauntless champion of the rights of man; and,

Whereas, the Western Federation of Miners has lost a valiant soldier, who has rendered good service in the uplifting of his fellow-man; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the members of Greenhorn Mountain Miners' Union No. 132, that we extend our deepest sympathy; and, be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped in mourning for thirty days, and that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes and copies of the same be forwarded to the Miners Magazine, the official organ of the Western Federation of Miners, and also to our home paper, for publication.

W. D. McMILLAN,
E. J. HAHN,
E. G. STEVENSON,
Committee.

Greenhorn, Oregon.

Whereas, An all-wise Providence has removed from our midst, by death, our esteemed brother, C. A. Cochrane; and,

Whereas, We wish to put on record our esteem of his character and worth, and our grief at his sudden and untimely death; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we extend to his bereaved wife and relatives our heartfelt sympathy in this sad affliction in being so suddenly deprived of a loving husband and father; and, be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions, under seal of our union, be forwarded to the bereaved wife, a copy spread upon our minutes and a copy be sent to the Miners' Magazine and to the Philipsburg Mail for publication.

CHRIS MOCKEL,
C. S. HOWLAND,
C. C. COLLINS,
Committee.

Philipsburg, August 14, 1903.

A MANIFESTO.

An Open Letter to the Governor of the State of Colorado and the Public at Large.

WE, THE UNITED MINE WORKERS of America, of District 15, being a part of the same public, having a distinct vocation in the commercial traffic of the state, find it necessary to make a statement to our fellow-citizens appertaining to our natural rights in the production of coal.

We recognize the fact that all good citizens can deem it but right that men in this commonwealth should be free from all forms of coercion and intimidation in the exercise of their God-given rights, and that where any infraction upon these rights can be shown we believe that the honest hearts of our fellow-citizens will respond in the protection of all men affected by such infraction.

Then, be it known that we, the members of the United Mine Workers of America, think we have serious reasons to complain. We have many grievances, all of which would be too numerous to mention in this letter, and will suffice it to call your attention to the principal ones, such as being placed in a position as to have no voice in the fixing of our time value in the commercial traffic of the production of coal, was assuming all risks of life and limb in the same, claim that such a position is inconsistent with the rights of freemen.

And, further, being denied the right to converse in open conclave with our fellow-craftsmen, who are employed by the coal corporations of this country for the production of coal.

And, furthermore, we are destined, as it were, to be exiled from all civilized privileges by being forced to live in isolated hollows and canons, where the heaviest taxations for livelihoods are imposed upon us—such as high rentals for shelter in houses that, in many instances, are no better than "dug-outs." And also being forced to purchase all commodities necessary to the sustenance of life from the commissary or supply stores provided by the corporations and unprotected by a fair competition.

Furthermore, the state of Colorado has a mining law which provides for proper ventilation, proper modes of escape in case of danger, and other conditions essential to the safety of miners, to which there is but little regard for. Of this part we most sincerely complain, coupled with the fact that our every effort to organize our fellow-craftsmen has been thwarted by a servile policy adopted by organized capital in coal production, such as the immediate discharge of any and all men who show an inclination to unite themselves with their fellow-workers, and by employing a vast number of irresponsible renegades, under the name of "deputy sheriffs," and under the pretext of property protection these men are used for the purpose of preventing the men from coming together.

The foregoing complaints are direct infractions of our rights as American citizens, serving to prevent us from doing for ourselves what our would-be masters have done for themselves by organizing and concentrating capital. Of the latter we would not complain, did they not assume the right to do this for themselves and then stand in our road, as before described, to prevent us from doing likewise for our mutual protection.

This has the seeming to us of granting special privileges to some to the disparagement of many, and is strongly tinged with the old time feudal slavery. Up to this time we have borne these impositions, as we deem them, submitting ourselves to be prevented from exercising our rights as citizens of this commonwealth in order that the so-called law and order might prevail. But, while we recognize the fact that the so-called law and order is only the one side, for the protection of the profit-mongering power alone, we can not but perceive the gross injustice imposed upon us, so that the one object alone can be obtained—that of the accumulation of wealth. Then we ask you, as fellow-citizens, is this the purpose for which this great commonwealth has been founded? We call your attention to 1776, when our forefathers rebelled against the impositions imposed upon them by King George III. We claim that they had no more grievance at that time to complain of than have we, the coal miners of the greater portion of the middle West, and that our powers of endurance have been tried to the breaking point.

And, as we desire to continue as law-abiding citizens, we desire to call your attention to the fact, that unless we are recognized by the money powers, who manipulate coal production as a coadjutor with them in fixing the first cost of production, which in itself embraces, before complained of grievances, we will not promise that all will be peace and harmony in the future. This being placed plainly before you, we deem it the duty of the governor, and the people of this state, to take time by the forelock to cause such investigation to be made as will guarantee full protection to any one of our citizens who feels that his rights and liberty is being imposed upon in the manner as above mentioned. This is not to be understood as a threat upon our part as representatives of the United Mine Workers of America to commit overt acts by the way of destruction of property and life, unless that while we are moving in the direction of what we believe to be our natural rights, we are set upon by the would-be minions of the law, whom, to us, under such conditions, must stand as the aggressors, and must abide by the consequences of their acts.

Furthermore, we claim that under the statutes of our state, that the right to organize unions is thoroughly and fully protected, and that we propose only to move in such direction as we know ourselves to be fully protected therein. And, while the corporations are moving, as it were, to all intents and purposes under the requirements of the law protecting vested powers, we have good reasons to think that they have exceeded their rights in many instances, under the vague pretension that this is our domain, mattering not how that

domain has been acquired, assuming under the guise of respectability and law-abiding citizens that their whole powers are put forth in the interest of propagating schemes of industry for the benefit of all concerned; by pretending to propagate higher ideals of education and civilization, while at the same time they maintain the right to control all conditions appertaining to the production and distribution of coal, without considering the rights of the party of the second part, which must be had before any production whatsoever can be had. Now this brings us to this point: If said corporations have no other object or purpose than to acquire legitimate or just use for invested capital, why should they seek to prevent the party who goes into coal production with them—that assumes all the risks incident to their hazardous occupation—from organizing himself, to better be able to defend himself and family, to meet the high demands of a progressive age. Is it not plain to every thinking man that the party of the first part is arrogating to himself rights that are not presumed in the constructive nature of our institutions? On the other hand, what are our claims as workingmen, who deem it necessary that we should organize our craft into one body? It is obvious that all things to-day tend toward centralization of affinitive power, the better to conserve the highest good. The highest good, as seen by us as coal miners at the present time, is a complete organization of our craft in order that we may attain our proper place in the commercial traffic of the world, that of establishing the first cost of production in our own hands. This we claim to be in accordance with the law of harmony. It is possibly necessary, in order that we may be properly understood, that we give an explanation of what we mean by the first cost of production. In short, it means a full and absolute livelihood to him or them who are willing to give up their experienced labor and skill to the social and commercial needs of the world, which embraces—according to the demands of a progressive and civilized age—all the necessities, all the normal comforts and pleasures and all the facilities prerequisite to fit the citizen to answer the demands of such an age.

Our union then is but a natural product of the existing condition of things. In a word, a school of discipline and education, forced upon the naturalized and native-born citizen of America, who, by accident of conditions, are in line with the coal productive industry, and are, therefore, forced to combine their common interest. The labor markets of the world have been sought to supply the demand, ingratiating into our ranks the large population of the servile toilers of Europe and Asia, who, from time immemorial, have known nothing else than to serve their masters without quest. These people become our competitors in the hands of those who dominate capitalistic interest for profit. The tendency then, in that case, would be to drag down the American to the level of the European and Asiatic serf. If there be no means provided by which these people can be educated, to look for higher ideals than they have been accustomed to, then, as before stated, we reiterate that our unions are but schools of education and discipline for the protection of all alike.

Then we ask you, as fellow-citizens, who love our institutions and the principles upon which this government was founded, when the burden of educating the hordes of Europe and Asia rests upon us, who are forced, as before stated, to mingle and be in direct touch with this condition of social life, must we be dragged down to their level, or must they be raised to the high plane upon which we claim to stand?

To attain the latter the law must be so constructed that each and every man, regardless of his position in life, can not arrogate to himself special privileges.

To conclude this somewhat lengthy letter, we, as United Mine Workers of America, are prepared to say to the coal corporations of this western country that we are ready to stand or fall on the merits of our claims, and all that we seek is to meet our fellow-workmen and place before them the facts as we see them, and, after having so met, if the majority of those on the outside of the organization shall decide that they prefer to remain as they now are, as individual allies to the corporations, we will leave them to their choice and degradation. Should the coal corporations refuse to meet us on this broad plane of investigation, then we maintain that it should be plain to you that they are unfair, and are not entitled to the protection they now have under the law, and to a great measure liberates us from being bound by such a law, when having fully portrayed to all parties directly or indirectly concerned.

Trusting that all who may read this letter will not cast it down lightly and think it but a cheap bluff, for we are sincerely in earnest.

Yours respectfully,

WILLIAM HOWELLS,

President District 15, United Mines Workers of America.

CLARK'S
West Side Drug Store
Cor. 8th and Santa Fe Ave
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The capitalists say that the present (capitalist) system of production is the freest that ever existed. Well, that is true of their class. No ruling class ever had such a free hand in exploiting their slaves as the capitalistic class has, and they are free from both work and want.

The working class is more thoroughly exploited than they ever were before. The workers are to-day as much subject to their masters—the capitalists—as any slave class ever was. They are only mocking and jeering at us when they say that our class, which is subject to this class, is free.

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Our tender-hearted capitalists almost weep when they think of the "improvidence" of the working class. "These people, who get a dollar or two a day, squander a fearful lot of money." Boo-oo hoo-oo-ee. Workingmen will do well to remember that the capitalists sometimes squander a little—at Monte Carlo, for instance. But then they're capitalists, you know.

You often hear workingmen say: "Yes, I need a suit of clothes, but I can't afford to get them now." But you never hear our rich idlers wearing their coats out at the elbows or their shoes till the uppers are on the ground. The one who works is in need, while the one who shirks revels in luxury. Socialism is the only way out of this condition. Study it.

The propertyless wage-workers, whether black or white, are the industrial servants of the possessing class, and their treatment, social and legal, accords with their economic condition. The treatment and the conditions will continue while the workers remain the political servants of their industrial masters. When the individual worker escapes from the thralldom of wage slavery and joins the master class, he escapes the prejudice that attaches to the class from which he rose. So, too, when the workers, as a class, are economically emancipated, they will no longer be subject to class discrimination.

Under the present capitalistic condition of society a great many workers find life scarcely worth living. The capitalist tells us it is all right, if we are only contented we will be good and happy after we're dead. Perhaps we will; but you notice that he don't want to die before having his good time. Oh no! His advice is good enough for workingmen, but not good enough for himself; it's one law for the master and another for the slave.

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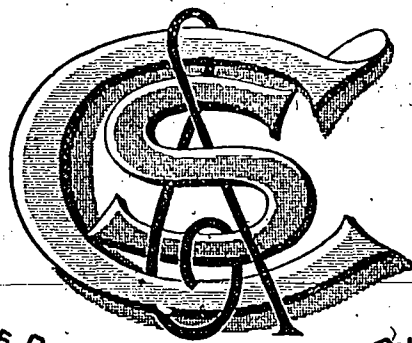
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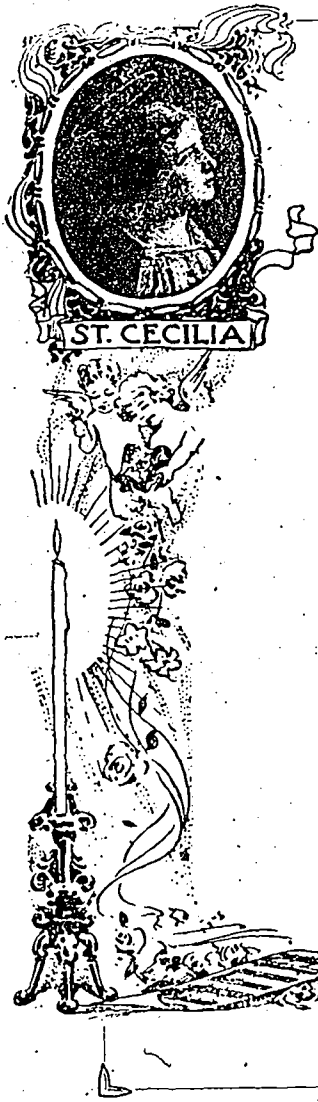
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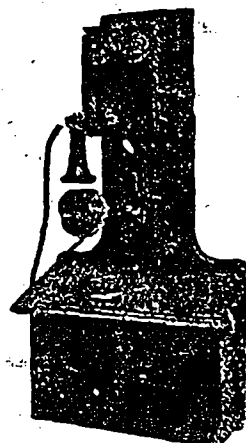
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